



POLICY TITLE
Institutional Accreditation

POLICY NUMBER
1-4080

Responsible Office: <i>Academics and Workforce</i>	Effective Date: <i>12/18/2023</i>
Responsible Official: <i>Provost/Vice Chancellor for Workforce and Student Development</i>	Last Reviewed Date: <i>11/15/2023</i>
Policy Classification: <i>Academics, Workforce and Student Development</i>	Origination Date: <i>05/09/2011</i>

I. POLICY STATEMENT

Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) shall maintain accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and appoint an Institutional Accreditation Liaison to assist the College’s Chancellor to that end.

BRCC shall notify the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) of any accreditation actions taken by SACSCOC Board of Trustees and send copies of all accreditation reports submitted to and received from SACSCOC to the LCTCS President. LCTCS will respect the confidentiality of such reports to the extent provided by law.

II. POLICY RATIONALE AND SCOPE

Accreditation informs BRCC stakeholders of the College’s commitment to maintaining the highest standards for its operations, educational programs, student development, and financial stability.

Certification to award federal student aid and the transfer of academic credit from BRCC to other postsecondary institutions requires accreditation by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

III. POLICY AUDIENCE

Maintenance of institutional accreditation is a responsibility shared by all BRCC employees.

IV. POLICY COMPLIANCE

Failure to maintain institutional accreditation jeopardizes the institutions certification by the United States Department of Education and transfer of credit hours to postsecondary institutions.

V. POLICY DEFINITIONS

Accreditation: Review of the quality of higher education institutions, programs, and authorization to award academic credentials by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

Institutional Accreditation Liaison: BRCC employee who serves “as the resource person on campus for SACSCOC accreditation questions and as an institutional contact person for SACSCOC personnel” (SACSCOC Resource Manual for the 2018 Principles of Accreditation).

VI. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

BRCC maintains accreditation by demonstrating compliance with the SACSCOC policies, procedures, and *Principles of Accreditation*, timely submission of required annual reports, and payment of fees for reviews and membership dues.

VII. POLICY RELATED INFORMATION

[Louisiana RS 17:3222. Community college; East Baton Rouge Parish; management and operation](#)

[Louisiana RS 17:3162. Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council](#)

[Louisiana RS 17:3164. Common Course Numbering System](#)

[Act 308 \(SB 261\), 2022. Provides for public postsecondary education transfer pathways](#)

[*Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement*. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College \(SACSCOC\)](#)

VIII. POLICY EXCEPTION

The desire to seek accreditation by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education other than SACSCOC must be presented to the LCTCS Board of Supervisors and the Board of Regents.

IX. POLICY HISTORY AND REVIEW CYCLE

This policy supersedes and represents a significant revision to BRCC’s Academic Affairs Policy 1-4080, Institutional Accreditation (2013). This policy is to be reviewed three years from the

effective date of this revision. This revision's effective date is when it is signed by the College's Chancellor.

X. POLICY URL

This policy may be accessed on the BRCC website at www.mybrcc.edu.

XI. POLICY APPROVAL - SIGNATURE, NAME, TITLE, AND DATE OF OFFICIAL



Dr. Willie Smith, Sr., Ed.D.
Chancellor

12/18/2023

Date
Effective Date of Policy