

Accreditation FAQ



1 What is our Abbreviated College Mission Statement?

Southwestern Community College District serves a diverse community of students by providing a wide range of dynamic and high quality academic programs and comprehensive student services through its educational, economic and workforce opportunities, and community partnerships.

2 What are the eight SWC strategic priorities used to support the mission?

1. Student Access
2. Student Success
3. Teaching and Learning
4. Economic, Workforce and Community Development
5. Human Resources
6. Physical and Financial Resources
7. Organizational Effectiveness
8. Institutional Technology and Research

3 How often does Southwestern revise its Strategic Plan?

Every 3 years

4 What are the different Constituent Groups at SWC?

- Associated Student Organization
- Academic Senate
- Southwestern College Education Association (SCEA) - Faculty
- California School Employees Association (CSEA) – Classified Professionals
- Confidentials
- Southwestern Community College District Administrators Association (SCCDAA) - Administrators

5 What is the primary collegial consultation committee at the college?

The Shared Consultation Council (SCC).

The SCC meets every two weeks, and its purpose is to serve as the primary college shared planning and decision-making body.

6 Name the collegial consultation committees at SWC.

- Shared Consultation Council (SCC)
- Student Equity Planning Subcommittee (SEP)
- Staff Development Committee
- Educational Planning and Enrollment Management Committee (EP/EMC)
- Human Resources Committee (HRC)
- Student Outcomes and Achievement Review Committee (SOAR)
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (EDI)
- Institutional Facilities Committee (IFC)
- Institutional Technology Committee (ITC)
- Planning and Budget Committee (PBC)
- Accreditation Oversight Committee (AOC)
- Institutional Program Review Committee (IPRC)
- Calendar Committee
- Any other committee with designated membership from the different constituent groups

7 What is Program Review?

- It is a process to review and plan to improve a program, completed on a 3-year cycle for Academic Programs and 6-year cycle for Administrative Units and Student Services.
- Updates are made by submitting annual Program Review Snapshots
- It includes assessment of SLOs and AUOs
- Program reviews are integrated with college-wide plans (Strategic Plan, Educational Master Plan, Facilities Master Plan, Technology Plan, etc.) and drive financial planning and allocation

8 What is Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation (PIE)?

PIE is the process by which we review our programs and services – Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation (PIE)

9 What are SLOs and AUOs? How do they differ?

- Student Learning Outcomes and services – Instruction (what students will have learned in the course of a class or through interacting with instructional support like tutoring, labs, etc.)
- Administrative Unit Outcomes and services – No-Instruction(outside of class in Student Services, academic affairs, Business and Financial Affairs and other administrative offices) – what users of the service will have acquired through interacting with the service/office
- Difference is the target audience – students in classroom/learning center/lab vs. those using a service outside the teaching environment

10 Which would you have in your particular area?

- Depends on your particular area (e.g. Student Learning Outcomes-SLOs or Administrative Unit Outcomes- AUOs)
- Some have both (e.g., the Library and Counseling have both SLOs and AUOs)

11 What is the decision making process at Southwestern College?

Representatives of constituent groups and college leadership engage in dialogue at SCC; Superintendent/President makes recommendations to Governing Board; Academic Senate makes recommendations to Governing Board on academic and professional matters (for faculty)

12 What is the Student Success Act?

SB 1456 was redesigned into the Student Success Act of 2012 where all students must have

- Orientation
- Assessment
- Education Planning & Counseling

13 What Standard in the Accreditation Self Evaluation Report covers the area I work in?

- Standard I Institutional Mission and Effectiveness
- Standard I.A. Mission
- Standard I.B. Improving Institutional Effectiveness
- Standard II Student Learning Programs and Services
- Standard II.A. Instructional Programs
- Standard II.B. Student Support Services
- Standard II.C. Library and Learning Support Services
- Standard III Resources
- Standard III.A. Human Resources
- Standard III.B. Physical Resources
- Standard III.C. Technology Resources
- Standard III.D. Financial Resources
- Standard IV Leadership and Governance
- Standard IV.A. Decision-Making Process
- Standard IV.B. Board and Administrative Organization

14 Where on the college website can you find the Self-Evaluation Report for Accreditation?

It is located under
“About SWC --> Accreditation --> 2015-2022 Accreditation Cycle”