

**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)**
<http://www.sacscoc.org>

**Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of
Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla
Puebla, Mexico**
Issued December 7, 2021, by SACSCOC

The following publicly available information is provided by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) concerning the accreditation of the Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla. Information presented below is in accord with SACSCOC's disclosure policy; SACSCOC staff cannot comment further on questions specifically related to the Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla. The institution has reviewed this statement prior to public posting and was invited to submit official comments regarding SACSCOC Board of Trustees action.

Action by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees took place on December 2, 2021, and the institution's next review is December 2022.

What is the accreditation status of the Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla? The Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and placed on Warning. SACSCOC accreditation includes all components of the institution—all programs, branch campuses, off-campus sites, and distance learning programs as reported to SACSCOC; thus, the Warning status applies to the entire institution.

What does it mean to be continued in accreditation and placed on Warning? A Warning imposed by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees follows a determination of significant non-compliance with the Core Requirements or Standards of the *Principles of Accreditation*, the accreditation standards of SACSCOC; failure to make timely and significant progress toward correcting the deficiencies that led to the findings of non-compliance; or failure to comply with SACSCOC policies and procedures. The maximum total time during a monitoring period that an institution may be on Warning is two years. In December 2022, the Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla will have been on Warning for one (1) year. For additional information about sanctions, see the SACSCOC policy entitled "[Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership.](#)"

Why was The Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla continued in accreditation and placed on Warning? The Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla was continued in accreditation and placed on Warning because the SACSCOC Board of Trustees determined that the institution failed to demonstrate compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*, namely, Core Requirement 4.1 (*Governing board characteristics*), Core Requirement 13.2 (*Financial documents*), Standard 4.2.c (*CEO evaluation/selection*), Standard 4.2.f (*External influence*), Standard 4.3 (*Multi-level governance*), and Standard 5.2.a (*CEO control*) of the *Principles of Accreditation*. These standards expect an institution:

- (1) to have a governing board of at least five members that (a) is the legal body with specific authority over the institution; (b) exercises fiduciary oversight of the institution; (c) ensures that both the presiding officer of the board and a majority of other voting members of the board are free of any contractual, employment, personal, or familial financial interest in the institution; (d) is not controlled by a minority of board members or by organizations or institutions separate from it; and (e) is not presided over by the chief executive officer of the institution;
- (2) provide the following financial statements: (a) an institutional audit (or Standard Review Report issued in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the AICPA for those institutions audited as part of a system-wide or statewide audit) for the most recent fiscal year prepared by an independent certified public accountant and/or an appropriate governmental auditing agency employing the appropriate audit (or Standard Review Report) guide; (b) a statement of financial position of unrestricted net assets, exclusive of plant assets and plant-related debt, which represents the change in unrestricted net assets attributable to operations for the most recent year; and (c) an annual budget that is preceded by sound planning, is subject to sound fiscal procedures, and is approved by the governing board;
- (3) the institution's governing board to select and regularly evaluate the institution's chief executive officer;
- (4) the institution's governing board to protect the institution from undue influence by external persons or bodies;
- (5) an institution whose governing board does not retain sole legal authority and operating control in a multiple-level governance system to define clearly that authority and control for the following areas within its governance structure: (a) institution's mission, (b) fiscal stability of the institution, and (c) institutional policy; and
- (6) an institution's chief executive officer to have ultimate responsibility for, and exercise appropriate control over the institution's educational, administrative, and fiscal programs and services.

A Special Committee was authorized to visit the institution. (To read the full statements for the standards cited above, access the [Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement.](#))

What will happen in December 2022? The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of the Fundación Universidad de las Américas Puebla following a review of a Monitoring Report submitted by the institution addressing the standards cited above. The Board will have the following options: (1) remove the institution from Warning without an additional report; (2) continue accreditation, continue Warning, request a Monitoring Report, with or without authorizing a Special Committee; (3) continue accreditation, place the institution on Probation, request a Monitoring Report, and authorize a Special Committee; or (4) remove the institution from membership for failure to comply with the *Principles of Accreditation*. SACSCOC staff will not speculate on what decision might be made by the Board of Trustees in December 2022.

For additional information regarding SACSCOC's accreditation process, access the [Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement.](#)

