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What Standards Are Used by Regional College Accreditors?

As noted in Topic one, the [Southern Association of Colleges and Universities Commission on Colleges \(SACSCOC\)](#) accredits universities in the Southern part of the United States. The Commission uses principles and standards in this process. Please visit this [website](#) and go to the MOST recent version of the *Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement* and study relevant sections.

1. Integrity
2. Mission
3. Basic Eligibility Standard
4. Governing Board
5. Administration and Organization
6. Faculty
7. Institutional Planning & Effectiveness
8. Student Achievement
9. Educational Program Structure & Content
10. Educational Policies, Procedures, & Practices
11. Library & Learning/Information Resources
12. Academic & Student Support Services
13. Financial & Physical Resources
14. Transparency & Institutional Representation

This is yet another external source that describes the characteristics of a successful university through its principles and standards. These standards will be used in discussion boards, chat rooms, and in coming lessons.

If you would like to look at your own regional accreditation criteria here are the links-- Southern Association of Colleges and Universities is located above (website).

Accrediting Agencies

Middle States

<https://www.msche.org/standards/>

New England

<https://cis.neasc.org/resources/manual-school-evaluation>

North Central

<https://www.hlcommission.org/Policies/criteria-and-core-components.html>

Northwest

<https://www.nwccu.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Accreditation-Handbook-2017-edition.pdf> (revised for 2020)

Western

<https://www.acswasc.org/schools/acs-wasc-school-process-overview/>

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