



Addressing the 2008 Revisions to the CFRs and Institutional Review Process

In 2008, the Commission adopted changes to several of the Criteria for Review (CFRs) in the Standards of Accreditation and to the Institutional Review Process. The changes became effective July 1, 2008 and are being phased in over the next year to allow institutions adequate time to address them during their next interactions with WASC.

Starting with fall 2009 visits, institutions that are in the process of a comprehensive review with visits already scheduled should address the revised requirements in their reports as follows.

1. Addressing the Revised CFRs

Table A (attached) identifies the CFRs and related Guidelines to which substantive revisions were made in 2008. Please review these changes and assess your institution's status with regard to the new requirements. In a brief supplemental report to your CPR or EER report, please provide a summary of your analysis and evidence, as appropriate. You may provide this summary in whatever form is most effective or efficient for you, e.g., a narrative report or a table or chart.

Particular attention should be given to any revision that will require a change in your institutional policies or practices. For example, if your institution is not already publishing data about student performance for the public, you will need to develop a plan for doing so under the new provisions of CFR 1.2.

If your Proposal has been approved and you are scheduled for a CPR visit during or after fall 2009, you should submit your analysis of the revised CFRs in a supplement to your CPR report and follow up as needed in your EER report. If you have only an EER visit scheduled during or after fall 2009, you should submit this supplemental report with your EER report.

2. Addressing New Topics in the Institutional Review Process

Table B (attached) identifies three topical areas that must now be addressed in the comprehensive review process and serves as a tool for institutions to use in discussing the topics, developing an outline, and identifying related supporting documents.

The topics are:

- Student Success (to be addressed in both CPR and EER)
- Program Review (to be addressed in EER)
- Sustainability of Effectiveness Plans (to be addressed in EER)

If your Proposal has been approved and you are scheduled for a CPR visit during or after fall 2009, you should follow the prescribed outline for the content of the CPR and EER reports, as set forth in the Institutional Review Process. The primary change for CPR report is the inclusion of an analysis of student success. If you have only an EER visit scheduled during or after fall 2009, you are required to address all three topics shown above, as set forth in the revised Institutional Review Process.

Finally, if any of these areas are covered extensively in your report because you chose to emphasize that topic as part of your review, feel free to refer to that section of the report in your supplement instead of preparing a separate report or document.

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