

January 16, 2024

Dr. Angélica Garcia
Superintendent/President
Santa Rosa Junior College
1501 Mendocino Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Dear Dr. Garcia:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, at its meeting January 10 - 11, 2024, reviewed the Follow-Up Report and related evidentiary materials submitted by Santa Rosa Junior College. The Commission also considered the Peer Review Team Follow-Up Report prepared by the follow-up team that visited the institution on November 8, 2023. The Commission appreciated your spoken remarks, as well as those of Dr. Robert Holcomb, Vice President of Academic Affairs; and Dr. Jeremy Smotherman, Senior Director of IR&E/ALO. The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College has addressed the deficiencies identified by the peer review team during the February 28 – March 3, 2022 comprehensive visit and demonstrated compliance with the Standards cited in the Commission's June 14, 2022 Action Letter.

Upon consideration of the information noted above, the Commission acted to **Defer Action**. The Commission finds that Santa Rosa Junior College has addressed the following compliance requirements, corrected deficiencies, and meets Standards I.B.2, and II.A.3 (Compliance Requirement 2).

The Commission found continued non-compliance with Standard I.B.6 (Compliance Requirement 1). The College is **required to submit a Follow-Up Report¹ to address the deficiencies by November 1, 2024.**

¹ Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, Special Reports, or Teach-out plans/agreements to the Commission should review the Accreditation Handbook and applicable report templates available on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/accreditation-handbook-and-report-templates/>.

In accordance with federal regulations and the *Policy on Commission Actions on Institutions*, compliance requirements must be addressed and the institution must demonstrate that it aligns with Standards within three years of first receiving notification of noncompliance, by June 2025. If the institution cannot document that it has come into compliance within the designated period, the Commission will take adverse action.

The Commission looks forward to receiving the College's report demonstrating that it has addressed the deficiencies, and supports your institution's efforts to come into compliance.

The Commission requires that you disseminate the Follow-Up Report, the Peer Review Team Report and this letter to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website within seven business days of your receipt.

If you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's action, please feel free to contact Dr. Mac Powell or the vice president assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Mac Powell'.

Mac Powell, MBA, Ph.D.
President

A handwritten signature in dark ink, clearly legible as 'Lori Gaskin'.

Lori Gaskin, Ph.D.
Chair

Cc: Dr. Jeremy Smotherman, Accreditation Liaison Officer

June 14, 2022

Dr. Frank Chong
Superintendent/President
Santa Rosa Junior College
1501 Mendocino Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Dear Dr. Chong:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 1-3, 2022, reviewed the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary materials submitted by Santa Rosa Junior College. The Commission also considered the Peer Review Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the peer review team that conducted its site visit to the College February 28 – March 3, 2022.

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College continues to meet ACCJC's Eligibility Requirements, Commission Policies, and Accreditation Standards (hereinafter, the Standards). In addition, the purpose of this review was to determine whether the College has resolved the ongoing fiscal monitoring deficiencies noted in the June 28, 2021 Action Letter. Upon consideration of the written information noted above, the Commission acted to **Reaffirm Accreditation for 18 months and require a Follow-Up Report¹, due no later than October 1, 2023**, followed by a visit from a peer review team.

Commendations

Commendations signify institutional practices for which the Commission believes exceed Standards. The Commission recognizes the exemplary performance of Santa Rosa Junior College in the following areas.

Standards II.B.1, II.B.2, II.C.1, II.C.3 (Commendation 1): The Commission commends the College for their exceptional and innovative efforts, in response to many recent crises, by continually supporting and fostering student success and achievement across the institution through notable processes and practices that demonstrate exemplary library, learning support and student support services and materials.

¹ Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, Special Reports, or Teach-out Plans/Agreements to the Commission should review *Guidelines for Preparing Institutional Reports to the Commission*, found on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/guides-and-manuals/>.

Standards II.C.2, III.B.2 (Commendation 2): The Commission commends the College for its leadership and foresight in meeting its mission and enhancing the student experience by constructing affordable and sustainable student housing.

Standards III.D.1, III.D.2 (Commendation 3): The Commission commends the College for its strong commitment ensuring long-range financial stability through the collegial development and implementation of its Long Range Plan for Fiscal Integrity.

Compliance Requirements

The Commission determined that the College must demonstrate compliance with the following Standards, as identified in the requirements below. This demonstration must be addressed in the required Follow-Up Report.

Standard I.B.6 (College Requirement 1): In order to meet the Standard, the Commission requires the College disaggregate and analyze student learning outcome data for student subpopulations, as identified by the institution.

Standards I.B.2, II.A.3 (Requirement 2): In order to meet the Standards, the Commission requires the College develop a sustainable process for regularly assessing student learning outcomes for all its courses and programs, and ensure that course syllabi include statements of learning outcomes from the institution's officially-approved course outlines.

In accordance with federal regulations and the *Policy on Commission Actions on Institutions*, compliance requirements must be addressed and the institution must demonstrate that it aligns with Standards within three years, by June 2025. If the institution cannot document that it has come into compliance within the designated period, the Commission will take adverse action.

Modifications to Team Recommendations

In taking its action, the Commission changed the citation from Standard II.A.2 to Standard II.A.3 in College Requirement 2.

Recommendations for Improving Institutional Effectiveness

None.

Deficiencies Identified through Fiscal Monitoring

In its action letter of June 28, 2021, the Commission acted to require a Special Fiscal Monitoring Site Visit to be conducted in conjunction with the spring 2022 comprehensive review, to continue monitoring the ongoing deficiencies first noted in the Action Letter of February 1, 2021. Based on the ISER and evidentiary materials submitted by the College, the special monitoring visit, and the findings documented in the Peer Review Team Report, the Commission found that the College has addressed the deficiencies identified through fiscal monitoring, and meets the related Standards III.D.4, III.D.9, and III.D.12.

Next Steps

The Peer Review Team Report provides details of the peer review team's findings, including areas of noteworthy practice. The guidance and recommendations contained in the Peer Review Team Report represent the best advice of the team at the time of the visit but may not describe all that is necessary for the college to improve or to come into compliance. A final copy of the Peer Review Team Report is attached.

The Commission requires that you disseminate the ISER, the Peer Review Team Report, and this letter to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website. Please note that in response to public interest in accreditation, the Commission requires institutions to post current accreditation information on a Web page no more than one click from the institution's home page. In keeping with ACCJC policy, the Commission action will also be posted on the ACCJC website within 30 days of the date of the Commission's action.

On behalf of the Commission, we wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that Santa Rosa Junior College undertook to prepare for this review. These efforts confirm that peer review can serve the multiple constituencies of higher education by both ensuring and encouraging institutional quality and effectiveness.

If you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's action, please feel free to contact Dr. Cindy Miles or the vice president assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,



Cindy Miles, Ph.D.



Sonya Christian, Ed.D.

cc: Dr. L. Jane Saldaña-Talley, Accreditation Liaison Officer