

Part 4: INSTITUTIONAL SUMMARY FORM PREPARED FOR COMMISSION REVIEWS

College of Coastal Georgia

Name of Institution

College of Coastal Georgia

Name, Title, Phone number, and email address of Accreditation Liaison

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Educational Programs

1. Level of offerings

- Associate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 60 semester hours or the equivalent designed for transfer to a baccalaureate institution
- Associate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 60 semester hours or the equivalent not designed for transfer
- Four or five-year baccalaureate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 120 semester hours or the equivalent

2. Types of Undergraduate Programs

- Two-year programs designed for transfer to a baccalaureate institution
- Liberal Arts and General
- Teacher Preparatory
- Professional

Governance

- Public – Part of a state system, system board serves as governing board

Institutional Information for Reviewers

1. History and Characteristics

Provide a brief history of the institution, a description of its current mission, an indication of its geographic service area, and a description of the composition of the student population. Include a description of any unusual or distinctive features of the institution and a description of the admissions policies (open, selective, etc.).

As part of the University System of Georgia (USG), the College of Coastal Georgia is located in Brunswick, the center of the Golden Isles, a growing community of more than 100,000 people, midway between Savannah, Georgia and Jacksonville, Florida.

On July 1, 2008, Coastal Georgia Community College became the College of Coastal Georgia following its designation as a state college within the USG.

At its meeting in December 2008, SACSCOC granted the College initial approval as a Level II institution to offer baccalaureate degrees in business administration, early childhood/special education, middle grades education, and nursing. The substantive change review team visited the campus in February 2010 and had no “recommendations” for the College. At its June 2010 Board of Trustees meeting, SACSCOC reconfirmed the College as a Level II institution authorized to offer baccalaureate degrees. In March 2009, as part of the transition to state college status, the College sought and received approval to discontinue the technical college programs effective July 1, 2009.

In April 2010, in an effort to continue its progress as a new state college, the USG Board of Regents approved the offering of baccalaureate degree programs in biological sciences and health informatics. SACSCOC subsequently approved both degree programs on August 5, 2010.

The College’s mission statement reads as follows:

As a state college of the University System of Georgia, the College of Coastal Georgia offers targeted baccalaureate programs of study, pre-baccalaureate programs of study for transfer, associate of arts and associate of science degrees, and serves as a portal to graduate education. It is the mission of the College to

- 1. foster academic excellence and individual development in a supportive environment that expands access to higher education and career preparation and enriches student lives;*
- 2. investigate, capture and disseminate 21st century knowledge and skills, blending student-centered classroom education and innovative service learning to provide students with a solid foundation to support lifelong and leadership and appreciation for social responsibility, global awareness, diversity, and engaged entrepreneurship;*
- 3. provide accessible and affordable higher education to a wide spectrum of learners, from recent high school graduates to returning adults; and*
- 4. engage actively with the community and region through many avenues, including professional development programs, economic development partnerships, service learning, public service activities, early college programs, applied scholarship, and cultural enrichment experiences.*

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In Fall Semester 2010, the College had a total student enrollment of 3,438 students. With 80 percent of the student body hailing from neighboring Brantley, Camden, Glynn, McIntosh, and Wayne Counties, the College has a healthy mixture of traditional and non-traditional students. The College is composed of 70 percent female and 30 percent male students, with 52 percent under the age of 23.

Effective Summer Session 2011, the College will require that freshmen applicants submit either SAT I or ACT test scores and meet the Freshman Index, which is based on a combination of either a student's SAT I or ACT assessment score and high school grade point average (HSGPA). Further, the College has developed institutional and program-specific admission policies that are appropriate for its institutional mission and vision.

2. List of Degrees

List all degrees currently offered (A. S., B.A., B.S., M.A., Ph.D., for examples) and the majors or concentrations within those degrees, as well as all certificates and diplomas.

Bachelor of Business Administration

- General Business

Bachelor of Science

- Biological Sciences
 - Coastal Ecology track
 - Pre-Professional track
 - Secondary Education track
- Health Informatics

Bachelor of Science in Education

- Early Childhood / Special Education
- Middle Grades Education

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

- Pre-Licensure BSN track
- RN-to-BSN track

Career Associate

- Clinical Laboratory Technology
- Hospitality Management
 - Culinary Arts track
 - Hotel Operations track
- Nursing
- Radiologic Science

Associate of Arts for Transfer

Associate of Science for Transfer

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3. Locations and Distance Education

List locations (country, state, and city) where course work toward a degree, diploma, or certificate can be obtained primarily through traditional classroom instruction. For each site, indicate the partial or complete degree offered and, for each degree, certificate, or diploma, whether a student can obtain 50 percent of credits toward any of the educational programs.

The College of Coastal Georgia is situated in Brunswick, Georgia, and positioned midway between Savannah, Georgia and Jacksonville, Florida. The campus is conveniently located in the center of the Golden Isles, a growing community of more than 100,000 people.

Founded in 1961, as Brunswick College, the institution has gone through various transformations. Focusing on the needs of the surrounding communities, in 1996, the College became Coastal Georgia Community College.

In November 1993, the College submitted a substantive change proposal to develop an off-campus site in Camden County, Georgia, to offer the associate for transfer and the associate degree as a non-transfer career degree. The proposal was approved by the Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges in January 1994. The Center was housed in a temporary facility from 1994 to 2004, when the Center moved into a permanent facility on property adjacent to that of the Camden High School in Kingsland, Georgia. The Camden Center is not a branch campus within the meaning of the *Principles of Accreditation*. The faculty members who teach at the Camden Center also teach in Brunswick. All instruction is under the governance of School Deans operating from the Brunswick site.

No traditional instruction coursework is offered at any other geographical location beyond Brunswick and Kingsland, Georgia.

The College does not offer any online degree programs at this time. However, the institution has several courses whose primary delivery mechanism is electronic (mainly through its Blackboard Academic Suite system). When assigning credit hours to an approved course that will be taught online or as a hybrid, the School Dean reviews the syllabus to ensure course content, contact hours, and expected learning outcomes remain the same. All online courses follow SACSCOC protocol based on *Distance Education: Definition and Principles –A Policy Statement*.

4. Accreditation

List all agencies that currently accredit the institution or any of its programs and the date of the last review for each. Identify the accrediting agency that is the gatekeeper for federal funds if it is not the Commission on Colleges. Describe any sanctions applied or negative actions taken by any of these accrediting bodies (including the Commission) during the two years previous to the submission of this report in regard to your institution.

- Joint Review Committee for Education in Radiologic Technology
 - Next on-site visit is scheduled for November 2011
- National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences
 - Last site visit – March 2010

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- National League for Nursing – Accrediting Commission
 - Last site visit – February 2011
- American Culinary Federation Education Foundation
 - Last site visit – December 2008

Accreditations in Process

- The developmental review for accreditation of teacher education programs by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) is scheduled for January, 2012.
- The developmental review for accreditation by National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) is scheduled for January, 2015.

There have been no sanctions applied or negative actions taken by any of these accrediting bodies.

5. Relationship to the U.S. Department of Education

Indicate any limitations, suspensions, or termination by the U.S. Department of Education in regard to student financial aid or other financial aid programs during the previous three years. Report if on reimbursement or any other exceptional status in regard to federal or state financial aid.

There have been no suspensions or termination by the U.S. Department of Education in regard to student financial aid or other financial aid programs during the previous three years.