SACS Core Requirement 2.1

2.1 - Degree-granting Authority

The institution has degree-granting authority from the appropriate government agency or agencies.

Judgment of Compliance

In Compliance

Statement of Rationale for Judgment of Compliance

Chipola College has degree-granting authority from the State of Florida. Florida Statutes provide that each community college has the authority to grant Associate in Arts degrees, Associate in Science degrees, Associate in Applied Science degrees, certificates, awards, and diplomas. See (1) for Florida Statutes, Section 1004.65(6)(a)(b) for the definition, mission, and responsibilities of community colleges in Florida. On June 6, 2000, the governor signed into law amendments permitting community colleges to confer Bachelor’s degrees after acquiring approval from the Florida Department of Education. This action was based on extensive assessments of local, regional, and state demand. This expanded the mission of community colleges to include site-determined Baccalaureate degree access in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 1007.33 (2).

Florida Statutes further provide that among the powers and duties of the President is the awarding of degrees (3). In addition, Florida Statutes grant each District Board of Trustees the authority to adopt rules establishing performance standards for the awarding of degrees and certificates (4a; 4b).

Further, Rule 6A-14.030, lists the basic requirements and courses of study authorized by Florida Statutes for the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science degrees for community colleges (5). See (6) for a complete list of Florida’s Community Colleges as posted on the Florida Board of Education website.

Documentation:


Florida Statutes, Section 1001.65(10). Community College Presidents; Powers and Duties

Florida Statutes, Section 1001.64(8)(b). Community College Boards of Trustees; Powers and Duties

Florida Statutes, Section 1004.68(1). Community College; Degrees and Certificates; Tests for Certain Skills

Rule 6A-14.030 - Instruction and Awards in Community Colleges

List of Florida’s Community Colleges