

ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
Western Association of Schools and Colleges

STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

This Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) was developed by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges as a means of confirming the affiliation status of an institution and summarizing the essential relationship between the institution of higher education and the Commission. The information is subject to change.

Role and Purpose of Accreditation. Accreditation is a status granted to an educational institution that has been found to meet or exceed stated criteria of educational quality. In the United States accreditation is voluntarily sought by institutions and programs, and is conferred by non-governmental bodies. Accreditation has two fundamental purposes: to assure the quality of the institution or program, and to assist in the improvement of the institution. Institutional accreditation evaluates the entire institution and accredits it as a whole. No partial accreditation is possible. Institutional accreditation cannot guarantee the quality of individual graduates or of individual courses within an institution but can give reasonable assurance of the context and quality of the education offered.

The process of accreditation requires honest self evaluation of the institution, backed by evidence, followed by an on-site visit by an evaluation team, and a subsequent review and decision by a central governing group. Accreditation must be reaffirmed periodically. Some institutions may be evaluated more frequently. The Commission may use other types of monitoring between visits to assist the institution in improving.

Southwestern College
 900 Otay Lakes Road
 Chula Vista, CA 91910

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Chief Officer:.....	Mr. Robert Deegan, President
Legal Status:.....	Public (State/local) two-year
Affiliation/Ownership:.....	System: Southwestern CCD
Enrollment:.....	19,652
Degrees: ¹	Certificates, A.A.,A.S.
Locations of instructional sites:	
a) Sites other than home campus with 50% of a degree.....	Higher Education Centers National City; Otay Mesa; San Ysidro
b) Sites out of state or U.S.	None
Other program features:.....	Some courses/programs offered through distance education/correspondence
Accreditation History	
Granted candidacy:.....	1964
First accredited:.....	1964
Last comprehensive evaluation:.....	Monday, September 28-Thursday, October 1, 2015
Midterm Report (Required of all institutions):.....	October 15, 2018
Next comprehensive evaluation:.....	Fall 2021
Current status ² :.....	Accredited
Other reports/visits required ³ :.....	Follow Up Report March 15, 2017
Most recent Commission action	January 6-8, 2016
Statement of Accreditation Status issue date:.....	October 14, 2016

¹ Degrees. Possible entries: Certificates, Associate of Science, Associate of Arts, Associate of Applied Science.

² Accreditation. If a special status has been imposed on the institution, such as warning or probation, that status would be noted here, e.g., Accredited (on probation).

³ Accreditation reports are made available to the public on the college's website.

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UNDERSTANDING THE STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

The first section of the SAS is intended to assist the reader in understanding the scope of the institution's operations and to provide some assurance that these activities are included in the status of the institution. This section is based on self-reported information provided by the institution on its Annual Report and Directory form.

Legal status: Indicates whether the institution is public, private, or proprietary.

Affiliation: Indicates a direct relationship with an external agency, such as a church, a hospital, or in the case of a proprietary institution, an owner.

Enrollment: Indicates the unduplicated head count enrollment in credit classes during the fall of the most recent academic year.

Degrees: Indicates the type of degrees the institution offers.

Locations or instructional sites:

(a) Location of sites other than home campus offering 50% or more of a degree or certificate program.

(b) Location of sites out of state or United States.

Other program features:

Indicates whether the institution offers courses or programs through means other than classroom instruction.

The second section of the SAS captures a brief history of the institution's affiliation with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) and indicates the ways the ACCJC has chosen to monitor the relationship in the future. This information is accurate as of the most recent Commission action.

Granted candidacy:

Indicates the date when the institution first gained pre-accredited status. This may not be applicable for all institutions.

First accredited:

Indicates when the status was first granted. A series of dates may indicate a break in status (e.g., 1925-1930; 1935-).

Last comprehensive evaluation:

Indicates when the institution's affiliation status was last reviewed. All accredited institutions must have their status reviewed at least every six years.

Next comprehensive evaluation:

Indicates the date for the next comprehensive review of the institution's accreditation status.

Current status:

Indicates the current accreditation status with the Commission. If a special status has been imposed, such as warning or probation, that status is noted here, e.g., Accredited (on probation). Primary Commission actions are reaffirmation, deferral of a decision, warning, probation, show cause, and termination. If the Commission has imposed probation or ordered show cause, a detailed Public Disclosure Notice is posted in the ACCJC Directory of Member Institutions on the Commission website (accjc.org). Accredited status continues during any period of deferral of a decision, warning, probation, show cause, or through an appeal.

Most recent Commission action:

Indicates when the most recent Commission action was taken.

Other reports/visits required:

The Commission may require a report or visit to monitor a particular area or areas of the institution between comprehensive evaluations. This section indicates the date of any such report/visit. Deferral of a decision, or warning, probation, show cause and termination decisions always involve subsequent reports/visits.

Statement issue date:

This date indicates the currency of the data contained in the SAS.