Accreditation Updates

Solano College, Academic Affairs

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What is Accreditation?

U.S. Department of Education oversees accreditors

Accreditation is a process of certifying that colleges are maintaining their standards in educating students. Accrediting agencies oversee peer review teams that visit colleges and universities to certify that standards are being met, to recommend improvements, and to commend excellent practices. Regional and national accreditation agencies work to validate colleges. Our accreditation agency is ACCJC, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, part of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Our next accreditation visit will take place in October, 2017. Only a year away!

Attend the Flex sessions on Accreditation!
Watch for additional upcoming Accreditation
Update activities! Find out how you can be more
involved in helping Solano succeed.

What are the Four Standards?

Four standards provide the framework

ACCJC (www.accjc.org) has identified four standards that integrate to "define and promote student success, academic quality, institutional integrity, and excellence."

Colleges conduct and write self-study reports addressing ACCJC's questions on processes related to the four standards.

From ACCJC

ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

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"The primary purpose of an ACCIC-accredited institution is to foster student learning and student achievement. An effective institution ensures that its resources, programs, and services, whenever, wherever, and however delivered, support student learning and achievement. The effective institution ensures academic quality and continuous improvement through ongoing assessment of learning and achievement and pursues institutional excellence and improvement through ongoing, integrated planning and evaluation."

www.ACCJC.org

Accreditation team members are currently collecting evidence and writing responses to ACCJC's written prompts on how we conduct college processes related to the four standards. For more information on the standards, visit www.accjc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Accreditation_Standards_Adopted_June.2014.pdf.

The four standards we are working with at this time were updated in 2014. These standards address different areas of college functions, as identified by their titles.

For a brief online course (one-two hours) on accreditation basics, go to www.trainingway.com/accjc/

Flex credit eligible!

Standard I: Mission, Academic Quality and Institutional Effectiveness, and Integrity.

Standard II: Student Learning Programs and Support Services.

Standard III: Resources.
These include human
resources, physical resources,
technology resources, and
financial resources.

Standard IV: Leadership and Governance.

This includes decision-making roles and processes, the chief executive officer, and the governing board.

ACCJC also asks us to verify eligibility requirements for accreditation. For more on these, visit www.ACCJC.org

Accreditation Team Members

To find out how YOU can help with accreditation, contact any team member below.

Standard I: Mission, Academic Quality and Institutional Effectiveness, and Integrity

Contact: Sandy Lamba <u>Sandy.Lamba@Solano.edu</u>, Rachel Smith <u>Rachel.Smith@Solano.edu</u>, Chris Collins <u>Christopher.Collins@Solano.edu</u>, or Laurie Gorman <u>Laurie.Gorman@Solano.edu</u>,

Standard II: Student Learning Programs and Support Services

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Standard III: Resources

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Standard IV: Leadership and Governance

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