

Academic Procedures & Regulations (APR)

APR Title: Substantive Change Compliance for Institutional Accreditation

APR Number: documentation and reporting of substantive

program changes to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).
SACSCOC's Substantive Change Policy and Procedures

¹ requires WCU to report ALL substantive changes accurately and in a timely manner to the Commission on Colleges. The purpose of this policy is to describe the process and procedures to be utilized to ensure that WCU complies with this Commission on Colleges policy.

SACSCOC Substantive Change information: https://sacscoc.org/accrediting_standards/substantive_changes/.

Scope

WCU's *Substantive Change Compliance for Institutional Accreditation Policy* applies to EACH academic unit and department and is MANDATORY. No substantive change can be implemented until a letter of approval, or an acceptance of notification is received from SACSCOC. Prior to receipt of the letter of



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- Entering into a cooperative academic arrangement.
- Entering into a written arrangement under 34 C.F.R. § 668.5 under which an institution or organization not certified to participate in the title IV Higher Education Act (HEA) programs offers less than 25% (notification) or 25-50% (approval) of one or more of the accredited institution's educational programs.
- Substantially increase or decreasing the number of clock hours or credit hours awarded or competencies demonstrated, or an increase in the level of credential awarded, for successful completion of one or more programs.
- Adding competency based education programs.
- Adding each competency based education program by direct assessment.
- Adding programs with completion

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