

LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

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Creating Futures

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TO: Dr. Monty Sullivan
LCTCS President
THROUGH: Dr. Wendi Palermo
Chief Education and Training Officer
FROM: William Tulak
Director of Institutional Effectiveness
DATE: May 12, 2023
SUBJECT: Review and Advise ment: Revisions to LCTCS Policy #1.011 - Accreditation

APPROVED

Handwritten signature and date 6/14/23
LCTCS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FOR BOARD REVIEW AND ADVISEMENT

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Board receive for review and advisement revisions to LCTCS Policy #1.011 - Accreditation

Background: The original policy was written when there were two accreditors recommended by the LCTCS Board of Supervisors, SACSCOC and COE. With the creation of Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College all LCTCS colleges have a mission that includes transferable programs. Since COE cannot accredit a college with a transfer program all LCTCS colleges need to have or seek SACSCOC accreditation.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

History of Prior Actions: The LCTCS CAO-CSAO functional group and the LCTCS PACC have reviewed and approved the revisions.

Benefits to the System: The revised policy will align to all institutional missions.

Handwritten signature of Monty Sullivan
Approved for Recommendation to the Board
Dr. Monty Sullivan

Handwritten date June 14, 2023
Date

LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

Policy # 1.011

Title: ACCREDITATION

Authority: Board Action

Original Adoption: 03/14/2001

Effective Date: 03/14/2001

Last Revision: ~~12/09/2020~~

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

To ensure recognition by the United States Department of Education and to facilitate the transfer of courses among **accredited** postsecondary institutions, ~~with regional accreditation and/or, where appropriate, with Council on Occupational Education (COE) membership,~~ all LCTCS institutions shall maintain **institutional** accreditation with ~~the regional~~ an accrediting agency appropriate for the programs offered and the students in the community ~~in which~~ it serves. ~~LCTCS colleges must notify the LCTCS of any accreditation actions taken by the accrediting bodies.~~

~~Community and Technical Colleges~~

~~As defined, consistent with the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) definition, each~~ All LCTCS community colleges offers programs leading to associate degrees, diplomas, and/or certificates. ~~Similarly, a community college is defined as any postsecondary institution which offers an~~ The mission of all LCTCS colleges includes the associate academic degree as well as vocational-technical and other educational programs, but ~~which is not approved to do not~~ offer a baccalaureate degree (Act 151, First Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature, 1998). These institutions often cooperate with other colleges to transfer credit hours earned at the LCTCS institution (including general education coursework). To ensure **the transferability of courses**, recognition by the United States Department of Education, ~~and have~~ **the ability to offer programs relevant to the mission of a community college**, all LCTCS community colleges shall maintain ~~full~~ accreditation with ~~an accreditor recognized to accredit transferable associate degree-granting institutions of higher education.~~ The LCTCS Board of Supervisors has determined that the **institutional accreditor that best serves the mission of the colleges in the LCTCS is the Southern Association of Colleges' Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)** (~~LA-RS-17: 3164, Common Course Numbering System~~). Therefore, all colleges shall maintain accreditation with SACSCOC. New and emerging community colleges shall apply for candidacy as soon as they become eligible for such candidacy. ~~Institutions currently accredited by Council on Occupational Education (COE)~~

shall maintain accreditation with COE until they transition to SACSCOC. LCTCS colleges must notify ~~the~~ LCTCS of any accreditation actions taken by their institutional accreditor.

~~As defined, consistent with the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) definition, each LCTCS technical college institution offers occupational training programs featuring hands-on experiences related to future career interests, typically leading to technical certificates, diplomas, and applied associate degrees. To ensure recognition by the United States Department of Education, each LCTCS technical college shall maintain full accreditation with the Council on Occupational Education (COE).~~

PROGRAMMATIC ACCREDITATION

~~Community and Technical Colleges~~

Programs at each of the community ~~and technical~~ colleges shall seek and maintain programmatic accreditation for each program ~~area deemed as either~~ mandated, ~~recommended, or optional~~ by the Board of Regents. ~~Colleges are encouraged to seek programmatic accreditations that are deemed recommended or optional by the Board of Regents.~~ Vocational, technical, and/or occupational programs offered by the community ~~and technical~~ colleges shall also maintain programmatic accreditation, as established by national/ regional industry-driven standards, required by the LCTCS Board of Supervisors ~~and/or the Board of Regents~~. LCTCS colleges must notify ~~the~~ LCTCS if there is a change in the status of a required programmatic accreditor.

Note:

- ~~The LCTCS Board of Supervisors will continue to recommend, industry and programmatic accreditation and programmatic standards in keeping with standards established by the Board of Regents and industry~~
~~https://regents.state.la.us/assets/docs/PRAA/Academic_Affairs/AA-2-13-AccreditingBodies-Codes-2016-0428.pdf~~
~~https://regents.state.la.us/assets/docs/PRAA/Academic_Affairs/AA-2-13-AccreditingBodies-Codes-2016-0428.pdf~~
- ~~Board of Regents' Master Listing of Approved Academic Program Accrediting Agencies & Required Regents' Policy~~
~~https://regents.state.la.us/assets/docs/PRAA/Academic_Affairs/AA-2-13-AccreditingBodies-Codes-2016-0428.pdf~~
~~https://regents.state.la.us/assets/docs/PRAA/Academic_Affairs/AA-2-13-AccreditingBodies-Codes-2016-0428.pdf~~

ACCREDITATION VISITS AND ACTIONS

Accreditation Visits

Each institution shall report scheduled accreditation visits that require Board of Supervisors attendance to the System Board Coordinator as soon as the visit is scheduled; however, no later than thirty days prior to the scheduled visit to ensure the Board of Supervisors' participation.

Accreditation Actions

An institution must report all disciplinary actions, such as warning, probation, or withdrawal of accredited status, and a brief explanation of the conditions and/or deficiencies that resulted in the action to LCTCS upon receipt of the official notification of the action by the agency. The institution must submit a copy of the institution's response to the report regarding disciplinary action of an accrediting agency, along with a copy of the original report of the agency.

Signature: *William Tulak*

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Revisions to LCTCS Policy 1.011 - Accreditation

Final Audit Report

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