

COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

RECOGNITION DECISION SUMMARY

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS COMMISSION ON COLLEGES (SACSCOC)

In accordance with the [2019 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures, Paragraph 39](#), this summary describes the formal status of an accrediting organization in relation to recognition by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

Profile of Accrediting Organization

Type of Accrerator: Institutional

Number of Institutions: 804

Current CHEA-Recognized Scope of Accreditation

Regional accrediting body for degree-granting institutions of higher education in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Latin America, and other Commission approved international sites, including the accreditation of programs offered via distance and correspondence education within these institutions. (2014)

CHEA Recognition Information

History: Recognized by CHEA in January 2003

Most Recent Recognition Action

Date: CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, September 28-29, 2015

Decision: Recognition for up to ten years

The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The review was based on the six CHEA recognition standards that require an accrediting organization to show that its accreditation process advances academic quality, demonstrates accountability, encourages self-scrutiny and planning, employs fair and appropriate procedures and demonstrates ongoing review of practice, and that it possesses sufficient resources to carry out its accreditation processes (2010 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures, Paragraphs 12A-12F, pp. 4-8).

SACSCOC demonstrated that it meets these standards and that its accreditation process is consistent with the quality improvement and accountability expectations that CHEA has established.

The CHEA recognition policy requires that an accrediting organization undergo a recognition review at least every 10 years and submit two interim reports.

Prior Actions on ACCJC's Application for Recognition

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, January 6, 2015: The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the response to the deferral provided by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The board of directors accepted the first of two reports as SACSCOC implements a clear standard that meets the requirements of 12B.1 that requires institutions or programs to routinely provide reliable information to the public on their performance, including student achievement as determined by the institution or program (Paragraph 12B.1, *2010 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*). SACSCOC is required to provide second report.

CHEA Board of Directors Meeting, April 28-29, 2014: The CHEA Committee on Recognition and the Board of Directors reviewed the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The review was based on the six CHEA recognition standards that require an accrediting organization to show that its accreditation process advances academic quality, demonstrates accountability, encourages self-scrutiny and planning, employs fair and appropriate procedures and demonstrates ongoing review of practice, and that it possesses sufficient resources to carry out its accreditation processes (*2010 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures*, Paragraphs 12A-12F, pp. 4-8).

The Board of Directors deferred action on recognition in order that SACSCOC implement a clear standard that meets the requirements of 12(B)(1) that requires institutions or programs to routinely provide reliable information to the public on their performance, including student achievement as determined by the institution or program (Paragraph 12(B)(1), 2010 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures). SACSCOC is required to provide two reports.

Profile, scope and recognition information as of October 5, 2015