

**JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Manual of Policies and Procedures**

**POLICY NUMBER: II:11**

**DATE: January 2020**

**REVISION:**

**SUBJECT: Representation of Jacksonville State University and Accreditation Status with Academic Programmatic Accreditation Organizations**

**APPROVED: Dr. Don C. Killingsworth, President**

**PURPOSE**

The Principles of Accreditation for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the regional accreditor for Jacksonville State University (JSU), and the commission's policy statement on "Accrediting Decisions of Other Agencies," provide the following guidance with respect to representation of the institution and its accreditation status to all accreditors recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDoE):

*Principle 14.4: "The institution (a) represents itself accurately to all U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting agencies with which it holds accreditation and (b) informs those agencies of any change of accreditation status, including the imposition of public sanctions."*

*Source: Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement.*

*"The Commission requires candidate and member institutions holding accredited or candidacy (pre-accredited) status from more than one U.S. Department of Education recognized institutional accrediting agency (<https://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/Agencies.aspx>) to keep each agency apprised of any change in its status with one or another agency. Any institution seeking or holding accreditation from more than one USDOE-recognized institutional accrediting agency must describe itself in identical terms to each agency with regard to purpose, governance, programs, degrees, diplomas, certificates, personnel, finances, and constituents, and must keep each USDOE recognized accrediting body, including SACSCOC, apprised of any change in its status with one or another accrediting agency."*

*Source: SACSCOC Policy on Accrediting Decisions of other Agencies <http://www.sacscoc.org/policies.asp>*

Although not required to do so by the SACSCOC policy, Jacksonville State University recognizes the value of ensuring a consistent representation of the university to external

constituencies and important accrediting agencies. To ensure compliance with the principle and policy, Jacksonville State University has developed a policy and process related to accreditations involving other U.S. Department of Education recognized agencies as well as all other academic programmatic accreditations. Consequently, the following procedures apply to all academic programmatic accreditations, regardless of whether they are recognized by the USDoE.

## **POLICY**

### **Seeking a New Academic Programmatic Accreditation**

Any unit interested in pursuing a specialized academic accreditation must receive support from the appropriate Dean, who is then responsible for seeking approval from the Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs (SVPAA). The SACSCOC Liaison should be kept apprised of this process to ensure ongoing compliance with SACSCOC.

### **New and Ongoing Accreditations**

1. All units of Jacksonville State University that currently hold accreditation from a USDoE recognized accrediting agency or any other academic programmatic accreditation agency must be familiar with this university policy and associated SACSCOC principle and policy.
2. Academic Deans are responsible for the review of all material included in the SACSCOC policy (see italics above) to ensure the accurate representation of Jacksonville State University to the accreditor.
3. Before submission to the accrediting agency, all documents must first be reviewed and approved by the Provost and SVPAA and the SACSCOC Liaison (currently the same individual) to ensure consistent representation of the institution across accreditors. Contact should be made with the Provost and SVPAA in order to determine the appropriate timeline for the reviewing process.
4. Academic Deans must immediately notify the Provost and SVPAA and the SACSCOC Liaison of any status changes in programmatic accreditation and provide the Provost and SVPAA and SACSCOC Liaison with copies of any correspondence related to an accreditation status change.

5. The SACSCOC Liaison is responsible for notifying SACSCOC of changes in Jacksonville State University's accreditation status with other agencies.
6. For any change in accreditation status with SACSCOC, the SACSCOC Liaison will notify the Provost and SVPAA. The Provost and SVPAA will then notify the Academic Deans, USDoE, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) and the JSU Board of Trustees.
7. To ensure access to documentation, Academic Deans should provide the following to the Provost and SVPAA:
  - a. copies of all submissions to accrediting agencies (USDoE and others) and
  - b. official correspondence from accrediting agencies pertaining to accreditation status.

### **Current Jacksonville State University Accreditations that are USDoE Recognized**

#### **Accreditors**

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
- National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD)
- National Association of Schools of Music (NASM)
- National Association of Schools of Theater (NAST)
- Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

### **Current Jacksonville State University Program Accrediting Agencies not recognized by the USDoE**

- AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)
- The Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering (ATMAE)
- Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC)
- Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)
- National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE/CAEP)
- American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)
- Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC)
- Association for Behavior Analysis International Accreditation Board (ABAI)
- National Association of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA)

- Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
- American Chemical Society (ACS) Program Approval
- Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, Inc. (CAC of ABET)

**RESPONSIBILITY**

The Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and the SACSCOC Liaison are responsible for this policy.

**EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed every five (5) years.