



Santa Fe College Rules Manual

Title: **Regional Accreditation and Substantive Changes** **Rule 2.5**

General Authority: FS 1001.64, 1011.82

Law Implemented: FS 1001.64, 1011.82, 1001.02

Effective Date: January 19, 2022

Purpose: To establish the College's requirement to remain in compliance with its regional accrediting body with a particular focus on substantive changes.

The College shall comply with all applicable policies, principles, and quality standards of its regional accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). This includes the duties (1) to stay informed as to new policies that may be promulgated by SACSCOC from time to time and (2) to meet the minimum standards prescribed by the State Board of Education.

The College President, upon consultation with appropriate administrators, must identify, manage, and report any substantive changes to academic programs or operations to the District Board and to SACSCOC. A substantive change, as defined by SACSCOC, is a significant modification or expansion of the nature and scope of an accredited institution. It can include institutional changes, program changes, and off-campus instructional site changes.

The College President is authorized to establish procedures in compliance with any applicable SACSCOC policy, including the substantive change policy. The College must publish procedures for identifying and reporting substantive changes on its website, which the designated institutional accreditation liaison must update annually.