

Workplace News

Workplace Feedback

NWCCU 2020 Standards: Standard Snapshot Series

Standard Two – Governance, Resources, and Capacity ensures that higher education institutions have effective governance structures, policies, and resources to support student success and uphold academic integrity. This standard encompasses various aspects such as governance, academic freedom, policies and procedures, institutional integrity, financial resources, human resources, student support resources, library and information resources, and physical and technology infrastructure.



July 17, 2024 By Laurie Sharp, Aliny Xavier, Justin Atkins, Quinn Koller, Ala'a Alsarhan, and Rachelle Blake

Utah Valley University (UVU) is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) and must comply with NWCCU Standards, Eligibility Requirements, and Policies. The university is proud to have achieved and maintained institutional accreditation through NWCCU since 1969.

Accreditation is required to secure federal funding and demonstrates the university's commitment to academic excellence and the continuous enhancement of institutional effectiveness. The NWCCU's rigorous standards, grounded in data and evidence, guide UVU's efforts to fulfill its mission and elevate student learning and achievement within an inclusive governance framework that prioritizes comprehensive planning and decision-making.

Under the leadership of Associate Provost Dr. Laurie Sharp and her team in Academic Programs and Assessment, UVU is meticulously preparing for its seven-year comprehensive evaluation of the university's institutional effectiveness. To raise institutional awareness and prepare the university community for this evaluation, we provide a series of accreditation articles explaining standards and sub-standards. Each article summarizes the university's compliance and identifies areas for improvement from the self-study process.

Standard Two – Governance, Resources, and Capacity

Standard Two – Governance, Resources, and Capacity ensures that higher education institutions have effective governance structures, policies, and resources to support student success and uphold academic integrity. This standard encompasses various aspects such as governance, academic freedom, policies and procedures, institutional integrity, financial resources, human resources, student support resources, library and information resources, and physical and technology infrastructure. These aspects collectively contribute to creating an environment conducive to student learning, student achievement, and institutional effectiveness and sustainability.

In the sixth year of the seven-year accreditation cycle, higher education institutions address aspects pertaining to Standard Two in the Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review (PRFR) report. This report undergoes examination through a desk review and evaluation by an external peer panel of experts.

UVU submitted its Year 6 PRFR report in August 2023. The report included narratives for 29 substandards delineating the university's compliance, self-reflection, and alignment with its mission and continuous improvement efforts. It was also supplemented with over 670 items of supportive evidence demonstrating compliance with each substandard.

In March 2024, UVU received feedback on the Year 6 PRFR report, highlighting no significant findings and offering commendations for excellence in several programs and procedures. However, reviewers identified a minor need for improvement for Standard 2.G.5, related to communication of UVU's loan default rate. UVU responded to this concern by promptly disclosing it on the website.

The Year 6 PRFR report and supportive evidence for this standard may be accessed via the following link:

www.uvu.edu/accreditation-academic-assessment/accreditation/current

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