Learn more about how the accreditation program's existing requirements will be translated into the 2018 requirements, including a list of what areas were added and what ones were dropped.

**Download a "What's New" factsheet and detailed timeline**

### 2017 Current or Renewal Applicants

Accredited land trusts that are applying or renewing in 2017 will use existing application materials and be evaluated against the current requirements in the 2016 edition of the *Requirements Manual*. **There are no changes for 2017 applicants or renewals.**

Learn more about [applying](#) for accreditation or [renewing](#) in 2017.

### 2018 First-Time or Renewal Applicants

Accredited land trusts that are applying or renewing in 2018 will use a modified version of the current first-time and renewal applications; the modifications include documentation related to the new accreditation indicator elements as approved by the Alliance in 2017. **Land trusts that are applying for or renewing accreditation in 2018 will be evaluated against the final 2018 Requirements Manual**, which was released in on March 7, 2018.

If your land trust is not yet implementing the new accreditation indicator elements, do not fear! We generally phase in any new requirements over a period of time. You will have the opportunity to address these during the accreditation process; however, it is more likely that you will be given an Expectation for Improvement to address these during your accredited term.

- [Access the 2018 First-Time Accreditation Application Materials](#)
- [Access the 2018 Accreditation Renewal Application Materials](#)

### 2019 Renewal Applicants Only

In 2019 the updated requirements, published in March 2018, will apply. They will be fully integrated into the application materials; how these are integrated differs depending on which round your land trust is renewing in.

- **2019 rounds 1 and 2**: Accredited land trusts that are renewing in these rounds will submit their renewal applications on the existing online application system using a special-edition renewal application that is not for use by any other applicants except 2019 rounds 1 and 2. It follows the 2004 *Land Trust Standards and Practices* formatting, but incorporates new accreditation requirements from the 2017 *Land Trust Standards and Practices* as part of a Supplemental Application Information suite of required attachments. This special edition application is part of a User Manual that will guide you through the renewal process. [Read more](#)

- **2019 rounds 3-5**: Accredited land trusts that are renewing in these rounds will use a new online application system with application materials corresponding to the new accreditation indicator elements and their groups (governance, finance, transactions, and stewardship). [Read more](#)

The Commission will only be accepting only renewal applications in 2019 due to high volume. First-time applicants are encouraged to wait until the registration lottery for 2020 opens. If your land trust is interested in the 2020 registration lottery, it can submit an [informal intent](#).

### 2020 First-Time and Renewal Applicants

In 2020 a new first-time application will be in place corresponding to the new accreditation indicator elements, and the first-time application process will be entirely online. A reference copy of this application will be available by summer 2019.