

Criterion 1A: Mission Understood and Guides Operations

PURPOSE

This series of newsletters reviewed the Higher Learning Commission's Guiding Values for accreditation, the Criteria for Accreditation, and the Assumed Practices for all accredited institutions. These documents define the objectives and criteria that will guide the team of peer reviewers who will visit Indiana University Southeast during the 2019-20 academic year.

To see the IU Southeast Statement of Accreditation Status on the HLC webpage, please click [here](#).

CORE COMPONENT 1A: MISSION

The first of four core components to criterion one assumes "The institution's mission is broadly understood within the institution and guides its operations." Three sub-components that IU Southeast must meet are:

- 1.A.1: The mission statement is developed through a process suited to the nature and culture of the institution and is adopted by the governing board.
- 1.A.2: The institution's academic programs, student support services, and enrollment profile are consistent with its stated mission.
- 1.A.3: The institution's planning and budgeting priorities align with and support the mission.

To see all HLC Criteria for Accreditation and Core Components, please click [here](#).

SOURCES OF EVIDENCE

In an organization as large and complex as a university, it is important that the mission and values of the institution be communicated clearly, and with multiple opportunities for all constituencies to have been heard in the process of articulating them. Further, it is vital that the actions taken within the institution are congruent with the stated mission of the organization, and that assertions of this congruence are verifiable.

With these facts in mind, the HLC requires that institutions provide evidence across all applicable units that support the accreditation criteria. Evidence that the committee is currently using to support the criteria include:

- (1A1) The mission statement [location](#) on the IU Southeast website and other IU Southeast material including the [2009 self-study](#) in preparation for accreditation reaffirmation
- (1A1) The history of the mission statement development and adoption found in the above self-study
- (1A2) Post-census enrollment profiles located on the [Office of Institutional Effectiveness](#) and University Institutional Research and Reporting webpages
- (1A2) The [academic program inventory](#), and the lists of [available academic programs](#) on the IU Southeast webpage
- (1A2) Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS) self-assessments in Student Affairs and Administrative Affairs units
- (1A2) Department and unit missions found across their webpages
- (1A3) The campus [strategic plan](#)
- (1A3) [Financial management manuals](#), budget construction instructions, trainings and [presentation sessions](#) and minutes and recommendations from the annual Campus Budgetary Affairs Group

While this newsletter has outlined particular evidence that the sum of its committee members identified as supporting the core components of this criterion, we know that other evidence is out there within the campus community. If you are aware of things that you'd like to bring to our attention regarding core component 1A, especially relevant examples of the mission statement in action, please feel free to send those observations and bits of data to iusehlc@ius.edu.