

## STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

This Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) was developed by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges as a means of confirming the affiliation status of an institution and summarizing the essential relationship between the institution of higher education and the Commission. The information is subject to change.

Role and Purpose of Accreditation. Accreditation is a status granted to an educational institution that has been found to meet or exceed stated criteria of educational quality. In the United States accreditation is voluntarily sought by institutions and programs, and is conferred by non-governmental bodies. Accreditation has two fundamental purposes: to assure the quality of the institution or program, and to assist in the improvement of the institution. Institutional accreditation evaluates the entire institution and accredits it as a whole. No partial accreditation is possible. Institutional accreditation cannot guarantee the quality of individual graduates or of individual courses within an institution but can give reasonable assurance of the context and quality of the education offered.

The process of accreditation requires honest self-evaluation of the institution, backed by evidence, followed by an on-site visit by an evaluation team, and a subsequent review and decision by a central governing group. Accreditation must be reaffirmed periodically. Some institutions may be evaluated more frequently. The Commission may use other types of monitoring between visits to assist the institution in improving.

MiraCosta College 1 Barnard Drive Oceanside, CA 92056

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Chief Executive Officer:

Dr. Sunita Cooke, Superintendent/President
Legal Status:

Public (State/local) two-year

## UNDERSTANDING THE STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

## The first section of the SAS

some assurance that these activities are included in the status of the institution. This section is based on self-reported information provided by the institution on its Annual Report and Directory form.

Legal status: Indicates whether the institution is public, private, or proprietary.

Affiliation: Indicates a direct relationship with an external agency, such as a church, a hospital, or in the case of a proprietary institution, an

owner.

Enrollment: Indicates the unduplicated head count enrollment in credit classes during the fall of the most recent academic year.

Degrees: Indicates the type of degrees the institution offers.

Locations or instructional sites:

(a) Location of sites other than home campus offering 50% or more of a degree or certificate program.

(b) Location of sites out of state or United States.

Other program features: Indicates whether the institution offers courses or programs through means other than classroom instruction.

Institution Participates in Title IV Federal Student Aid Programs: Indicates whether the institution distributes federal financial aid

Student Achievement Data: Institution's webpage that displays its most recent listing of student achievement data.

## The second section of the SAS

and Junior Colleges (ACCIC) and indicates the ways the ACCIC has chosen to monitor the relationship in the future. This information is accurate as of the most recent Commission action.