SACS Comprehensive Standard 3.12.1

3.12.1 - Substantive Change
The institution notifies the Commission of changes in accordance with the substantive change policy and, when required, seeks approval prior to the initiation of changes.

Judgment of Compliance
In Compliance.

Statement of Rationale for Judgment of Compliance
Chipola College complies with SACS policies regarding notification and prior approval of substantive change, as illustrated by the following:

On June 27, 2002, the college President notified the Commission on Colleges of Chipola’s intent to seek permission to become a Level II (baccalaureate degree-granting) institution and offer Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education (BSSE) degrees, with majors in Mathematics Education (6 – 12) and Biology Education (6 – 12), to prepare high school math and science teachers. See ([1]) for the President’s notification letter of June 27, 2002, and ([2]) for the response from Dr. James Rogers, Executive Director of the Commission on Colleges.

Chipola was authorized in June, 2003, by the Florida State Board of Education to deliver Bachelor's degrees, in response to the Florida Legislature’s decision to allow selected community colleges to offer Baccalaureate degrees to address local workforce needs. Chipola was one of only three community colleges in Florida to be granted permission at that time.

In April of 2003, Chipola submitted a Substantive Change Application to SACS requesting approval to become a Level II institution. The Commission on Colleges approved the application in June 2003.

In January of 2004, the first students were admitted to Chipola’s Teacher Education Program to seek either the BS in Mathematics Education (6 – 12) or BS in Biology Education degrees (6 – 12). These are BSSE degrees, but the Florida Department of Education determined and assigned these specific titles for the degrees. A SACS Substantive Change Committee visited the campus to review the program in April of 2004.
In 2005-2006, BS degrees in Middle School Mathematics Education (5 – 9) and Middle School Science Education (5 – 9) were added. Under SACS guidelines the addition of these two additional BSSE degrees did not require a Substantive Change Application.

The college currently offers the following degrees to address the need for middle and high school math and science teachers:

- BS in Mathematics (6 – 12)
- BS in Biology (6 – 12)
- BS in Middle School Science Education (5 – 9)
- BS in Middle School Mathematics Education (5 – 9)

Documentation:

[1] Notification Letter: June 27, 2002, from Dr. Dale O'Daniel, President, Chipola (Junior) College, to Dr. James Rogers, Executive Director, SACS—Commission on Colleges

[2] Response Letter: July 16, 2002, from Dr. James T. Rogers, Executive Director, SACS—Commission on Colleges, to Dr. Dale O'Daniel, President, Chipola (Junior) College