



Policy Title
Program Review Policy

Policy Number
SULC-1-046

Responsible Unit: Office of Academic Affairs	Effective Date: April 17, 2026
Responsible Official: Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	Last Reviewed Date: April 17, 2026
Policy Classification: Academic Affairs	Last Revised Date: April 17, 2026
	Origination Date: Before 2019

I. Policy Statement and Rationale

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the manner in which the program of legal education is reviewed at Southern University Law Center (SULC).

II. Policy Scope and Audience

SULC is committed to continuous improvement and rigorous evaluation of its program of legal education. This policy establishes the standards, timeline, and responsibilities for the systematic review of SULC's program of legal education in accordance with the requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and the American Bar Association (ABA).

III. Policy Compliance

This policy ensures that SULC's program of legal education remains mission-aligned, academically rigorous, and student-centered.

IV. Policy Definitions

Not applicable.

V. Policy Implementation Procedures

Program Review in Conjunction with Accreditation Reviews

- A. SULC's program of legal education is currently accredited by the ABA and SACSCOC. As a result of the accreditation process of both agencies, the Law Center's program of legal education undergoes regular, continuous, systematic review to ensure that the program meets high standards for quality, student learning, and institutional effectiveness.
- B. The ABA and SACSCOC conduct a full evaluation of SULC's program of legal education on a regular basis. These comprehensive reviews include a self-study report prepared by the Law Center, a detailed site-evaluation questionnaire with supporting evidence and data, and a multi-day on-site visit by a team of trained peer reviewers. The evaluations examine all aspects of SULC's program of legal education, including student learning outcomes, curriculum, academic support services, faculty qualifications, student services, library, technology, financial strength, and facilities, and culminate in a detailed report and, if necessary, recommendations. The reports of the ABA and SACSCOC provide findings on program quality and integrity and may include recommendations for improvement to ensure the program's rigor is maintained.
- C. SULC submits multiple extensive questionnaires annually to the ABA and SACSCOC, providing up-to-date data on its program of legal education. These annual reviews cover key indicators of program health and effectiveness, including:
 1. Admissions, enrollment, and attrition: Yearly admissions numbers, entering student credentials, enrollment figures, and attrition or retention rates.
 2. Student funding and finances: Statistics on student financial aid, scholarship support, and overall program finances or expenditures.
 3. Curriculum and programs: Statistics regarding the curriculum, including experiential offerings, seminar courses, program changes, and information on study-abroad or other foreign programs offered.
 4. Faculty, staff, and library resources: Data on faculty composition, staff support, library collections and staffing, and other academic resources.
 5. Technology and facilities: Information on technological resources available to students and physical facilities.
 6. Compliance and student services: Confirmation of compliance with student consumer protection standards and summaries of student services that support learning and well-being (e.g., academic advising, career services).
 7. Distance education: Details on any online or hybrid Juris Doctor degree program components or distance education offerings (if applicable).
 8. Bar passage and licensing: Bar examination passage rates for graduates.
 9. Graduate outcomes: Employment outcomes for graduates.
 10. Financial Resources and Sustainability: Data and statistics are provided for results of operations, unrestricted net assets, financial ratios and visibility, and control over finances.

The ongoing monitoring, by the ABA and SACSCOC, through these annual questionnaires, allows the Law Center to track trends and ensure that it identifies any emerging issues in a

timely manner. The comprehensive scope of data helps verify that SULC's program of legal education consistently meets its educational objectives and fulfills accreditation standards.

- D. Following each reaccreditation review of the ABA and SACSCOC, the Chancellor—in consultation with relevant administrators and faculty committees—will thoroughly review the report. The Chancellor will then formulate specific action plans to address any noted areas for improvement. These action plans will be documented and, where appropriate, integrated into the Law Center's institutional planning and budgeting processes, ensuring that identified improvements are implemented and sustained. This responsive follow-up process demonstrates SULC's commitment to using program review findings to enhance academic quality.

Annually, the Chancellor and appropriate administrators and committees will review data and trends from the ABA and SACSCOC questionnaires and other internal assessments of its program of legal education. If concerns or areas for enhancement are identified, SULC will develop plans and take action to address these issues promptly.

- E. Each year, the Chancellor will provide a summary report of the key performance indicators and notable trends of SULC's program of legal education to the Southern University System's Board of Supervisors. This annual briefing will ensure that the Board is kept informed of the program's status, progress, and any areas of concern, and allow the Board to exercise appropriate oversight.

Program Review Independent of Accreditation Reviews

- A. Separate and apart from the Program Review process discussed above, the Law Center conducts a detailed review of its program of legal education every five years.
- B. The program is reviewed to see if there is a need to make a major shift in its focus based on certain performance indicators, such as graduation rates and bar-passage rates.
- C. Major shifts are discussed during Curriculum Committee meetings and in meetings of the entire faculty.
- D. Proposals for major shifts in the delivery of the program of legal education shall be reviewed by the Chancellor, submitted to the Curriculum Committee, and then referred to the entire faculty for consideration.
- E. Absent a proposal to implement a major change to the program of legal education, the Curriculum Committee completes a review of the description, the learning objectives and outcomes, scope of coverage, and credit hours of every course offered in its program of legal education.
- F. The Curriculum Committee also reviews and assesses which courses it will require all students to take within its program of legal education.
- G. The Curriculum Committee submits its findings and recommendations for changes to the program of legal education to the entire faculty. A motion is made to adopt the recommendations, and the recommendations for change can be implemented by a majority vote of the faculty.

H. The Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs has the responsibility to update the Law Center's Catalog to reflect the changes made to the program of legal education. Additionally, the Office of Records and Registration makes adjustments to ensure any needed updates are made to the student registration system to reflect the changes to the program of legal education.

VI. Policy Related Information

Not applicable.

VII. Policy History and Review Cycle

This policy was created and became effective prior to the implementation of the uniform policy format, which was implemented in 2019. On April 17, 2026, the policy was reviewed and updated by placing it in the uniform policy format. The policy is subject to a five-year policy review cycle and shall be reviewed by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Any changes will be submitted to the faculty for consideration, in accordance with the Policy on Policies.

VIII. Policy URL

This policy is published on the Southern University Law Center website at <https://www.sulc.edu/page/sulc-policies>.

IX. Policy Approval

This policy was approved by the faculty on April 17, 2026:



Alvin Washington
Chancellor, SULC

April 17, 2026
Effective Date of Policy