Principles of Accreditation

Compliance Report

Chipola College Compliance Audit Report

SACS Core Requirement 2.2

2.2 - Governing Board

The institution has a governing board of at least five members that is the legal body with specific authority over the institution. The board is an active policy-making body for the institution and is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the financial resources of the institution are adequate to provide a sound educational program. The board is not controlled by a minority of board members or by organizations or interests separate from it. Both the presiding officer of the board and a majority of other voting members of the board are free of any contractual, employment, or personal or familial financial interest in the institution.

Judgment of Compliance

In Compliance

Statement of Rationale for Judgment of Compliance

Chipola College has a governing Board of Trustees, pursuant to Florida law, consisting of nine members representing the five counties served by the college ([1a]; [1b]). Board members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate for terms of four years and may be reappointed for a second term ([2a]; [2b]). The Board elects a chair and vice-chair each year at the first regular Board meeting following July 1 ([3]). Since 1990 no Board member has been re-elected chair after serving one academic year as chair ([4]).

The names of the members of the Board are listed in the supporting documents ([5]). The college also provides a list of Board members and their employment, if any ([5]). No members of the Board have contractual, personal, or familial financial interest in the college. Florida law specifically prohibits Board members from employment or contractual relationship with any business entity which is subject to the regulation of doing business with the college ([6]). The Board has also established a Code of Ethics ([7]).

All votes of the Board are, in accordance with Florida law, taken in public meetings, and no resolution, rule, or formal action of the Board is considered binding unless taken or made at a public meeting ([8]).
The Board is, by law, the policy-making body for the college and has the duty to ensure that the financial resources of the institution are adequate to provide a sound educational program.

Each Board agenda includes a consent agenda for operational issues and for issues relating to policy, including policy development. Time is also reserved for the President and Board members to discuss policy.

The Board also operates under Florida’s Sunshine Laws, which prevent two or more trustees from meeting without public notice. Board members may abstain from voting to avoid any inappropriate conflict of interest.

In addition, the Board has specific authorization to adopt rules, procedures, and policies consistent with the laws and rules of the State Board of Education related to the following: the college mission and responsibilities according to State Statute 1004.65 or its governance; personnel; budget and finance; administration; programs; curriculum and instruction; buildings and grounds; travel and purchasing; students; contracts and grants; and property. See for Florida Statutes, Section 1001.64(4)(b).

Board members’ photographs, names, contact information, and the counties they represent are posted on the college website and in the Chipola College 2006-2007 Catalog.

Documentation:

1a. Chipola College Board Policy Number 1.010: The District Board of Trustees

1b. Chipola College 2006-2007 Catalog, p. 6

2a. Florida Statutes, Section 1001.61 (2). Community College Boards of Trustees; Membership

2b. Rule 6A-14.024(4) - Composition of Boards of Trustees

3. Florida Statutes, Section 1001.64(4). Community College Boards of Trustees; Powers and Duties

4. Past chairs list of the District Board of Trustees

5. Names of Board of Trustee Members and Board Member employment


7. Chipola College Board Policy Number 1.010: The District Board of Trustees
Florida Statutes, Section 286.011(1). Public Meetings and Records; Public Inspection; Criminal and Civil Penalties

Florida Statutes, Sections 1001.64(1)(2)(3)(4)(11), Community College Boards of Trustees; Powers and Duties

Chipola College Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda (Feb. 21, 2006)

Chipola College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes (Feb. 21, 2006)

Florida Statutes, Section 1004.65. Community Colleges; Definition, Mission, and Responsibilities

Florida Statutes, Section 1001.64(4)(b). Community College Boards of Trustees; Powers and Duties

Chipola College website

Chipola College 2006-2007 Catalog, p. 136