

Review Dashboard

Number	Title	Rating
1	Mission	
1.A	Core Component 1.A	Met
1.B	Core Component 1.B	Met
1.C	Core Component 1.C	Met
1.S	Criterion 1 - Summary	
2	Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct	
2.A	Core Component 2.A	Met
2.B	Core Component 2.B	Met
2.C	Core Component 2.C	Met
2.D	Core Component 2.D	Met
2.E	Core Component 2.E	Met
2.S	Criterion 2 - Summary	
3	Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources and Support	
3.A	Core Component 3.A	Met
3.B	Core Component 3.B	Met With Concerns
3.C	Core Component 3.C	Met
3.D	Core Component 3.D	Met
3.S	Criterion 3 - Summary	
4	Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement	
4.A	Core Component 4.A	Met
4.B	Core Component 4.B	Met With Concerns
4.C	Core Component 4.C	Met
4.S	Criterion 4 - Summary	
5	Institutional Effectiveness, Resources and Planning	
5.A	Core Component 5.A	Met
5.B	Core Component 5.B	Met
5.C	Core Component 5.C	Met
5.S	Criterion 5 - Summary	
FC	Federal Compliance	Requires monitoring

Review Summary

Interim Report(s) Required

Due Date

10/3/2022

Report Focus

A single report addressing concerns in Criterion 3B and 4B. The report shall include the following:

1. Evidence demonstrating that all Institutional Learning Competencies (ILC), including those dealing with human and cultural diversity, have been mapped to courses for a representative sample of SMC career and transfer programs--5-10;
2. The mapping should include examples of how the ILC's are being taught in the sample courses and programs;
3. A written plan for consistently assessing student learning across the college that incorporates the following: assessment of student learning outcomes; assessment of co-curricular activities that uses both direct and indirect measures; assessment of ILC's' which have been mapped to SMC courses. The plan should articulate how assessment data will be linked to inform the budgeting and planning processes and improve student learning. Finally, the plan must provide for how the college will ensure that the assessment plan will be applied consistently across the college.

Due Date

10/2/2023

Report Focus

A second report that will also address the concerns in Criterion 3B and 4B. The report shall include the following:

1. Evidence that ILC's are being assessed, according to plan, in the 5-10 sample career and transfer programs selected by SMC. The evidence should include discussions of how faculty have used the results of assessing ILC's to improve student learning.
2. Evidence that the written plan for assessing student learning required in year one is being implemented. The evidence should cite examples of how the institution is maintaining consistency across the curriculum and how the data collected is being linked to inform budget and planning processes to improve student learning.

Due Date

12/31/2021

Report Focus

A report based on the the Federal Compliance Finding: *Institutionally-generated Student Outcomes Data reports made available on Southwestern's Consumer Information and Student Success web pages should be reviewed within six months of the conclusion of the reaffirmation visit to ensure that technical terms have been defined and that compilation methodologies have been included.*

Conclusion

The team recommends reaffirmation of the accreditation of Southwestern Michigan College. In summary, the team's recommendation for reaffirmation, along with the requirement for interim reports, is based on the following:

- Clear statement of mission and supporting documents that are understood and supported across the college and drive the institution's strategic plan;
- Long history of supporting the community with affordable, quality, career and transfer programs;
- Dedicated and well-qualified BOT;
- Faculty and staff who are appropriately credentialed and committed to student success;
- Ethical and transparent environment throughout all college activities;
- Faculty oversight of the educational mission of the college;
- Governance processes that are collaborative;
- Regular program review and on-going assessment of student learning;
- Strong student persistence data;
- High levels of student satisfaction;
- Excellent physical resources;
- Effective and efficient use of financial resources; and,
- Quality career and transfer programs, including dual enrollment and online courses.

While the team concludes that Southwestern Michigan College meets the Core Components for reaffirmation of accreditation, there are concerns which need to be addressed by the college. First, the ILC's developed in January 2021 need to be mapped to the college's educational programs. Second, a written plan for the assessment of student learning needs to be developed and implemented which ensures consistency across the curriculum and links assessment results to budget and planning processes to improve student learning. The team has concluded that the best approach to ensure these issues are appropriately addressed is through interim reporting. Although the concerns identified by the team are significant, the institution is aware of these issues and is committed to addressing these concerns. The requirement of a report in one year will allow the college to use its substantial human resources to develop a written plan, including mapping of ILC's, to address the concerns identified by the team. A second report in year two will allow the institution to review how well it is executing on its plan. SMC has the requisite resources to enthusiastically and effectively address these concerns successfully. The college has a history of successfully navigating challenges and serving its students and community.

For all the reasons stated above, the team determines that Southwestern Michigan College is "eligible to choose" its pathway.

Overall Recommendations

Criteria For Accreditation

Met With Concerns

Sanctions Recommendation

No Sanction

Pathways Recommendation

Eligible to choose

Federal Compliance

Requires monitoring