WSCUC ACCREDITATION GUIDE
Reaffirmation of Accreditation 2019
What is WSCUC?
WSCUC (pronounced “WASC”) is one of seven regional accrediting agencies in the United States and is the accrediting body for Cal State LA. WSCUC is an acronym for the WASC Senior Colleges and Universities Commission.

What is accreditation?
Accreditation is a process of external quality review which serves to assure students, parents, policymakers, the broader educational community, and the general public that an institution has met high standards of effectiveness. Both federal and state government consider accreditation to be a reliable authority on academic quality.

What is the process for accreditation?
Every six, eight, or ten years, institutions accredited by WSCUC are reviewed to reaffirm their accreditation status. The two- to three-year process of reaffirmation of accreditation usually involves the completion of an institutional self-study and institutional report, an off-site review by WSCUC, and an on-site visit from the WSCUC team.
What is the timeline for Cal State LA’s reaffirmation of accreditation?

2016-2017
Steering Committee is formed
Self-Study and data collection begins
Institutional Report is drafted

2017-2018
Draft of Institutional Report is circulated to campus community
Town Halls are held to discuss Institutional Report
Feedback is incorporated into Institutional Report
Institutional Report submitted to WSCUC

2018-2019
Off-site Review is conducted (09/06/2018)
Accreditation Visit is held (02/27/2019 - 03/01/2019)

Who participates in the reaffirmation of accreditation process?

All members of the campus community are encouraged to participate in the reaffirmation of accreditation process. The WSCUC Steering Committee is comprised of faculty and administrators representing the university’s colleges and divisions. Students, staff, faculty, and other campus members are encouraged to participate throughout the process.
Why is WSCUC Accreditation important?

For institutions to receive federal funding, including funding that is dispersed to students through financial aid programs, they must be accredited by a nationally-recognized accrediting body.

Accreditation also helps to ensure that credits and degrees are recognized for purposes of employment and transfer or for graduate admissions.

Accreditation promotes a culture of continuous improvement at institutions and serves as a guide for meaningful changes to occur across policies, institutional procedures, curricula, and institutional resources.

How can I participate?

You can participate by:
1. Attending the Town Halls in the fall semester. The schedule for the Town Halls is posted on the WSCUC website.
2. Giving feedback on the draft of the Institutional Report (on the WSCUC website).
3. Help us to spread the word to colleagues, classmates, and other members of the campus community.

What is the link for the WSCUC website?

http://www.calstatela.edu/apra/wscuc-accreditation

Who can I contact about WSCUC questions?

You can contact Andrew Chavez, WSCUC Support Assistant, in the Office of Graduate Studies at 323-343-3829 or by email at achav143@calstatela.edu