

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

SCHEV & SACSCOC – Examples of Policy to Principle Alignments

	SCHEV: associated policy	Areas of SACSCOC Compliance	SACSCOC: Principle that aligns with SCHEV policy
Mission Policy			
1.	Policy on Mission Statement Changes at Virginia Higher Education Institutions: requires BOV approval	Mission Core to SCHEV and SACSCOC	C.R. 2.4, C.S. 3.1.1, C.S. 3.2.2.1 Several principles address mission specifically (e.g., governing board control, comprehensive, guides operations). A change in mission or objectives of the institution requires approval.
State Level Requirements for Approval of Various Academic Program Actions Policy			
1.	Approval or notification of academic programs, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (C.A.G.S.) or Educational Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) – First Professional Degree – New Degree Program – Spin-Off Degree Program – Certificates (undergraduate and graduate) 	SACSCOC Substantive change policy: notification or approval required for significant changes. Covers changes to academic programs and organization. SCHEV emphasis: system-wide aspects; SACSCOC emphasis: institutional aspects Academic Programs: content	C.S. 3.12 Academic programs: Includes most actions noted in SCHEV policy. C.R. 2.7.2, F.R. 4.2 Coherent course of study, compatible with mission and appropriate to higher education... Note: SACSCOC will accept SCHEV proposal if institution provides index that correlates proposal with information required by SACSCOC.
2.	Approval or notification of program actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CIP Code change – Degree Designation change – Program Name/Title change – Program Merger – Program Discontinuance 		SACSCOC does NOT require notification of CIP Code change or Program Name/title change. C.S. 3.12 Notification and approval to close a program (with teach-out plan)

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3.	Approval of programs: Letter from chief academic officer that must accompany documents submitted for formal approval	Academic Programs: approval	C.S. 3.4.1 ... each educational program for which academic credit is awarded is approved by the faculty and the administration.
4.	Approval of programs description section: Strong educational justification for programs requiring more than 60 credits at associate level or 120 credits at baccalaureate level	Program Length	C.R. 2.7.1, F.R. 4.4 Justification required for degrees that require fewer than 60 credits at associate level or 120 credits at baccalaureate level
5.	Approval of programs description section: Faculty resources to teach in the program	Faculty	C.R. 2.8, C.S. 3.7.1 Number of full-time faculty and qualifications of the faculty
6.	Approval of programs description section: Student learning outcomes and methods and cycle of assessments. SCHEV requires workplace skills and competencies information.	Institutional effectiveness in educational programs, to include student learning outcomes	C.S. 3.3.1.1, C.S. 3.12 For each educational program, describe program-level assessment process and use of assessment results to improve/enhance educational program
7.	Approval of programs description section: Degree program assessment – plan, review cycle, institutional level review, and BOV review	Institutional effectiveness in educational programs, to include student learning outcomes	C.S. 3.3.1.1, C.S. 3.12 For each educational program, describe program-level assessment process and use of assessment results to improve/enhance educational program
8.	Approval of programs description section: Collaborative program with another institution	Consortial relationships/contractual agreements	C.S. 3.12, C.S. 3.4.7 Initial approval; periodic review of educational programs/courses offered through such arrangements

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9.	Approval of programs description section: Justification of need – state, employer, and student demand	Assessment of Need	C.S. 3.12 Brief description of rationale for change, including assessment of need
10.	Approval of programs description section: Relationship to and impact on existing degree program(s) at the institution. Duplication in state		C.S. 3.12 List of institutional programs which are related to proposed program
Organizational Change Policy			
1.	Organizational changes, such as: – Establish, reorganize, close academic unit at department level or higher	SACSCOC Substantive change policy: Organization/structure change	Does not require notification or approval of intra-institutional organizational structure changes except as they relate to new instructional sites. Institutions submit organizational chart during re-affirmation
2.	Organizational change: Notification of or approval to establish an <u>off-campus instructional location</u> (Location and mode of delivery reported in course enrollment data file to SCHEV's Data Warehousing unit)	Instructional locations	Notification when 25% or more of credits toward a program is offered at the site (regardless of funding source). Approval when 50% or more of credits are offered. Required to have initial on-site visit (if institution has three or less off-campus sites) and periodic visits typically during 5 th or 10 th year review.
3.	Organizational change: Significant level of instruction out of state, electronically or physical presence	Mode of delivery	C.S.3.12, F.R. 4.8.1-4.8.3 Approval for initial online program. All modes of delivery are included in 5 th and 10 th -year reviews.

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State Policy on Transfer			
1.	State Policy on Transfer: Admissions, Communication and Information	Admission policies	C.S. 3.4.3 The institution publishes admissions policies consistent with its mission.
Dual Enrollment Policy			
1.	SCHEV Dual Enrollment Policy State Policy on Transfer: Acceptance and Application of Credits	Acceptance of academic credit	C.S. 3.4.4 The institution publishes policies that include criteria for evaluating, awarding, and accepting credit for transfer, ... and ensures that course work and learning outcomes are at the collegiate level and comparable to the institution's own degree programs...
Virginia Public Higher Education Policy on Program Productivity			
1.	Review of Academic Programs (Productivity/ Viability)	Substantive Change: Academic Programs	C.S. 3.12 Notification and approval to close a program (with teach-out plan)
Policy on the Assessment of Student Learning			
1.	Core Competencies	General Education	C.S. 3.5.1 Institutions define college-level general education competencies and the extent to which students have attained them

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SCHEV Requirement that support institution's with SACSCOC

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1.	Six Year Institutional Plan: Academic plan, financial plan, enrollment projections	Strategic planning	C.R. 2.5 Planning and evaluation that (1) incorporate a systematic review of institutional mission, goals, and outcomes; (2) result in continuing improvement in institutional quality; and (3) demonstrate the institution is effectively accomplishing its mission
2.	Six Year Institutional Plan: Financial plan with BOV approval	BOV Control	C.R.2.11.1, C.R. 2.2, C.S., 3.2.2.2 The institution has a sound financial base and demonstrated financial stability to support ... scope of its programs and services The board is ... ultimately responsible for ensuring that the financial resources of the institution are adequate to provide a sound educational program The legal authority and operating control ... clearly defined for the following areas within the institution's governance structure: the fiscal stability of the institution
3.	Six Year Institutional Plan	Physical resources	C.R. 2.11.2 The institution has adequate physical resources to support the mission of the institution and the scope of its programs and services