

**EXCERPT FROM THE PRELIMINARY REPORT
OF THE REAFFIRMATION COMMITTEE**

Statement Regarding the Report

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) is responsible for making the final determination on reaffirmation of accreditation based on the findings contained in this committee report, the institution's response to issues contained in the report, other assessments relevant to the review, and application of the Commission's policies and procedures. Final interpretation of the Principles of Accreditation and final action on the accreditation status of the institution rest with SACSCOC Board of Trustees.

Name of the Institution: **University of South Carolina - Columbia**

Date of the Review: **November 3-4, 2020**

SACSCOC Staff Member: **Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover**

Chair of the Committee: **Dr. Timothy S. Brophy**
Director, Institutional Assessment
and Professor, Music Education
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32606

9.4 Institutional Credits for an Undergraduate Degree

- 9.4 At least 25 percent of the credit hours required for an undergraduate degree are earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree.
(Institutional credits for an undergraduate degree)

Compliance

The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee found support for the institution's case for compliance.

The Undergraduate Academic Bulletin notes that the last 25% of a student's degree must be completed in residence at the institution, and at least half of the hours in the student's major courses and in the student's minor courses (if applicable) must be taken at the institution. This is a minimum; some units require more hours in residence.

The institution uses Degree Works as a tool to provide both the institution and the student the ability to monitor progress to degree. The institution encourages students to work with their colleges to assess this progress. Transfer work is managed in a manner consistent with peer institutions. Applicability of transfer work is determined by the student's college or school.

Regional Palmetto College campuses follow published guidelines related to associate degrees (15 hours in residence); these schools also provide core classes that are transferrable to the state universities. The policy requiring 25% of coursework at the institution awarding the degree is published in all regional campus bulletins.