

Policy on Representation of Elon University and Accreditation Status with Programmatic Accreditation Organizations

Elon University

The Principles of Accreditation for SACSCOC (Principle 14.4), the regional accreditor for Elon University, and the commission's policy statement on Accrediting Decisions of Other Agencies, provide the following guidance with respect to representation of the institution and its accreditation status to all accreditors recognized by the U.S. Department of Education:

Principle 14.4: "The institution (a) represents itself accurately to all U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting agencies with which it holds accreditation and (b) informs those agencies of any change of accreditation status, including the imposition of public sanctions." Source: Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement.

"The Commission requires candidate and member institutions holding accredited or candidacy (pre-accredited) status from more than one U.S. Department of Education-recognized institutional accrediting agency to keep each agency apprised of any change in its status with one or another agency. Any institution seeking or holding accreditation from more than one USDOE-recognized institutional accrediting agency must describe itself in identical terms to each agency with regard to purpose, governance, programs, degrees, diplomas, certificates, personnel, finances, and constituents, and must keep each USDOE recognized accrediting body, including SACSCOC, apprised of any change in its status with one or another accrediting agency." Source: SACSCOC Policy on Accrediting Decisions of other Agencies

To ensure compliance with the principle and policy, Elon University has developed the following process for work related to accreditations involving other U.S. Department of Education recognized agencies as well as other programmatic accreditations. A list of U.S. Department of Education recognized agencies accrediting programs at Elon University is provided in this document.

Ongoing Accreditations with U.S. Department of Education Recognized Accrediting Agencies

1. All units of Elon University that hold accreditation from a U.S. Department of Education (USDoE) recognized accrediting agency must be familiar with this university policy and associated SACSCOC principle and policy.

2. Academic Deans are responsible for the review of all material included in the SACSCOC policy (see underlined section above) to be submitted to a USDoE recognized accreditor to ensure the accurate representation of Elon University to the accreditor.
3. Before submission to a USDoE recognized accrediting agency, all documents must first be reviewed and approved by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and SACSCOC Liaison (currently the same individual) to ensure consistent representation of the institution across accreditors.
4. Academic Deans must immediately notify the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and SACSCOC Liaison of any status changes with a USDoE recognized accreditor and provide the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and SACSCOC Liaison copies of any correspondence related to an accreditation status change.
5. The SACSCOC Liaison is responsible for notifying SACSCOC of changes in Elon University's accreditation status with other agencies.
6. For any change in accreditation status with SACSCOC, the SACSCOC Liaison will notify the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Academic Deans, and all relevant USDoE accreditors.
7. To ensure access to documentation, Academic Deans provide the following to the Provost's office:
 - a. copies of all submissions to accrediting agencies (USDoE and others) and
 - b. official correspondence from accrediting agencies pertaining to accreditation status.

Current Elon University Accreditations that are United States Department of Education Recognized Accreditors

- ABA (School of Law)
- ARC-PA (School of Health Sciences – Physician Assistant Studies) – no longer recognized
- CAPTE (School of Health Sciences – Physical Therapy)
- CCE (School of Health Sciences – Nursing) – Intend to pursue 2024
- CAEP (School of Education – Teacher Education)

Full listing of USDoE Recognized Accreditors

<https://ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/agency-list>

Seeking a New Programmatic Accreditation

Any unit interested in pursuing a specialized accreditation must receive support from the appropriate Dean who is then responsible for seeking approval from the Provost and Vice

President for Academic Affairs. The SACSCOC Liaison should be kept apprised of this process to ensure ongoing compliance with SACSCOC.

Program Accreditations that are not USDoE recognized

Although not required to do so by the SACSCOC policy, Elon University recognizes the value of ensuring a consistent presentation of the university to external constituencies and important accrediting agencies. Consequently, the following procedures apply to accreditations listed below that are not USDoE recognized:

1. Before submission to a programmatic accrediting agency, all documents must first be reviewed and approved by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs to ensure consistent representation of the institution across accreditors.
2. Academic Deans must immediately notify the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs of any status changes with a programmatic accreditor and provide the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs copies of any correspondence related to an accreditation status change.
3. To ensure access to documentation, Academic Deans provide the following to the Provost's office:
 - a. copies of all submissions to accrediting agencies (USDoE and others) and
 - b. official correspondence from accrediting agencies pertaining to accreditation status.

Current Elon University Program Accrediting Agencies not recognized by the USDoE

- AACSB (School of Business)
- ACEJMC (School of Communications – Communications)
- ACS (B.S. in Chemistry)
- ASBMB (B.S. in Biochemistry)
- ABET (B.S. in Engineering) – seeking accreditation
- COSMA (B.S. in Sports Management) – seeking accreditation