

State Council of Higher Education (SCHEV) and Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

Mission focus

SCHEV: quality, coordinated higher education in Virginia

SACSCOC: quality institutions in region

➤ SCHEV Mission

As outlined in the Code of Virginia, "to advocate and promote the development and operation of an educationally and economically sound, vigorous, progressive, and coordinated system of higher education in the Commonwealth of Virginia and to lead state-level strategic planning and policy development and implementation based on research and analysis" (http://www.schev.edu/About_SCHEV.asp)

➤ SACSCOC Mission

"...the enhancement of educational quality throughout the region and the improvement of the effectiveness of institutions by the higher education community that address the needs of society and students."

Regulatory Focus

SCHEV: Virginia General Assembly

SACSCOC: regional standards, federal regulations

➤ States in Region (11)

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia and Latin America

SACSCOC Accreditation

Accreditation signifies the institution:

- 1) has a mission appropriate to higher education,
- 2) has resources, programs, and services sufficient to accomplish and sustain the mission, and
- 3) maintains clearly specified educational objectives that are consistent with its mission and appropriate to the degrees it offers, and that indicate whether it is successful in achieving its stated objectives.

(<http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/Handbook%20for%20Institutions%20seeking%20reaffirmation.pdf> page viii.)

SACSCOC Organization

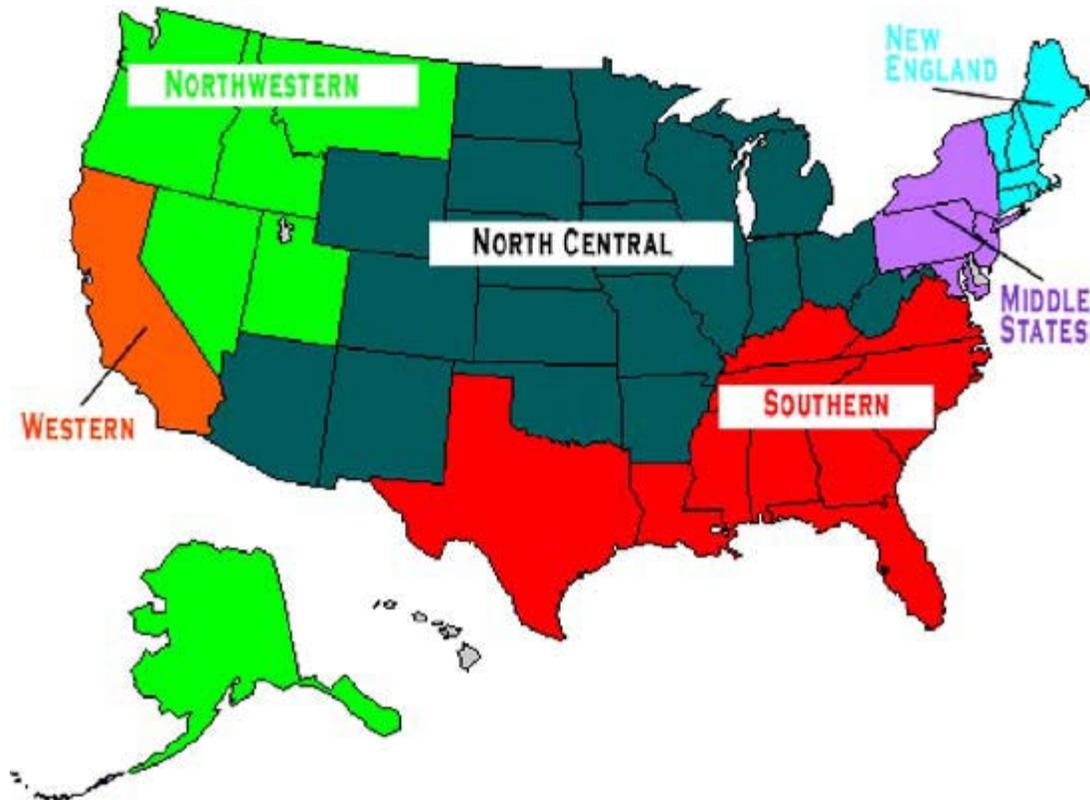
- College Delegate Assembly: CEO from each member institution (800+)
- Board of Trustees: 77 members elected by College Delegates
- Executive Council: 13 Trustees
- Committees on Compliance & Reports (64 Trustees)

(<http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/Handbook%20for%20Institutions%20seeking%20reaffirmation.pdf> page 5)

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Regional Accrediting Agencies

- Independent non-profit entities with separate standards, policies, procedures
- Address all areas of an institution, such as faculty, student achievement, curricula and program length, facilities, equipment, finance, administrative capacity, student support services, recruiting and admissions practices, student complaints, and compliance with federal financial aid regulations.
- Submit their standards, policies, procedures to US DOE for review



- Accreditation establishes eligibility of institution to participate in programs authorized under Title IV of the *Higher Education Act* and other federal programs.
- Federal statute includes mandates that the accrediting agency review an institution in accordance with criteria outlined in the federal regulations developed by the U.S. Department of Education. As part of the review process, institutions are required to document compliance with those criteria and the accrediting agency is obligated to consider such compliance when the institution is reviewed for initial membership or continued accreditation.

(<http://sacscoc.org/pdf/Resource%20Manual.pdf> page 91, 142)