

Summary/Highlights of Changes to ACCJC Standards

Note: These comments reflect an analysis of what is in the proposed standards that is not in the current standards. These do not reflect what is in the current standards that is not in the proposed standards. My focus was on what we now have to do that we did not before; and what new assessments do we need to have to demonstrate compliance with what's new.

Overall impression: Standard 1 is now much more robust. There is a new section and pieces of the other standards are included in the new Standard 1. There are only a handful of completely new statements implying there some new things with which we need to comply. Although there are many "old" statements, some wording within these statements changed and added or shifted focus. More details on this are below.

Standard I

- "Academic Quality" and "Integrity" are two new sections. However, the statements within each of these two sections are not necessarily new.
- IA – Mission: (IA1) New language expands the scope of the institutional goals by including degrees and credentials and specifically includes resource allocation.
- IB – Academic Quality: (IB1) New language adds more specificity to institutional dialogue and there's specific mention of using assessment data (IB4).
- (IB5) There is new language around disaggregating outcomes data for subpopulations.
- IC – Institutional Integrity: (IC6) New standard on reporting out on cost of education (tuition, fees, other (e.g. textbooks)). *Note: This is very similar to what we do for Gainful Employment*
- (IC12) Specifically mentions that institutions must respond to ACCJC requirements "within a time period set by the Commission."

Standard II

- (II-intro) General education needs to be incorporated into all degree programs.
- IIA – Instructional Programs: (IIA2) puts the focus on faculty to meet content standards.
- Course outlines include SLOs
- (IIA6) Minimum degree requirements at associate (60 credits) and baccalaureate (120 credits) levels.
- (IIA7) Scheduling of courses must allow student to complete pathway within a time "consistent with established expectations in higher education".
- (IIA17) Evaluation of community education courses.
- IIB – Student Support: New standard (IIB4) regarding co-curricular or athletic programs.
- (IIB5) Counseling and advising requirements.
- New standard (IIB6) on defining and advising on pathways.

Standard III

- **IIIA – Human resources:** (IIIA6) Specifically mentions academic administrators as part of who needs to be evaluated relative to student learning.
- **IIID – Financial Resources:** (IIID1) New language mentions “allocation and reallocation” of programs and services. *Not sure I understand this.*
- (IIID15) New compliance language.

Standard IV

- **IVA – Decision-making Roles and Processes:** New standard (IVA6) about documenting and communicating decision-making process and decisions made.
- **IVB – Chief Executive Offer:** is a new heading that specifies CEO responsibilities.
- (IVB3) has two new items for the CEO...to ensure institutional standards are set and that allocation of resources supports and improves learning and achievement.
- **IVC – Governing Board:** New standard (IVC6) talks about board reviewing indicators of learning and achievement.
- (IVC10) has new language about board evaluation process.
- **IVD – Multi-College Districts or Systems:** is a new heading.
- (IVD2) District/system can be evaluated against standards and impact the accredited status of the institution.
- (IVD5) New standard on the integration of district/system planning and evaluation with college planning and evaluation.