Principles of Accreditation

Compliance Report

Chipola College Compliance Audit Report

SACS Comprehensive Standard 3.5.3

3.5.3 - Undergraduate Program Requirements

The institution defines and publishes general education requirements for its undergraduate programs including its general education components. These requirements conform to commonly accepted standards and practices for degree programs.

Judgment of Compliance

In Compliance

Statement of Rationale for Judgment of Compliance

Chipola College defines and publishes General Education Requirements and major program requirements in the college catalog ([1]) which is available in hard copy and on the Chipola College website ([2]). Students, faculty, and staff have access to all degree and program requirements through computers located across the campus. All new students are provided with a copy of the College Catalog during the mandatory Orientation class.

The general education requirements within college programs are consistent with the legislative rules governing Baccalaureate degrees (BS), Associate in Arts degrees (AA), Associate in Science degrees (AS) and Associate in Applied Science degrees (AAS).

- The BS degree requires satisfactory completion of the Gordon Rule as dictated by Florida Statute ([3]); completion of the CLAST or approved alternative; satisfactory completion of major requirements in a chosen degree program, including additional requirements set by the college; completion of 2 years of a foreign language; a minimum GPA of 2.5; successful completion of 120 unduplicated semester hours; completion of at least 40 semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above; completion of at least 30 semester hours (25%) in residence at the college; sixty (60) semester hours of the work credited toward a BS degree must be earned in an accredited senior institution ([4]); a passing score on each of the General Knowledge Tests, the Professional Skills Test, and the Subject Area Test on the Florida Teacher Certification Exam; successful completion of the student teaching experience; and demonstration of the Educator Accomplished Practices at the pre-professional level. Requirements needed to earn the BS degree conform to commonly accepted standards and practices set forth by the Florida Department of Education ([5]).
The AA degree, which requires 36 hours of General Education course work as mandated by Florida Statute 1007.23 (§ 1007.23 [6]), is awarded to students who complete university transfer curricula designed to prepare them to enter as juniors at four-year State colleges or universities. The AA degree is awarded upon completion of at least 60 semester hours of college credit courses.

The AS degree and AAS degree programs contain fifteen (15) to eighteen (18) hours of general education in the liberal arts and sciences, as outlined in the Florida State Board of Education Administrative Rules, with the remaining semester hours based upon program specific requirements (§ 1008.29. College-level Communication and Mathematics Skills Examination (CLAST) [7]; § 1007.23. Statewide Articulation Agreement [8]; § 1007.25. General Education Courses; Common Prerequisites; and other Degree Requirements [9]).

In addition to State Board requirements, all Chipola College degree programs conform to Rule 6A-10.024 and the Florida Department of Education Frameworks for AS, AAS, and certificate programs (Career and Technical Curriculum Frameworks and Student Performance Standards) (§ 1008.29. College-level Communication and Mathematics Skills Examination (CLAST) [10]).

Documentation:

[1] Chipola College 2006-2007 Catalog, p. 34
[2] Chipola College website
[3] Florida Statutes, Section 1007.25. General Education Courses; Common Prerequisites; and other Degree Requirements
[10] Career and Technical Curriculum Frameworks and Student Performance Standards