SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE POLICY

The University of the South is required to notify the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) of a significant modification or expansion of the nature and scope of the institution in accordance with the Commission's substantive change policy and, when required, seek approval prior to the initiation of changes. Accordingly, all departments, programs or other units of the University are required to submit any requests for substantive change to the Provost (the University's SACSCOC liaison) for review and submission to SACSCOC at least 60 days before the required timeframe (available in the SACSCOC Policy on Substantive Change) before any changes are initiated. The application for approval of a substantive change must include all the elements required by the SACSCOC policy, as outlined at http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/SubstantiveChange.pdf.

In accordance with SACSCOC and federal regulations, substantive change is a significant modification or expansion of the nature and scope of an accredited institution, and includes, but may not be limited to (in accordance with the most updated SACSCOC Substantive Change Policy):

- Any change in the established mission or objectives of the institution
- Any change in legal status, form of control, or ownership of the institution
- The addition of courses or programs that represent a significant departure, either in content or method of delivery, from those that were offered when the institution was last evaluated
- The addition of courses or programs of study at a degree or credential level different from that which is included in the institution's current accreditation or reaffirmation
- A change from clock hours to credit hours
- A substantial increase in the number of clock or credit hours awarded for successful completion of a program
- The establishment of an additional location geographically apart from the main campus at which the institution offers at least 50% of an educational program.
- The establishment of a branch campus
- Closing a program, off-campus site, branch campus or institution
- Entering into a collaborative academic arrangement that includes only the initiation of a dual or joint academic program with another institution
- Acquiring another institution or a program or location of another institution
- Adding a permanent location at a site where the institution is conducting a teach-out program for a closed institution
- Entering into a contract by which an entity not eligible for Title IV funding offers 25% or more of one or more of the accredited institution's programs.