LSCO's Journey to Reaffirmation 2025

Continuing The Principles of Accreditation!

The *Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement* includes standards and requirements that apply to all programs and services within an institution.

Section 11: Library & Learning/Information Resources
11.1 [CR]

Members of the institution have access to appropriate resources that support all research, educational, and public service programs, to provide adequate support for the institutional mission and curriculum. This Core Requirement serves the purpose of ensuring an institution offers adequate and appropriate library collections, services, and other learning resources to its students, faculty, and staff.

Section 11: Library & Learning/Information Resources
11.2

SACSCOC (2018) states, "A sufficient number of qualified staff is measured by the effectiveness of the delivery of services to students, faculty, and staff rather than simply the number of staff employed" (pg. 111). To carry out the mission of the library and support other learning/information services, it is necessary to have qualified staff and faculty members within the institution.

Section 11: Library & Learning/Information Resources
11.3

SACSCOC (2018) says, "To ensure appropriate use of the library and other learning/information resources, the institution is expected to provide timely and effective access that enables students, faculty, and staff to take full advantage of the learning resources provided by the institution" (pg. 112). With this being said, the institution has a responsibility to provide these resources, services, and instruction to all of its students, including those off-campus, in distance or correspondence courses, or evening courses.

Section 12: Academic and Student Support Services
12.1 [CR]

An institution that is effective supplies appropriate academic and student support programs and services that are consistent with the institutional mission that supplement the educational and personal development experiences of students; contribute to the success of teaching/learning outcomes; guarantee students successfully meet goals of educational programs; and provide the appropriate support services and programs for students at all locations.

Section 12: Academic and Student Support Services
12.2

SACSCOC (2018) says, "Qualified and effective faculty and staff are essential to implementing the institution's goals and mission and to ensuring the quality and integrity of its academic and student support programs and services" (pg. 116). The institution is expected to select student affairs professionals, that have suitable educational training and/or the experience to supply these services.

LSCO's Journey to Reaffirmation 2025

January 2024

Section 12: Academic and Student Support Services

12.3

Institutions are compelled to develop comprehensive and relevant policies describing student rights and responsibilities, due to students and their learning being important to the institution's mission. To ensure effectiveness, these policies are written clearly, made available to the institution's entire community, and need to have procedures for students to use for preserving these rights and responsibilities.

Section 12: Academic and Student Support Services

12.4

SACSCOC (2018) states, "Institutional policies and procedures governing written student complaints need to be well publicized and provide clear and consistent guidelines for their resolution" (pg. 118). The institution must follow its own policies, confirming that student complaints are addressed prompt, fair, and consistently. SACSCOC requires, in correspondence with federal regulations, that institutions maintain a record of complaints that are obtained by the institution.

Section 12: Academic and Student Support Services

12.5

The confidentiality and security of student records is essential in maintaining the integrity of an institution. SACSCOC (2018) says, "This standard acknowledges the institution's responsibility to oversee the release and use of all student records and institutional data with personally identified information and identifies four key aspects of that responsibility: security, confidentiality, integrity, and data protection and backup" (pg. 120).

Section 12: Academic and Student Support Services

12.6

This standard requires that institutions provide information and guidance to assist student borrowers understand how to manage their debt and repay their loans, in order to communicate the national increase in loan debt for students and loan default rates. It is expected of institutions to ensure that students are correctly informed of the obligations that are connected with debt and repayment of student loans.

Accreditation Resource Team (ART) Update

Completed narratives have been loaded into Xitracs and the process of creating a full Compliance Review Report is underway. The gathering of supporting documentation is in full swing and being linked to narratives. The countdown to March 1 is well underway (57 days if anyone else is counting!).

Reaffirmation of Accreditation Timeline
January 2024—August 2024

All dates subject to change throughout the process

Target Date	Accreditation Process	Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)	Institutional Effectiveness Plan (IEP)
January 2024	Final editions of narratives due Begin assembly Logistic Team Meeting	Launch of QEP!	
February 2024	Final edition of CCR due (19) Upload CCR and Institutional Summary by 2/29	Continued promotion of QEP on campus	
March 2024	CCR due 3/1 Institutional Summary due 3/1 Budget Process *ART Team celebration!*	Feedback from external reviewer on QEP due Review / edit QEP per external reviewer comments	Budget Preparation for FY25 expenses Begin drafting AY25 Unit Plans to ensure budget implications are included in FY25 budget request
April 2024	Off-site review (23-26)	Continue edits to QEP Promotion of QEP at Spring Day Event	
May 2024	Review of Off-Site Report (If necessary) Begin drafting Focus Report	Review results of QEP Pilot Outline model for QEP Annual Report Refine QEP data collection system	Begin closing out AY24 Unit Plans by completing results and documenting evidence of improvement.
June 2024	Preparation for On-site review committee Logistic Team Final Checklist		Finalize AY24 Unit Plans.
July 2024	(If necessary) Continue Focus Report Begin preparations for on-site review	Continue drafting QEP Annual Report	AY24 Unit Plan assessment results due by 7/31
August 2024	Focus Report due 8/15 Orient OCIS partners to on-site review process	QEP Annual Report due 8/15 Continue QEP Pilot for Fall semester QEP Newsletter– Internal promotion of QEP to faculty, staff, and students	

For more information contact the SACSCOC Liaison, Patty Collins, at 409.882.3922 or patty.collins@lsco.edu.