LSCO's Journey to Reaffirmation 2025

March 2023



Introducing The Principles of Accreditation!

The accreditation of SACSCOC is based on the standards and requirements included in the <u>Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement</u>. LSCO must comply with SACSCOC standards and requirements that apply to all programs and services, regardless of where they are located or how they are delivered.

Previous editions of these principles were organized by Core Requirements, Comprehensive Standards, and Federal Requirement sections. Core Requirements remain and are marked in the document text as "CR", while Comprehensive Standards and Federal Requirements have been discarded. According to SACSCOC (2018), "Institutions are responsible for maintaining compliance with all standards, whether or not they are driven by the SACSCOC membership or as a result of federal expectations related to the role SACSCOC plays" (pg. 7).

Throughout the next few months we will introduce the fourteen SACSCOC standards and provide a short explanation of the standard.

Section 1: The Principle of Integrity

1.1- Integrity [CR]

Integrity within an institution is what builds the relationship between SACSCOC and its member institutions. SACSCOC (2018) states, "As a condition of candidacy or membership with the SACSCOC, the institution agrees to documents its compliance with the requirements and standards of the *Principles of Accreditation*; to comply with SACSCOC requests, directives, decisions, and polices; and to make complete, accurate, and honest disclosure of the Commission" (pg.11).

Section 2: Mission

2.1- Institutional Mission [CR]

An institution's mission leads the public's concept of the institution. The mission portrays the qualities, values, and characteristics of the institution and its role within the higher education community. It reflects the goals and objectives that are shown throughout the institution. SACSCOC (2018) states, "Fundamental to the structure of an institution's effectiveness, the mission reflects a clear, understanding of the institution by its governing board, administration, faculty, students, staff, and all constituents" (pg. 13).

SACSCOC Timeline for Reaffirmation

Last month we provided a timeline of our internal process on the journey to reaffirmation. The timeline below represents the SACSCOC timeline in accordance with our process.

Date	Reaffirmation Process
March 1, 2024	Compliance Certificate Due
April 23-26, 2024	Off-Site Peer Reviewed Conducted
August or September 2024 (tentative)	Advisory Visit from SACSCOC Vice President
September 13, 2024	Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Due
October 28-31, 2024	On-site Reaffirmation Committee at LSCO
June 9-12, 2025	Review and Determination by SACSCOC Board of Trustees