

**EXCERPT FROM THE PRELIMINARY REPORT
OF THE REAFFIRMATION COMMITTEE**

Statement Regarding the Report

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) is responsible for making the final determination on reaffirmation of accreditation based on the findings contained in this committee report, the institution's response to issues contained in the report, other assessments relevant to the review, and application of the Commission's policies and procedures. Final interpretation of the Principles of Accreditation and final action on the accreditation status of the institution rest with SACSCOC Board of Trustees.

Name of the Institution: **University of South Carolina - Columbia**

Date of the Review: **November 3-4, 2020**

SACSCOC Staff Member: **Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover**

Chair of the Committee: **Dr. Timothy S. Brophy**
Director, Institutional Assessment
and Professor, Music Education
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32606

10.7 Policies for Awarding Credit

- 10.7 The institution publishes and implements policies for determining the amount and level of credit awarded for its courses, regardless of format or mode of delivery. These policies require oversight by persons academically qualified to make the necessary judgments. In educational programs not based on credit hours (e.g., direct assessment programs), the institution has a sound means for determining credit equivalencies.
(Policies for awarding credit) **[Off-Site/On-Site Review]**

Compliance

The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee found support for the institution's case for compliance.

The institution provided substantial evidence that it publishes and implements policies for determining the amount and level of credit awarded for its courses, regardless of format, or mode of delivery, or location. These policies are grounded in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) definition of a credit hour. These policies require oversight by persons academically qualified to make the necessary judgments. In educational programs not based on credit hours (e.g., internships experiential learning, laboratory courses) the institution has a sound means for determining credit equivalencies by appropriate faculty and directed through the Faculty Senate Instructional Development Committee. These policies are under the oversight of qualified faculty within the unit and by Faculty Senate. Credit for courses offered exclusively for a professional degree from the College of Pharmacy, College of Medicine, and School of Law are determined by the unit's faculty and are described and examples are provided. Credit by examination for undergraduate courses may be approved by the dean or department chair for a grade of B or better.