

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
OUACHITA TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

SUBJECT AREA: Academic Policies and Procedures

POLICY/PROCEDURE: Program Accreditation

DATE: March 1, 1993

NUMBER: 4.80

REVISION(s):

Purpose

The purpose of program accreditation is to assess and verify educational quality in particular professions or occupations to assure that individuals will be qualified to enter those disciplines. A specialized accrediting agency recognizes the course of instruction that comprises a unique set of skills and knowledge, develops the accreditation standards by which such educational programs are evaluated, conducts evaluation of programs, and publishes a list of accredited programs that meet the national accreditation standards. Accreditation standards are developed in consultation with those affected by the standards and represent the broad community of interests.

1. The evaluation/accreditation process offers both a means of providing public assurance of an institution's effectiveness and a stimulus to instructional improvement.
2. Serves as a guide for assisting program development.
3. Serves as a stimulus for the improvement of established programs.
4. Provides criteria for the evaluation of new and established programs.

Policy

Accreditation for degree programs should be sought wherever possible.

AUTHENTICATION (Signature):

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President

3/1/93
(Date)

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