



INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION UPDATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD

Spring 2023



Important Dates

March 7-10, 2023

WSCUC Special Visit

What is WSCUC?

The Western Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) is the accrediting agency that aids institutions in developing and sustaining effective educational programs, while assuring the community that the accredited institution has met the high standards of quality and effectiveness.

What is a Special Visit?

A Special Visit is not a comprehensive evaluation of the institution; it is intended to be limited in scope, providing an opportunity for WSCUC to understand the progress made by the institution in addressing specific issues identified by the Commission during the last accreditation review.

What topics will be addressed during the Special Visit?

The WSCUC Special Visit will focus on the seven recommendations identified by the Commission in the [reaffirmation of accreditation letter](#) from February 2020.

WSCUC Recommendations

- Further develop the capacity of institutional research to provide high quality, accurate data and analysis for use in program review, assessment, planning, student success initiatives, resource allocation, and overall institutional effectiveness.
- To foster a culture of continuous improvement, re-establish a system for completing rigorous and consistent program reviews.
- Ensure consistency, effectiveness, and quality of academic support services, including advising, tutoring, supplemental instruction, and course scheduling, to enhance student success for all students.
- Demonstrate considerable progress toward achieving the institution's goals for GI 2025 first time freshman 4-year and 6-year graduation rates.
- Through a comprehensive institutional strategy, demonstrate substantial progress toward increasing faculty and staff diversity.
- Continue the implementation of the new strategic plan by identifying key metrics of success, and aligning the plan to budget, resource allocation, and organizational structure.
- Establish the process of regular assessment of administrative units, including external reviews where appropriate, to engage in continuous improvement and ensure effectiveness.

What recent progress has been made on these recommendations?

- Under the leadership of Dr. Monica Malhotra, AVP for Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment, the Academic Tree Manager was updated to accurately reflect the organization of academic programs and the [Enrollment Dashboard](#) was released.
- Following approval of [RES 212230 University Program Review Committee Changes](#), the UPRC completed four program reviews during fall 2022.
- Academic Operations was relocated from Academic Programs to Enrollment Management in May 2022, and the Academic Senate convened the Academic Advising Task Force, which completed its report and recommendations in September 2022.
- The 6-year and 4-year graduation rates for first-time freshman during AY 2021-2022 are 49.7% and 29.5%, up from the previous year's rates of 47.6% and 27.6%.
- In fall 2022, CSUB launched a Cluster Hire of 10 faculty members focused on social justice and minoritized communities.
- [Updates on CSUB's Strategic Plan](#) were presented at an Open Forum held in November 2022. A Strategic Plan dashboard will soon be published.
- Fifty-five administrative units developed and submitted mission statements, goals, outcomes, measures, and five-year assessment plans to the Administrative Assessment and Review Steering Committee led by Dr. Markel Quarles, AVP for Student Affairs and Student Services.

How has the campus prepared for the Special Visit?

Seven writing teams composed of members of the WSCUC Steering Committee drafted sections of the Special Visit Institutional Report. The various sections were combined into a single draft and edited. The draft report was then disseminated across the university for feedback, which was incorporated into the final document.

Can I read the final version of the Special Visit Institutional Report?

The Special Visit Institutional Report can be accessed using your campus credentials at [Special Visit \(SV\) Institutional Report](#).

What will happen during the Special Visit?

The Visiting Team will meet with various campus constituents to learn more about our progress addressing the Commission's recommendations. In addition, there will be Open Forums for faculty, staff, and students to meet with the Visiting Team. All sessions will be held virtually.

How can I provide confidential feedback to the visiting team?

WSCUC has established a confidential email account only accessible to authorized WSCUC staff and team members. To write to the WSCUC team, please address your email to csub@wscuc.org.

How can I learn more about the process?

For additional information about institutional accreditation or to access the Steering Committee agendas and meeting notes, please visit [WSCUC Accreditation | California State University, Bakersfield \(csub.edu\)](#).