

Compliance Components – University Relations

Separate compliance components that constitute discrete issues to be addressed in developing a convincing argument for compliance in the Compliance Certification are underlined for each applicable requirement and standard. A narrative that addresses and documents some, but not all, of the compliance components is incomplete.

Suggestions: The “suggestions” provided below are guides to developing and documenting a narration that thoroughly addresses these compliance components.

Excerpts citing noncompliance: The “excerpts” are provided to assist Applicants and Candidates in identifying typical shortcomings in the narratives and documentation presented in support of an institution’s assertion of compliance; taken from reports developed by SACSCOC review committees, these excerpts are all part of some committee’s explanation of its finding of noncompliance.

Comprehensive Standards:

3.3 Institutional Effectiveness

3.3.1 The institution identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of improvement based on analysis of the results in each of the following areas (**Institutional Effectiveness**):

Suggestion: *Cross-reference the narrative and documentation developed for CR 2.5 as appropriate. Note, however, that CR 2.5 refers to planning and evaluation for the over-all institution, while CS 3.1.1 refers to educational programs and other units at the institution.*

3.3.1.2 administrative support services

Suggestion: *Create meaningful goals/objectives, not simple “to do” lists.*

Excerpt citing noncompliance: *“Because the reviewed administrative support units did not list outcomes or intended effects of the activities facilitated by the units, it was not possible to confirm that the institution identifies expected outcomes for its administrative support units or assesses the extent to which it achieves expected outcomes.”*

3.3.1.5 community/public service within its educational mission, if appropriate

Excerpt citing noncompliance: *“Although it is evident that in recent years the institution has made some progress in developing an assessment program in public service/outreach units, evidence provided in the Compliance Certification indicates that implementation of the institution’s assessment requirements is uneven across the programs. Furthermore, information in section four of the institution’s assessment report (‘Describe how assessment results were used to improve the unit’) is frequently vague and/or refers to future actions. The institution simply did not provide sufficient evidence of improvement based on analysis of the results.”*