



University Community (faculty, staff and students)

SUBJECT (R*)	EFFECTIVE DATE (R*)	POLICY NUMBER (O*)
SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE REPORTING	March 16, 2015	350.050

POLICY STATEMENT (R*)

Florida International University maintains compliance with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) policy, *Substantive Change for SACSCOC Accredited Institutions*.

REASON FOR POLICY (O*)

SACSCOC is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as an agency whose accreditation enables its member institutions to seek eligibility to participate in Title IV programs. To maintain its recognition with the U.S. Department of Education, SACSCOC has incorporated federal requirements into its substantive change policy and procedures. Some of these requirements specify that an institution seek and receive approval prior to the initiation of a substantive change so that the change can be included in the institution’s scope of accreditation.

RELATED INFORMATION (O*)

AUTHORITY/SOURCE

Board of Governors’ Regulations 8.009, 8.011, 8.012
 Board of Trustees’ Regulation, FIU-116
 SACSCOC Substantive Change for SACSCOC Accredited Institutions – Policy Statement

DEFINITIONS (R*)

A substantive change is “a significant modification or expansion of the nature and scope of an accredited institution.”

PROCEDURES (O*)

If an academic unit is considering any of the types of substantive changes listed in the document “Florida International University Substantive Change Notification Procedures to Maintain Compliance with the Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools”, found at:
https://accreditation.fiu.edu/substantive-changes/assets/FIU_Substantive_Change_Notification_Procedure_1-17-17.pdf,
 the college dean/school director is to contact the Vice President of Academic Affairs or designee in writing according to the time frame shown in the publication chart. The dean/director must submit a program change that has been approved by the departmental and college curriculum committee, the dean’s/director’s office, and the Faculty Senate. Depending on the type of substantive change being proposed, the Vice President of Academic Affairs may direct the unit to other university entities as appropriate.

RESPONSIBILITIES (O*)

FIU, a member institution, is required to notify the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges of changes in accordance with its substantive change policy, and when required, seek approval prior to the initiation of changes.

HISTORY (R*)

Florida Statutes Sect. 1001.706
 Florida Constitution Article IX, Sect. 7

RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY DIVISION/DEPARTMENT (R*)

Division of Academic Affairs
 Florida International University

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT (R*)

Academic Affairs
 11200 S.W. Eighth Street, PC 526
 Miami, Florida 33199
 Telephone Number: (305) 348-2151

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For any questions or comments, the “Document Details” view for this policy online provides complete contact information.

***R = Required *O = Optional**