

Accreditation Steering Committee Update

Presented to the Participatory Governance Council (PGC) – February 5, 2026

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2025-26 Objectives:

1. Raise awareness and understanding of the 2024 Standards by the PGC Standing Committees, Academic Senate Committees, and other entities as relevant.
2. Promote Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) for Distance Education classes.
3. Review annual and fiscal reports to ACCJC.

Progress Related to Objective 1 (2024 Standards). All Standing Committees are updating the references to the ACCJC Standards (from the 2014 Standards to the 2024 Standards) in their respective Committee Description and Purpose. This is also happening among the Academic Senate (collegial governance) committees. We still need to notify all other (non-committee) entities identified by the Accreditation Steering Committee of the Accreditation Standards most closely related to their area(s) of focus. This work is important in ensuring that committees and other entities within the College are aware of how their work is related to the Standards and that they are a primary source for generating evidence of meeting the Standards.

Progress Related to Objective 2 (Regular and Substantive Interaction). One way the College has promoted RSI was through a January FLEX Day workshop entitled *RSI in Action: Meeting Accreditation Standards through Engaged Online Teaching*. Presenters included Megan Sweeney (DE Coordinator/Social Science Faculty), Kate Gougoutas (DE Teaching & Learning Specialist / Transitional Studies Faculty), Kevin Sherman (Ed Tech Department Chair / Cinema Faculty); Melissa McPeters (Transitional Studies Faculty), and Kristin Charles (ALO / AVC Institutional Advancement & Effectiveness).

Progress Related to Objective 3 (Annual & Fiscal Reports). ACCJC is hosting a webinar on February 11, 2026, on preparing and submitting the annual and fiscal reports. The report links will be made available in mid-February; the deadline has not yet been announced.