

In

Compliance

Office of Accreditation

Issue 1 | September 2022

A message from the Provost

I'm pleased to introduce you to the university's new accreditation newsletter, "In Compliance."

We are preparing for the 2025 reaffirmation of our accreditation status with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Institutional accreditation is a recognized mark of quality that certifies the value of the university's coursework and degrees, both to other institutions of higher education and to external stakeholders. We must remain accredited to offer our students federal financial aid, and accreditation allows our students to transfer coursework to other institutions.

The reaffirmation process challenges us to perform a detailed self-study that examines every aspect of what we do. The self-study process helps us demonstrate that we are effective in meeting accreditation standards that represent shared values and practices. While this examination takes time and effort, the result is well worth it.

This critically important work is a university-wide effort. Please stay informed by reviewing future editions of this newsletter. I also hope that you will answer the call to serve, as you are able, on faculty and staff committees that will be instrumental in a successful reaffirmation.



Provost John P. Zomchick

In this issue:

New Process
for CIP Code
Change

SACSCOC
Annual Meeting
December 2022
Atlanta, GA

Timeline for
2025
Reaffirmation
Report

Making a CIP Code Change?

Effective March 2022, each request (i.e., each program) must be submitted on a standard form, which includes an explanation of the curriculum and justification for the change in the code based on an alignment between the program of study, institutional academic program, and the federal CIP. All CIP code changes must be approved by the institution and by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC).

Following the prescribed steps will ensure that the codes in Banner that are used for reporting purposes and the institution's official listing of CIP codes, which is shared with institutional accreditor Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), are current.

Steps for following this procedure can be found by visiting the website:

<https://sacs.utk.edu/programmatic-accreditation/>



Save the Date

The 2022 SACSCOC Annual Meeting will be held December 3-6, 2022, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GA. This year's conference theme is "Georgia on Our MINDS."

Registration is now open. If you are interested in attending, register at your earliest convenience, as the conference fills to capacity each year.

For more information, including registration rates and details about hotel accommodations, please visit <https://sacscoc.org/annual-meeting/>.

Reaffirmation Report Timeline

Preparations have begun for the 2025 Reaffirmation process by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). To address the Principles of Accreditation (standards), the university's SACSCOC Liaison, Dr. Heather Hartman is holding meetings with key stakeholders across campus to address the Principles of Accreditation (standards) and to develop the new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).

Representatives from across campus will be asked to participate in planning, developing, and writing the QEP, as well as the narratives that will communicate how the university meets various Standards through implemented policies and procedures. Below, you will see an abbreviated timeline for completing tasks toward the goal of submitting the Reaffirmation Report and QEP, followed by a campus visit.

Future issues of *In Compliance* will serve as a means of communicating upcoming plans and informing the reader of the next steps on the timeline. To request a document containing the full timeline, please contact Ashley Browning (ashleyb@tennessee.edu) in the Office of Accreditation.

We look forward to working with you on this important project.

2025 SACSCOC Reaffirmation Timeline for UT Knoxville

		Countdown to Submission of QEP (and Focused Report, if required) (months)		
		Countdown to Submission of Reaffirmation Documentation (months)		
Year	Month		27	29
2022	June	Identify faculty representative for SACSCOC Leadership Team	27	29
	July	Schedule meeting with Leadership Team	26	28
	August	Meeting with Leadership Team (Chancellor, CIO, Provost, faculty rep, SACSCOC Liaison) to discuss Reaffirmation process	25	27
	September	Meetings with deans and administrative teams in colleges and non-academic units Establish Steering Committee and Standards Writing Committees initiating process to select QEP and faculty team to guide development	24	26
	October	SACSCOC advises UT Knoxville whether Differentiated Review Schedule meetings with deans and administrative teams in colleges and non-academic units Schedule time with ASC to discuss SLOs Schedule meeting with Faculty Affairs - Faculty credentials - establish process for credentials, transcripts	23	25
	November	Schedule meetings with key personnel to review areas of responsibility Meet with Faculty Affairs re: Faculty credentials, transcripts	22	24
	December	Hold Kick-Off meeting Faculty Credentials - College of Architecture and Design Pilot SACSCOC Annual Meeting	21	23