

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

October 1, 2015

Norfolk State University has addressed the recommendations of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Board of Trustees in its January 20, 2015 letter of probation. As the institution prepares for the October 13-15, 2015 site visit from SACSCOC, here are answers to a few frequently asked questions:

Q. Is NSU accredited?

A. Yes. NSU is fully accredited by SACSCOC.

Q. How long will NSU remain on probation?

A. The university was placed on probation for 12 months. SACSCOC will conduct a site visit October 13-15, 2015 to review the university's progress. The Board of Trustees for SACSCOC will review NSU's probation status at its December 2015 meeting and make a determination at that time.

Q. Why was Norfolk State University placed on probation by SACSCOC?

A. SACSCOC placed Norfolk State University on probation after its review of monitoring reports and financial statements related to financial audits as well as governance, adequacy of full-time faculty, educational program assessment, and policy adherence. **The SACSCOC sanction did not arise from concerns about the quality of NSU's academic programs.**

Q. What actions has NSU taken?

A. The NSU Board of Visitors and administration have worked diligently to implement all of the necessary corrective actions to satisfactorily address all areas cited in the SACSCOC January 20, 2015 letter.

Please visit <https://www.nsu.edu/provost/accreditation-and-affiliations> for updates on relevant activities and actions taken.



www.nsu.edu

Q. Does this affect my financial aid?

A. No. Financial aid for students is not affected. The University is fully accredited by SACSCOC and is therefore, recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to offer and award federal financial aid to eligible students.

Q. Does probation impact the accreditation of departments that are accredited by other associations?

A. No. Being on probation does not affect the accreditation status of other academic programs that are currently accredited by specialized accrediting associations. NSU has over 20 academic programs accredited by 15 different accrediting agencies. For a full list of these specialized accreditations, please visit <https://www.nsu.edu/provost/accreditation-and-affiliations>.

Q. How will NSU's probation affect my Fall Graduation?

A. The value of your NSU degree will not be diminished and is just as valid as it was before the sanction. You will graduate from an accredited institution with a legacy of producing high performing graduates. **The SACSCOC sanction did not arise from concerns about the quality of NSU's academic programs.**

Q. How will NSU's probation affect my ability to gain internships?

A. Your ability to get an internship will not be affected. The SACSCOC sanction does not reflect concerns about the quality of NSU's academic programs. Faculty will continue to provide excellent instruction and programs to ensure that students remain highly competitive for internship opportunities.

Q. Will probation affect my ability to apply for graduate school?

A. No. You will be a graduate of an accredited institution. **The SACSCOC sanction did not arise from concerns about the quality of NSU's academic programs.** NSU graduates will continue to be highly competitive for admission to any graduate program.

Q. How can I learn more about the SACSCOC?

A. Visit <http://www.sacscoc.org> for more information. You can also call (404) 679-4500, fax (404) 679-4558, or write to: SACSCOC, 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033.

Q. How can I stay informed about new developments regarding NSU's status with SACSCOC?

A. Norfolk State University provides accreditation information and updates on its website at <https://www.nsu.edu/provost/accreditation-and-affiliations>. Please visit this site for any new developments regarding the SACSCOC decision.

Q. What can I do to help?

A. Share with your friends, parents, family, and contacts that:

- Norfolk State University remains an accredited institution of higher education
- NSU is a great place to learn, live and work
- Accurate information about what probation really means is on the NSU website under **Accreditation**
- NSU is committed to removing the probation sanction

Source: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

The Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement (2012) 5th edition.

Retrieved from <http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/2012PrinciplesOfAccreditation.pdf>

The Commission's website provides valuable information on accreditation and member institutions as well as actions reviewed and passed by the Commission. Visit www.sacscoc.org for more information. You can also call **(404) 679-4500**, fax **(404) 679-4558**, or write to: **SACSCOC, 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033**.

