

SACSCOC Reaffirmation 2027

Kick-off Event

Presented to UTA Leadership

November 1, 2024



Welcome

President Cowley





Purpose of Accreditation and Charge to UTA Leadership

Provost Brown

Event Outline

Explanation of the Reaffirmation Process and its Components

- SACSCOC Requirements and Standards
- Compliance Certification Components
- The QEP
- The On-site Review

Expectations of Academic and Administrative Leadership

SACSCOC Reaffirmation Timeline

Q&A and Door Prizes



Dr. Rebecca Lewis
Asst. Vice Provost, IER

Event Outcomes

- You will be familiar with the reaffirmation timeline
- You will recognize the SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation
- You will know where to go with question of if you need assistance

General Information

Accreditor Name: Southern Association of Colleges & Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC aka SACS)

Last decennial reaffirmation – 2017

Last 5th year interim review – 2023

Next decennial reaffirmation – 2027

UTA Reaffirmation Webpage –

<https://www.uta.edu/administration/ier/accreditation/sacscoc-decennial-review-2027>

UTA Reaffirmation Email – SACSCOC2027@uta.edu

Polling

- Who has experienced an institutional reaffirmation?
- Who has experienced a SACSCOC institutional reaffirmation?
- Who has experienced a SACSCOC institutional reaffirmation at UTA?
- Who has served on an on-site reaffirmation visit for SACSCOC?

Orientation Delegation

SACSCOC Orientation, December 8-10, 2024

- Dr. Tamara Brown, Provost and Sr. Vice President of Academic Affairs
- Dr. Andrew Hippisley, Vice Provost of Academic Affairs
- Dr. Lowell Davis, Vice President of Student Affairs
- Ms. Stephanie Scott, Associate Vice President and Controller
- Dr. Rebecca Lewis, Assistant Vice Provost and SACSCOC Institutional Accreditation Liaison

Components of the SACSCOC Reaffirmation

- Self-study – referred to as the Compliance Certification Report (CCR)
- Off-site review of the Compliance Certification Report
 - Opportunity to respond to recommendations (Focused Report) from the off-site review
- On-site review
 - Presentation of the QEP
 - Visits to off-campus instructional sites
- Response to recommendations from on-site review (if required)
 - Other follow-up or monitoring reports (if required)
- Reaffirmation decision by SACSCOC Board of Trustees

Components of the CCR

- Part 1: Signature Page (CEO and liaison signs)
- Part 2: List of substantive changes since last reaffirmation
- Part 3: Assessment of compliance with Principles of Accreditation (i.e., narratives that make our case for compliance)
- Part 4: Institutional Summary

SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation

- Section 1: Integrity
- Section 2: Mission
- Section 3: Basic Eligibility Standards
- Section 4: Governing Board
- Section 5: Administration & Organization
- Section 6: Faculty
- Section 7: Institutional Planning & Effectiveness
- Section 8: Student Achievement
- Section 9: Educational Program Structure & Content
- Section 10: Educational Policies, Procedures, & Practices
- Section 11: Library & Learning/Information Resources
- Section 12: Academic & Student Support Services
- Section 13: Financial & Fiscal Resources
- Section 14: Transparency & Institutional Representation

The QEP

Standard 7.2: The institution has a QEP that

- (a) has a topic identified through its ongoing, comprehensive planning and evaluation processes;
- (b) has broad-based support of institutional constituencies;
- (c) focuses on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success;
- (d) commits resources to initiate, implement, and complete the QEP; and
- (e) includes a plan to assess achievement.



Dr. Andrew Clark
Professor of Communication
QEP Director

Most Frequently Cited Principles by Section

- Section 6: Faculty
- Section 8: Student Achievement
- Section 13: Financial & Fiscal Resources
- Section 10: Educational Policies, Procedures, & Practices

IER's Role in Reaffirmation

- Communicate with SACSCOC as needed (IER's AVP is the SACSCOC liaison)
- Coordinate the CCR compilation:
 - Assign narratives and their individual timelines
 - Provide resources as available and respond to questions
 - Communicate needed revisions
 - Review narratives and facilitate review by consultant and UTA leadership
 - Submit documents to SACSCOC
- Serve in an advisory capacity on the QEP
- Coordinate and direct the on-site review

IER Team

- Dr. Rebecca Lewis – Assistant Vice Provost & SACSCOC IAL
- Dr. Alexander Anokhin – Director of Assessment
- Dr. Doris Navarro – Director of Evaluations and Surveys
- Dr. Qadeer Haider – Assistant Director of Assessment
- Ms. Shania Harmon – Coordinator of Accreditation
- Ms. Tatyana Jimenez-Macias – Coordinator of Assessment
- Ms. Arnita Williams – Coordinator of Operations

Administrative & Student Support Units

Expectations of Leaders

- Direct the writing team members you have designated to generate narratives that address UTA's compliance with the assigned Principle and to support the case for compliance with evidence
- Ensure narrative drafts and evidence are submitted to IER as requested and by the requested deadlines
- Communicate with IER if a deadline will be missed, if you have questions, or if you need assistance
- Make yourself available for the on-site review and participate in the preparation sessions (both TBD)
- Ensure websites are current with correct information that aligns with any HOP policies/procedures and University Catalog (if applicable)

Academic Units

Expectations of Leaders

- Academic units generally do not generate narratives, but they may be called upon to provide written explanations and evidence of practices/procedures within colleges/schools or departments
- Respond to IER's request for information or evidence by agreed upon deadlines
- Make yourself available for the on-site review and participate in the preparation sessions (both TBD)
- Ensure colleges/schools and departments are maintaining processes and procedures, adhering to policies, and preserving documentation of such
- Ensure website information is consistent with HOP policies/procedures and University Catalog
- Follow substantive change procedures (including program changes and program closures)

Evidence from Academic Units

- UEP reports - completed as directed, including revisions as requested by IER
- Documentation of student complaint resolutions as per policy
- Records of student complaints
- Student complaint information and directions on college/school websites
- College/school, department, or program curriculum committee meeting notes
- Up-to-date college/school bylaws

Role of the Provost's Office in Reaffirmation

Dr. Andrew Hippisley
Vice Provost for
Academic Affairs



Timeline

Fall 2024

- ✓ Nov. 1 – Kick-off Event
 - Dec. 8-10 – Orientation of UTA Delegation at SACSCOC Annual Meeting
 - Writing team confirmation
 - Assignment of Principles and begin writing
 - Assemble a QEP committee and begin developing a topic

Calendar Year 2025

- Prepare narratives and gather support evidence
- Narrative review by IER, consultant(s), and UTA leadership (each Principle will have its own timeline)
- Identify target population for QEP, conduct research, and begin developing a plan

Timeline cont.

Spring 2026

- March 13 – Narratives in final or near final form
- Reviewing and editing continues, narratives entered into Compliance Assist
- Faculty rosters finalized
- Final vet of narratives by UTA leadership
- Continue research and writing and developing QEP

Summer 2026

- Finishing touches put on narratives
- Identify and contact lead evaluator for QEP, begin campus outreach, continue writing

Timeline cont.

Fall 2026

- **September 8, 2026 – Deadline to submit CCR to SACSCOC**
- Nov. 3-6 – Off-site review of CCR by SACSCOC

Spring 2027

- QEP and Focused Report Due to SACSCOC – 6 weeks prior to on-site review
- **On-site review TBD, but could be from Jan. 19 – April 16**
- Response Report to any recommendations from on-site review (if required)
 - Any other follow-up or monitoring reports could be requested to be due spring-fall

Timeline cont.

Fall 2027

- Dec. – Reaffirmation decision determined and announced by SACSCOC Board of Trustees

Spring 2028 and beyond

- March 2033 – QEP Impact Report due

Q&A