



DATE: October 11, 2024
TO: Deans, Vice Provosts, Associate Deans, School Chairs
FROM: Andrew Eichel, Interim Senior Director of Academic Administration
COPY: S.W. McLaughlin, L. Jacobs, L. Phillips, K. Davis-Nozemack
SUBJECT: Approved Description for Specialized Accreditation Self Studies

The **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)** Policy on **Accrediting Decisions of Other Agencies** states that institutions that hold more than one accreditation recognized by the U.S. Department of Education must be accurate in their institutional description in the submitted self-study. Specifically, the SACSCOC policy states:

SACSCOC requires candidate and member institutions holding accredited or candidacy (pre-accredited) status from more than one U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting agency to keep each agency apprised of any change in its status with one or another agency. Any institution seeking or holding accreditation from more than one USDOE-recognized accrediting agency must represent itself accurately to each agency with regard to purpose, governance, programs, degrees, diplomas, certificates, personnel, finances, and constituents, and must keep each USDE-recognized accrediting body, including SACSCOC, apprised of any change in its status with one or another accrediting agency.

To ensure this required accuracy, please use the enclosed **Approved Description for Specialized Accreditation Self-Studies** when describing Georgia Institute of Technology to programmatic and specialized accreditors in self-study documentation.

Additionally, should there be a change in status with a programmatic or specialized accreditor at Georgia Tech, including voluntary withdrawal from accreditation, please notify Dr. Loraine Phillips, SACSCOC Liaison, in the Office of Academic Effectiveness for communication to SACSCOC.

More information about institutional and programmatic accreditation, including a copy of this memo, can be found at the following site:
<https://academiceffectiveness.gatech.edu/program-accreditation>.

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Georgia Institute of Technology

Approved Description for Specialized Accreditation Self Studies

The Georgia Institute of Technology, commonly referred to as Georgia Tech, is a public research university and institute of technology in Atlanta, Georgia. The school was founded in 1885 as the Georgia School of Technology. During its first 50 years, Georgia Tech grew from a narrowly focused trade school to a regionally recognized technological university. In 1948, the name changed to the Georgia Institute of Technology to reflect a growing focus on advanced technological and scientific research.

Georgia Tech is a unit of the 26-member University System of Georgia (USG). The USG is governed by the USG Board of Regents (BOR). Georgia Tech is one of four research institutions in the system with \$1.45 Billion in research and sponsored awards for FY 2023 to support research, discovery, and innovation.

The institution has many nationally-recognized academic programs, all top-ranked by peers and publications alike. As a leading technological university and member of the Association of American Universities (AAU), Georgia Tech has more than 100 centers focused on interdisciplinary research that consistently contribute vital research and innovation to American government, industry, and business.

The quality of the Georgia Tech educational experience is reflected in two important ways: consistently strong rankings by national publications and a prestigious highly regarded curriculum with a technological focus.

Georgia Tech has seven colleges and 30 schools focusing on Business, Computing, Design, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Lifetime Learning. The Institute is an innovative intellectual environment with more than 9,000 employees that include over 1,300 academic faculty and 2,400 research faculty. 47,946 students enrolled at Georgia Tech in the fall of 2023, with 19,505 undergraduates and 28,441 graduate students. Georgia Tech conferred 11,393 degrees in 2023, with 4,227 undergraduate and 7,166 graduate degrees. Serving over 190,000 alumni, Georgia Tech's annual budget is more than \$2.6 Billion.

Georgia Tech has an off-campus instructional site in Metz, France (Georgia Tech-Europe).

Georgia Tech's vision and mission statements are as follows:

Vision

Over the next decade, Georgia Tech will be an example of inclusive innovation, a leading technological, research university relentlessly committed to serving the public good, breaking new ground in addressing the biggest local, national, and global challenges of our time, making technology broadly accessible, and developing

exceptional leaders from all backgrounds ready to produce novel ideas and create solutions with real human impact.

We will deliver on this vision by building an exceptional and diverse community of learning, discovery, and creation in an inclusive and collaborative environment focused on innovation and access. We will develop healthy and vibrant learning environments that support holistic learning and personal growth.

We will be leaders in educational innovation and develop a global learning platform of unmatched impact and scale to support learners throughout their life journeys. We will challenge ourselves to push the boundaries of research while focusing on the most consequential questions and problems faced by humanity. And, we will act as a creative engine that will position our city and our state as examples of inclusive entrepreneurship and innovation.

Mission

The Georgia Institute of Technology is a public research university established by the state of Georgia in Atlanta in 1885 and committed to developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition.

Accreditation

Georgia Institute of Technology is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, masters, and doctorate degrees. Georgia Institute of Technology also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels.

Questions about the accreditation of Georgia Institute of Technology may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org).

References

Georgia Institute of Technology, Institutional Research & Planning, Fact Book, 2023, <https://irp.gatech.edu/fact-book>.

Georgia Institute of Technology, Accreditation Statement, <https://www.gatech.edu/accreditation>