


**ORIENTATION FOR
FIRST-TIME
ATTENDEES**

Presented by
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GOALS OF SESSION

- Overview of National Picture and Issues of Accreditation
- Highlights of Annual Meeting Activities



**THREE TYPES OF
ACCREDITING BODIES**

- National
 - Accredits institutions that usually have a single purpose and are located anywhere in the country
- Regional
 - Accredits institutions that are located within a specific geographic area of the country
- Specialized or Programmatic
 - Accredits programs within an institution



REGIONAL ACCREDITING COMMISSIONS

- Seven regional accrediting agencies



REGIONALS CON'T

- Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC)
 - CEO's and Board Chairs of each Commission
 - Common Policies and forms
 - Common Responses to US DOE and Congress
 - Work with National Associations
 - Work with International Associations
 - Develop common responses to national issues like credit hour, state authorization, etc., and common definitions of terms, e.g., warning, probation and show cause.



NATIONAL ISSUES

- Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act
- Completion (graduation) rates
- Cost of higher education/Student Debt
- Transparency of information
- Credentials
- Competency Based Assessment
- Quality of for-profit institutions



PRINCIPLES OF ACCREDITATION

- Section 1—Integrity
- Section 2—Mission
- Section 3—Basic Eligibility Standards
- Section 4—Governing Board
- Section 5—Administration and Organization
- Section 6—Faculty
- Section 7—Institutional Planning and Effectiveness
- Section 8—Student Achievement
- Section 9—Educational Program Structure and Content



PROPOSED PRINCIPLES CONT'D

- Section 10—Educational Policies, Procedures and Practices
- Section 11—Library and Learning/Information Resources
- Section 12—Academic and Student Support Services
- Section 13—Financial and Physical Resources
- Section 14—Transparency and Institutional Representation



TYPES OF INFORMATION REQUESTED

- Substantive Changes
 - Mergers and consolidations
 - Institutional Name Changes
 - Instructional Sites
 - New degrees and programs
 - Distance Learning
 - Changes in Governance
- Names of new presidents and liaisons
- Institutional Profile (twice a year)



REAFFIRMATION PROCESS

- Leadership Orientation
- Completion of a Compliance Certification
- Off-Site Committee Review
- Focused Report
- On-Site Committee Review
 - QEP
 - Non-Compliance Issues
 - Selected Issues for US DOE
- C&R Committee Review
- Executive Council Review
- SACSCOC Board Approval



SACSCOC ANNUAL MEETING

- Purpose
 - To provide detailed information about the process, policies, & practices of accreditation
- Attendees
 - Presidents, Vice Presidents, Directors of IE & IR, Student Services Personnel, Faculty
- Theme
 - New Expectations, New Opportunities: Honoring the Past, Imagining the Future



CLASSIFICATION OF INSTITUTIONS

- Accreditation Tracks
- Track A Institutions that award the undergraduate degree only (Associate and Bachelors)
- Track B Institutions that award the undergraduate AND graduate degrees, or just graduate degrees



CLASSIFICATION OF INSTITUTIONS

INSTITUTIONAL LEVELS (Highest Degree Offered)	
Level I	Associate's degree
Level II	Bachelor's degree
Level III	Master's degree
Level IV	Specialist degree
Level V	Doctorate in 3 or fewer disciplines
Level VI	Doctorate in 4 or more disciplines



PROGRAM TRACKS

- I. Organization
- II. Reflection
- III. Learning
- IV. Engagement
- V. Analytics
- VI. Networks
- VII. Special Topics



CONTACT INFORMATION

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