



*Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
Commission on Colleges  
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## **INTERPRETATIONS TO THE *PRINCIPLES OF ACCREDITATION***

### **Interpretation on Standard 13.8 (*Institutional environment*)**

#### ***Introduction***

Standard 13.8 reads:

The institution takes reasonable steps to provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment for all members of the campus community.  
(*Institutional environment*)

#### ***Interpretation***

The SACSCOC Executive Council has determined that, in an institution's Compliance Certification and Fifth-Year Interim Report, the institution shall include within Standard 13.8 (*Institutional environment*) information relating to any investigations by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights for possible violations alleging sexual violence as part of its narrative addressing a healthy, safe, and secure campus environment. This should include any open investigations as well as closed investigations that were active at the time of the last SACSCOC comprehensive review or occurred since the last SACSCOC comprehensive review.

If the institution has not been the subject of any such investigations, the institution should indicate as much in its response to this standard.

#### **Document History**

*Approved: SACSCOC Executive Council, March 2017  
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