



May 12, 2023

Dr. Michael Amiridis
President
University of South Carolina - Columbia
206 Osborne Administration Building
Columbia, SC 29208

Dear Dr. Amiridis:

Thank you for submitting the following substantive change:

Substantive change:

**OCIS Approval Limited Review
Lexington High School
2463 Augusta Highway
Lexington, SC 29072**

Submission date:

12/15/2022

Intended Implementation date:

8/1/2023

Case ID:

SC020418

As part of the review of the submission, additional information was requested by email. The institution's response (April 28, 2023) has been incorporated into the originally-submitted materials.

Current offerings toward the Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) programs at the off-campus instructional site (OCIS) consist of traditional in-class, on-site, and distance education methods of delivery. Demand for additional courses is a result of population growth and demographic changes in the target population, and expansion of programming at the OCIS will better serve constituents in the adjacent communities. Lexington County's overall population grew by 13% from 2010 to 2019 with a 13.8% growth in persons under the age of 18, underscoring the need for programming expansion. The initiative will operate from the University of South Carolina Sumter (USC Sumter), approved as the Sumter campus in the SACSCOC database.

All courses scheduled at the OCIS meet specific requirements for the Carolina Core (general education core for baccalaureate degrees) or meet specific requirements for associate degrees. A tentative schedule of courses and course descriptions were included. Admissions requirements for acceptance in the dual enrollment program are higher than those for traditional and transfers students, and requirements are delineated on the admissions section on the USC Sumter website.



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A Faculty Roster Form for full-time and part-time faculty was provided for spring/fall 2022. As verified by email, the same faculty assignments noted on the roster will be applicable for the tentative 2023-2024 cycle. Faculty qualifications and adequacy of faculty appear appropriate. Keep in mind that the ultimate determination of faculty qualifications is the responsibility of the peer review team who will assess the program as part of the institution's next SACSCOC accreditation review.

No new library resources will be needed to serve the OCIS. The Anderson Library at USC Sumter is an hour from the high school, and students may request physical materials for pick up at that location. Library holdings are accessible offsite, and holdings to support the initiative were discoverable through a scan of the library's webpage. As clarified by email, students are made aware of library and learning resources during orientation sessions (in person and through digital information), course syllabi, and individual course orientation.

Established student support services will be extended to students at the OCIS (list provided). Admissions and support services will be available on site as needed, and academic tutoring is provided through the Academic Success Center at Anderson Library with sessions scheduled face to face or online.

Classrooms have been allocated to accommodate programming, and each classroom has appropriate instructional technology. No major equipment purchases are anticipated, and small purchases (consumable supplies, document cameras, unique course needs) will be absorbed in the annual site budget. Projected revenue comes from student enrollment based on the High School Lottery Tuition Assistance Program rate to offset salary costs. A five-year projected budget noted positive net revenue beginning with the first year of the initiative. Financial support appears adequate, and contingency planning was provided by email.

All academic courses are assessed through course evaluations, on-site observations, and through USC assessment procedure. Course evaluations encompass instructional quality, adequacy of facility and library resources, technology, and faculty availability. Learning outcomes for students taking courses at the OCIS are included in the annual assessment reports for all associate degree programs. Assessment data are aggregated by academic program, and faculty, administration, or leadership may request data by campus location if needed.

The site will be reviewed, and may include a site visit, as part of the institution's next fifth-year and/or decennial review.

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reviewed the materials seeking approval of the Lexington High School off-campus instructional site (OCIS). It was the decision of the Board to approve the site and include it in the scope of accreditation.



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Enclosed is an invoice for \$500 to help defray the cost of reviewing the prospectus.

Should you need assistance, please contact Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover at (404) 994-6557 or via email at lthomas-glover@sacscoc.org.

Please include the Case ID number above in all submissions or correspondence about this substantive change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW/MAC:lp

Enclosure (invoice with liaison's copy only)

cc: Mr. Donald Miles, Executive Director Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics,
University of South Carolina - Columbia
Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover, Vice President, SACSCOC