



SACSCOC Accreditation and Your Role

Why is Accreditation Important?

- ④ The *Principles of Accreditation* by SACSCOC articulate standards, which are fundamentally important to us as an institution of higher education committed to providing a quality educational environment and experience for all students.
- ④ Accreditation is essential to maintaining our reputation as an institution providing a high quality educational experience.
- ④ Failure to comply with the Principles of Accreditation by SACSCOC has serious financial consequences, including loss of the ability to award federal student aid.

What is your role in the accreditation process?

Involvement of every faculty and staff member at the College is essential to the success of the reaffirmation process!

Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

- ④ Participate in the selection of the topic through on-going, comprehensive planning and evaluation.
- ④ Support the QEP through active participation.
- ④ Participate in writing the plan with a focus on student learning/success.
- ④ Be involved with the initiation, implementation, and/or completion of the plan.
- ④ Commit the necessary resources for the success of the plan (time, expertise, money, etc.)
- ④ Participate in the assessment of the plan.
- ④ Participate in the review of the QEP by the SACSCOC on-site committee during its 3-day visit to CCC.
- ④ Be informed – know what the QEP is, how it was selected, and how it will be implemented.

Compliance Certification

- ④ Methodically document the College's compliance with each of the standards in the *Principles of Accreditation*. Each faculty and staff member has a fundamental responsibility to document the College's compliance with the standards in their area of responsibility.
- ④ Make a compelling case for the College's compliance when writing assigned standards.
- ④ Provide institutional memory and documentary evidence to support narratives for standards relating to your area.
- ④ Participate actively in the on-site visit by the SACSCOC on-site committee.

Standards Specific to Your Role: Student Services

The reaffirmation process is the collective responsibility of our entire College community! However, the following standards are specifically aligned with your responsibilities at the College.

Standard 2: Mission: It is the responsibility of all members of the College community to support the goals of the College's mission through strategic planning and assessment.

Standard 7.2: The institution has a Quality Enhancement Plan that (a) has a topic identified through its ongoing, comprehensive planning and evaluation processes; (b) has broad-based support of institutional constituencies; (c) focuses on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success; (d) commits resources to initiate, implement, and complete the QEP; and (e) includes a plan to assess achievement.

Standard 9: Educational Program Structure and Content

9.2: The institution offers one or more degree programs based on at least 60 semester credit hours or the equivalent at the associate level.

The institution provides an explanation of equivalencies when using units other than semester credit hours. The institution provides an appropriate justification for all degree programs and combined degree programs that include fewer than the required number of semester credit hours or its equivalent unit. (*Program length*) [CR]

9.4: Institutional credits for an undergraduate degree

9.7: Program requirements

Standard 10: Educational Policies, Procedures, and Practices

10.2: Public information

10.3: Archived information

10.5: Admissions policies and practices

10.7: Policies for awarding credit

10.8: Evaluating and awarding academic credit

10.9: Cooperative academic arrangement

Standard 12: Academic and Student Support Services

12.1: The institution provides appropriate academic and student support programs, services, and activities consistent with its mission.

(*Student support services*) [CR]

12.2: Student support services staff

12.3: Student rights

12.4: Student complaints

12.5: Student records

12.6: Student debt