Principles of Accreditation

Compliance Report

Chipola College Compliance Audit Report

SACS Comprehensive Standard 3.8.3

3.8.3 - Qualified Staff

The institution provides a sufficient number of qualified staff—with appropriate education or experiences in library and/or other learning/information resources—to accomplish the mission of the institution.

Judgment of Compliance

☑ In Compliance

Statement of Rationale for Judgment of Compliance

The Chipola College Library provides a sufficient number of qualified staff to accomplish the institution’s mission. Qualifications of Library staff are determined through the college’s hiring procedures ([1]). Library faculty must meet the credential requirements outlined in the Certification of Personnel ([2]). Annual surveys conducted to assess Library services and instruction indicate a high level of satisfaction with services ([3]). This indicates a sufficient number of staff to serve students.

The Chipola College Library is presently staffed by seven full time employees. The three librarians have American Library Association accredited Master of Library Science degrees and hold faculty or administrative status at the college. These librarians have a combined total of over sixty-four years experience providing reference services, assisting students, faculty, and community in using Library resources, and providing information literacy instruction. The Learning Resources Technology coordinator is instrumental in upgrading and maintaining the Library website and publications, as well as taking part in reference instruction. The two career service paraprofessionals have Associate degrees. All staff take advantage of specialized training through the College Center for Library Automation in reference materials and literacy as well as training in library operation. The Video and TV Production Director is also a part of the Library staff, providing assistance in publications, instructional video, and audio-visual technical assistance. Resumes for the staff are available online ([4]). Library services are further enhanced by student assistants assigned by the Financial Aid Office who each work 20-30 hours per week during the Fall and Spring Semesters.
Professional development opportunities are available to all Library staff. All staff may benefit from the College’s Staff and Program Development funds, which finance travel to professional development opportunities and training. Additionally, the college is a member of the Panhandle Library Access Network (PLAN) ([5]), a non-profit multi-library cooperative that assists libraries by leading and encouraging collaboration, resource sharing, staff development and innovations. PLAN provides training opportunities throughout the year for all Library staff. The college is a member of the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) consortium ([6]), which coordinates the collections of twenty-eight community colleges and eleven state universities through a common collections management system (LINCC), and which provides professional training on the system for all staff. All personnel - faculty, administrators, and staff - have been trained to support student research and reference needs ([7]).

Documentation:

[1] Chipola College IMM #12 - Hiring Procedures


[4] Library Staff Resumes

