

SACSCOC Reaffirmation of Accreditation General Information

What is SACSCOC?

SACSCOC stands for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. It's one of seven regional accrediting agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The Commission on Colleges accredits institutions of higher learning in the Southern region of the United States.

Why is it important that GHC is accredited?

Being accredited by SACSCOC is essential to the continued operation of Georgia Highlands College. Having accreditation means that GHC's credits will transfer to other colleges and universities, students are able to receive federal funds for financial aid and the College receives funding from the state. In short, without accreditation, a college is ineligible for state and federal funding, its academic degrees are less valued and its overall reputation and value as an educational institution are diminished.

What happens during the reaffirmation of accreditation process?

The accreditation process and review focuses on what institutions do to enhance student learning outcomes, the fundamental output of higher education. The reaffirmation process involves a two-step process: demonstrating compliance with the Commission on Colleges' Core Requirements, Comprehensive Standards and Federal Requirements; and developing a Quality Enhancement Plan that focuses on enhancing student learning outcomes or the environment to support student learning. Accreditation involves every aspect of a school's mission and operations – from the executive boardroom to the classroom.