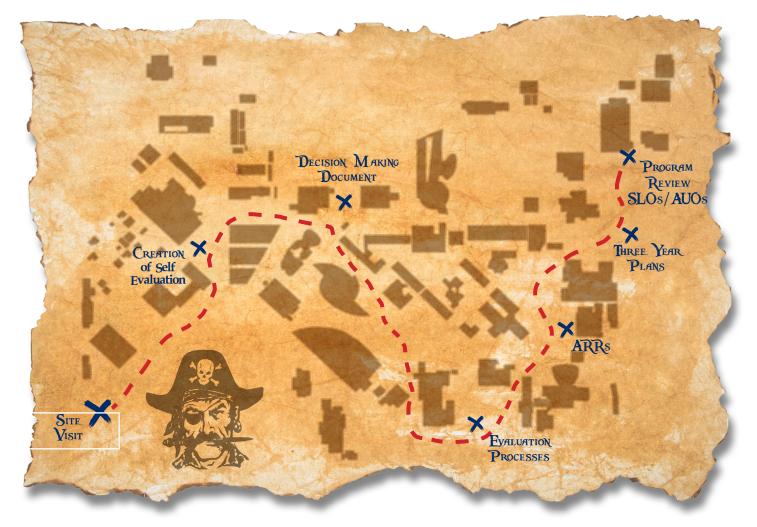
# PIRATES TREASURE MAP TO A SUCCESSFUL ACCREDITATION VISIT



Orange Coast College 2018-2019

## Accreditation

February 25-28, 2019



Contents

Claim Your Bounty
What is Accreditation?
The Institutional Self-Evaluation Report
Accreditation Standards from ACCIC
Standard I: Institutional Mission & Effectiveness
Standard II: Student Learning Programs & Services
Standard III: Resources
Standard IV: Leadership & Governance5
Quality Focus Essay (QFE)
What to Expect
What is a site visit?
Visiting Team Details
Before the site visit
During the site visit
After the visit
Piráte's Code of Conduct
Pirate's Booty: 5 Keys to Success
OCC's S-E-A Shanty
Mission Statement
Vision Statement
Values and Goals – CLASS
College Objectives
Master Planning Documents
Orånge Coåst, College Atlås
College Core Indicators & Institution Set Standards

# 🧆 🥯 🥙 CLAIM YOUR, BOUNTY! 🥯 🥯 🥌

Throughout the document, there are hidden doubloons. Information highlighted by doubloons are very important items you need to know about to prepare yourself for the Accreditation site visit. This information is so important those who find all of the doubloons will receive pirate treasure! Here are the details:

- Identify all of the hidden doubloons and the topic it corresponds to and get a \$5 Starbucks gift card!
- Email your answer to <u>occresearch@occ.cccd.edu</u> to claim your bounty!

### What is Accreditation?



Accreditation is a voluntary system of self-regulation developed to evaluate overall educational quality and institutional effectiveness. The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCIC) accreditation process provides assurance t

Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) accreditation process provides assurance to the public that the accredited member colleges meet the Accreditation Standards; the education earned at the institutions is of value to the student who earned it; and employers, trade or profession-related licensing agencies, and other colleges and universities can accept a student's credential as legitimate. Regional accreditation through agencies such as ACCJC is required for an institution's students to be eligible to receive federal financial aid.

## The Institutional Self-Evaluation Report

Highlights of the college's progress since our last self-evaluation include a revamped campus-wide program review and integrated planning process, implementation and completion of the third cycle of SLO assessment, and increased transparency in our decision making processes. Technology has been upgraded and refreshed, with wireless access around campus. Staff development has been restructured with an increased focus on classified and management activities while remaining strong in faculty development.

The ISER is the work of faculty, classified staff, students, and administrators who actively participated through the participatory governance committee structure, open forums and campus-wide callouts for feedback during successive drafts. A brief summary of each standard is provided below.

The full ISER can be accessed at the following URL: http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about\_occ/Accreditation/2019\_Institutional\_Self\_Evaluation\_ Report/WEB\_Orange\_Coast\_College\_ISER\_2019.pdf

### Accreditation Standards from ACCJC

### Standard I: Institutional Mission & Effectiveness

The institution demonstrates strong commitment to a mission that emphasizes student learning and student achievement. Using analysis of quantitative and qualitative data, the institution continuously and systematically evaluates, plans, implements, and improves the quality of its educational programs and services. The institution demonstrates integrity in all policies, actions, and communication. The administration, faculty, staff, and governing board members act honestly, ethically, and fairly in the performance of their duties.

- A. Mission
- B. Assuring Academic Quality and Institutional Effectiveness
- C. Institutional Integrity

#### Executive Summary for Standard I

The mission at OCC defines the purpose of the College as one that focuses on enriching student lives through degree attainment, transfer to four-year colleges, CTE, basic skills, workforce development and lifelong learning. The College relies on data to ensure that the mission is effective and that programs and services on campus align with the mission. Program Review, planning, and ARRs ensure that the mission guides decision making and resource allocation on campus, and that the College uses student achievement data and outcomes assessment data to ensure the quality of programs and services. The College strives to demonstrate integrity and transparency in all policies, actions, and communications. SLOs are published in the class schedule and on course syllabi; key documents on campus like the Decision Making Guide (DMG), the Catalog, and the Education Master Plan (EMP) are published on the college website ensuring that they are highly visible to the public, and are regularly reviewed, to ensure their accuracy to the public. CCCD Board Policy (BP) sets forth the codes of conduct for students and employees, the delegation of power from the Board to District and College executives, and the consequences of not adhering to the policies – ensuring that the environment of OCC is collegial, honest, ethical, and fair.

### Standard II: Student Learning Programs & Services

The institution offers instructional programs, library and learning support services, and student support services aligned with its mission. The institution's programs are conducted at levels of quality and rigor appropriate for higher education. The institution assesses its educational quality through methods accepted in higher education, makes the results of its assessments available to the public, and uses the results to improve educational quality and institutional effectiveness. The institution defines and incorporates into all of its degree programs a substantial component of general education designed to ensure breadth of knowledge and to promote intellectual inquiry. The

provisions of this standard are broadly applicable to all instructional programs and student and learning support services offered in the name of the institution.

- A. Instructional Programs
- B. Library and Learning Support, Services
- C. Student, Support, Services

#### Executive Summary for Standard II

OCC's Student Learning Programs and Support Services align with the campus mission to serve the educational needs of the community, to empower students to achieve, and to enable lifelong learning. Instructional programs are assessed through SLOs, while support service areas assess their work through AUOs. Both are assessed on three year cycles. The College also assesses the effectiveness of its programs through Comprehensive and Midterm Program Reviews, creating a culture of continuous improvement. The College provides degrees and certificates including associate degrees, transfer degrees, vocational training certificates, and workforce development. All instructional programs contain general education to ensure that students have a breadth of knowledge, and to support the campus mission. Faculty drive the campus curriculum process, which ensures the quality and rigor of all courses. The support services offered vary in modality, times offered, and – like the students the College serves – are diverse, to promote equitable outcomes in education.

### Standard III: Resources

The institution effectively uses its human, physical, technology, and financial resources to achieve its mission and to improve academic quality and institutional effectiveness. Accredited colleges in multi-college systems may be organized so that responsibility for resources, allocation of resources, and planning rests with the district/system. In such cases, the district/system is responsible for meeting the Standards, and an evaluation of its performance is reflected in the accredited status of the institution(s).

- A. Human Resources
- B. Physical Resources
- C. Technology Resources
- D. Financial Resources

#### Executive Summary for Standard III

The College works effectively with the District office to secure funding for operational resources. The District makes initial allocations to the College, however, the College ultimately decides, through participatory governance, how to fund new resource needs across the campus in Human Resources, Equipment, Facilities, Technology, Staff Development, and Supplies. All employees meet minimum qualifications or equivalency, have access to staff development, undergo regular evaluations, and conduct themselves ethically, according to BP.

Campus facilities are safe, secure, and scheduled efficiently to benefit students, faculty, and staff. Technology training and support is available to all campus constituents; online technical support ensures that all issues are logged and remediated. All campus constituents must follow best practices for data security and privacy as well as appropriate use policies. Finally, the College allocates financial resources to benefit student learning programs and services in accordance with the transparent processes described in the campus DMG. The College prioritizes budget planning and ARRs through participatory governance processes. Financial reports are available to employees on demand and appear on Board Meeting agendas for discussion and transparency. Internal and external auditors ensure the stability and fiscal responsibility of the College.

### Standard IV: Leadership & Governance

The institution recognizes and uses the contributions of leadership throughout the organization for promoting student success, sustaining academic quality, integrity, fiscal stability, and continuous improvement of the institution. Governance roles are defined in policy and are designed to facilitate decisions that support student learning programs and services and improve institutional effectiveness, while acknowledging the designated responsibilities of the governing board and the chief executive officer. Through established governance structures, processes, and practices, the governing board, administrators, faculty, staff, and students work together for the good of the institution. In multi-college districts or systems, the roles within the district/system are clearly delineated. The multi-college district or system has policies for allocation of resources to adequately support and sustain the colleges.

- A. Decision-Making Roles and Processes
- B. Chief Executive Officer
- C. Governing Board
- D. Multi-College Districts or Systems

### Executive Summary for Standard IV

The College is proud of its transparent and well-defined participatory governance structure, which is inclusive of all campus constituents and fully explained in the DMG. Between BPs and the DMG, there is a clear map of governance roles and a successful balance in decision making and resource allocation at the Board, District, and campus levels, ensuring that the College can adequately support students and carry out its mission. The campus has developed, through participatory governance, student success metrics, an SLO/AUO process, and a Program Review process for continuous improvement. The College has achieved fiscal stability, with large ending balances and reserves over the past several years, and communicates clearly with all constituents and the public.

### Quality Focus Essay (QFE) – Based on campus improvement, with an emphasis on student success.



This is a new area of the ISER to establish strategies for student focused improvement that will be accomplished during the next seven years. OCC will be expected to update our

progress at the midterm report in 3 1/2 years. You may recall the old process was writing improvement strategies following each standard that resulted in a large number of strategies that were more micro-oriented. The QFE creates an action plan by examining all of the following from a more holistic and macro perspective:

- Mission Statement
- Master Plan
- Answers to the standards in the ISER
- Examining the data

As a result of this analysis, we recognized the great extent to which the Educational Master Plan goals and objectives are aligned with the state's recent projects, Guided Pathways, AB 705 and Free College, and how a QFE integrating these goals would be transformational in meeting our student's needs. This plan reflects our focus during the seven-year accreditation cycle. It is a more organic and comprehensive approach that unifies the campus' focus on meeting student's needs. We encourage you to read through the essay to note the Action Plan, those specific departments, and constituents who will contribute to it on an established timeline, and how you see your role at the college contributing to this success. Additionally, this is not a stand-alone plan and its efforts are being integrated into the college's strategic and annual planning processes.

What to Expect

### What is a site visit?

An evaluation team, made up of professional peers from other colleges who volunteer their services, offers independent insights based on careful analysis of the Self Evaluation Report and on-site evaluation.

The team:

- Evaluates the institution using the Accreditation standards.
- Validates the college's Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER).
- Confirms and finds evidence for the assertions in the ISER.
- Reviews problem areas inadequately recognized by the college staff.
- Assures the Commission that the institution:
  - o Continues to meet Eligibility Requirements.
  - Continues to meet the four standards and cites deficiencies/areas for improvement
  - Has developed sound evaluation and planning procedures to foster improvement of student achievement and student learning outcomes.
  - o Reviews and offers suggestions about the college Quality Focused Essay (QFE)

• Reinforces and extends the college's commitment to its continuing pursuit of excellence. Team members have a special responsibility to maintain the integrity of the accreditation process and outcomes. Quality assurance to the public and institutional improvement for institutions can only be achieved through the commitment of all who participate.

### Visiting Team Details

The Commission assigns someone from ACCJC as a Liaison Officer to work with the team and the college – our Liaison is Vice President of ACCJC – Dr. Steven Reynolds. ACCJC also selects a Chair to lead the team. The typical chair has experience as a chief executive officer of an institution. Our chair will be Marvin Martinez, President of East LA College. Commission staff develops the teams from a roster of experienced educators who have exhibited leadership and balanced judgment. Our team has several faculty members, academic and student services administrators, a chief executive officer, a business officer and individuals with expertise and/or experience in learning resources, distance/correspondence education, and planning, research and evaluation.

### Before the site visit

- 1. Our Team members receive the ISER with evidence (on a flash drive) and college catalog.
- 2. The college will prepare and send to the Team Chair before the visit a written update to summarize activities and other pertinent information that occurred since the ISER was published, if applicable.
- 3. The team chair and team assistant will conduct a half-day on-site pre-visit at the college about a week or two weeks prior to the visit and meet with the College President and any other individuals the College President deems appropriate. The pre-visit deals with logistics for the visit and discussing updates which are relevant for the team chair and members to know. After the team visit, the team chair will work with the College Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) and the President's Office to set up a tentative schedule of meetings and interviews requested by the site team members.

### During the site visit (Monday, 2/25 - Thursday, 2/28)

- 1. Team members will arrive at an off-campus site and hold a team meeting on Monday, the first day of the visit. At this meeting, they will review the preparatory work they have completed and review the upcoming week's schedule. Selected team members may visit the district offices to begin the review of the district function.
- 2. Tuesday morning, team members will arrive on campus. The college will host a welcome meeting for the team members and the campus.
- 3. Tuesday Thursday team members will interview and visit selected employees and departments.
  - A schedule of meetings and interviews will be set up in advance; however, this may change throughout the team visit.
  - Team members may choose to observe classes being taught, faculty in office hours and staff manning departments randomly and unexpectedly.
  - Two open forums (one during the day and one in the evening) for all constituents will be scheduled. These forums are an opportunity for any member of the college community to participate, ask questions, and share comments. The

team chair along with at least one other team member will participate in these sessions. OCC will send out more information when these forums are scheduled.

- In multi-college districts, the overall team chair (one of the three team chairs assigned to Coastline, Golden West or Orange Coast) will work with team members across the three sites to coordinate Standards IV.C. and IV.D. The Chancellor, District Office staff, and Board of Trustee members will also be interviewed.
- 4. On Thursday, the team is generally finishing up the report, investigating last details and preparing for the exit report.
  - Mid to late morning The team chair will meet with the College President to review the findings of the self-evaluation visit. The team chair evaluating the District Office will review the findings with the Chancellor.
  - Late morning to early afternoon The team chair will provide an exit report at a campus public meeting. The main findings and draft commendations and recommendations will be read. This is not a dialogue and neither the team chair nor team members will engage in dialogue with the audience. The exit report concludes the site visit.

### After the visit

- 1. Within a few weeks after the visit, the team chair will finalize a draft report which will be sent to the College President for factual checking only. The College President can only provide corrections of facts, if they are stated incorrectly in the report or if key facts are missing. The actual evaluation cannot be changed.
- 2. Within a month, the team chair will submit the final team evaluation report to ACCJC along with the team's confidential recommendation.
- 3. ACCJC meets in closed session in June 2019 and discusses the evaluation report and the team recommendation regarding the accreditation status of the institution. ACCJC may choose to apply a different status than that recommended by the team based on a number of factors.
- 4. ACCJC will send to the College President (the Chancellor and the Board President receive a copy as well) a letter informing the college about the decision ACCJC made at its June 2019 meeting regarding the accreditation status of the college. The letter is sent at the end of June or in early July 2019. This information must be posted publicly.

### Pirate's Code of Conduct,

- 1. The pirate way: Let's welcome and assist our visitors! Professionalism, confidence, engagement, sincerity, and openness are part of who we are. Be aware of the days the site team is on campus and be flexible. Let's show the visiting team that we are student-focused and READY for action!
- Go out of your way to help the members of the site team. Team members are not familiar with OCC and our campus. Help them find their way, getting them to essential meetings or specific facilities. All team members will be wearing badges clearly identifying themselves. Remember, the team can go anywhere and ask for anything it is completely within their purview.
- 3. Respond to accreditation team requests IMMEDIATELY. Any requests for information should be handled immediately and routed to the President's Office for distribution to the team members. If you cannot locate information requested contact the President's Office. REMEMBER .... Check the Decision Making Document ..... the answer may be in there!

http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about occ/office of the president/Pages/GDM.aspx)

- 4. Be Prepared Pirates!
  - The visiting team may visit:
    - A random selection of classes (including online classes) during the visit and no restrictions are placed on team members.
    - o Regularly scheduled committee meeting if they happen on those days.
    - Faculty during office hours and classified professionals or management unannounced.
      - If a team member drops by to talk, be accommodating. For classified professionals, if you are on the front line providing service to students at the time, contact your supervisor to get coverage for your area to accommodate the team member's request.
  - If at all possible, please attend one of the Open Forums and the Exit Report Meeting. A detailed schedule will be distributed prior to the visit.
  - Support OCC and Remain Informed!

### Pirate's Booty: 5 Keys to Success

### Key #1: Do you understand the role of Program Review and Outcomes Assessment?



EVERY program at OCC does program review. Program review is a six-year cycle with a mid-term update. Program review goals are integrated into the college's strategic plan through multi-year plans (annually updated). All SLOs and AUOs have been assessed and evaluated by all departments on campus. We just completed our third cycle and are currently in our fourth cycle.

### Key #2: Do you know the cycle of the college review process?



Your Program Review goals are integrated into the strategic plan through multi-year plans with a mid-cycle review. Plans are updated annually and resource requests can be made to support plans.



### Key #3: ARRs (pirate code for arrrgh...bounty!)



Each year, the College Council endorses the prioritized <u>Annual Resource Request list</u>, which is located on the College Council portal site. We will post final results of this year's ARRs before the end of the fall 2019 semester.



### Key #4: Do you know that OCC evaluates its processes regularly?



Your feedback has been used to improve the college's continuous improvement processes (like SLO/AUOs, program review, multi-year plans, and ARRs).

Key #5: Decision Making: A Guide to Planning and Governance



The Decision Making guide is updated annually with the most recent version posted in fall 2018 based on campus feedback and committee self-evaluation results.





The college's mission, vision, and values are the core of our success. Our college goals, supported by data and dialogue, help us focus on where we need to grow. Our master plans are the scaffolding to help us organize our efforts. And finally, the college's planning processes, with program review as the foundation, are the mechanisms to operationalize our plans and monitor our progress.

### Mission Statement

Orange Coast College serves the educational needs of our diverse local and global community. The college empowers students to achieve their educational goals by providing high quality and innovative programs and services leading to academic degrees, college transfers, certificates in career and technical education, basic skills, and workforce development to enable lifelong learning.

The college promotes student learning and development through fostering a respectful, supportive, participatory, and equitable campus climate of student engagement and academic inquiry.

### Vision Statement

To be the standard of excellence in transforming lives through education.

### Values and Goals - CLASS

The college's values were developed with broad based participation in 2008 and reviewed most recently in the development of the new Educational Master Plan. During the Educational Master Plan development, the college developed goal statements aligned with each value with one goal per value. They represent what OCC values, as a learning organization and community, and are the overarching themes that guide the development the college's more specific objectives that illustrate how we intend to carry out more specific activities and programs to meet our goals.

**Community:** Foster a culture that serves, engages and connects the campus to the local and global community.

**Learning**: Ensure students receive a quality education to become self-directed and successful lifelong learners.

**Access:** Create equitable access through effective and innovative pathways and programs that result in increased student success.

**Stewardship:** Sustain, improve, and create programs, physical and human resources, and infrastructure through processes that ensure accountability, continuous improvement, and long term viability.

**Student and Employee Engagement:** Promote active and collaborative participation leading to meaningful connections among people, places, and ideas within the college.

### College Objectives

The college goals were a result of broad-based collaboration among faculty, staff, and community constituents during the Educational Master Plan development process. They are presented below in the CLASS framework.

### <u>Community</u>

**Objective 1:** Promote an inclusive college environment and intercultural understanding, to enable a stable society and the ability of graduates and employees to work in a diverse, culturally rich environment.

**Objective 2:** Develop and encourage faculty, staff, management and student engagement in global and international experiences, and facilitate a means to bring those experiences back to campus.

Objective 3: Develop, expand, and institutionalize community and industry connections.

### Learning

**Objective 1:** Increase completion rates for a wide-range of students from a wide-range of backgrounds while preserving access and enhancing quality.

**Objective 2:** Implement a comprehensive approach for the development of integrated academic and support services to holistically address the needs of students.

**Objective 3:** Strengthen the scheduling processes for program/discipline pathways and learning practices to increase student goal completion.

**Objective 4:** Foster adaptable, innovative learning environments.

#### <u>A</u>ccess

**Objective 1:** Adapt basic skills instruction and support processes to increase skill development, and accelerate college level preparedness.

**Objective 2:** Assist students by creating a coordinated K-12, OCC, and four-year academic seamless pathway to degree and job attainment.

**Objective 3:** Increase completion rates for students from diverse social and academic backgrounds and eliminate academic achievement gaps.

### <u>S</u>tewardship

**Objective 1:** Model and embed environmental sustainability practices within College instruction and programs.

Objective 2: Develop and maximize financial resources to benefit OCC students and programs.

**Objective 3:** Cultivate human potential to advance our mission and enhance the quality of the work and personal lives of our employees.

**Objective 4:** Promote an open environment with rigor, transparency, continuous improvement, and recognition of collaboration and individual achievement.

**Objective 5:** Enhance services and instruction through the use of self-directed, intuitive on-line technology.

### Student, and Employee Engagement,

**Objective 1:** Create structured opportunities for student engagement within curriculum, cocurricular activities, and service learning opportunities.

**Objective 2:** Develop programs to promote faculty and student interaction, along with team and community building that advances the mission of the College.

**Objective 3:** Support the development of students.

### Master Planning Documents

The Orange Coast College Educational Master Plan outlines the college's goals and is the framework for the college's planning processes. Supporting the Educational Master Plan are the college's supplemental master plans, such as the Facilities, Technology, Enrollment Management, and Human Resources/Staff Development.

http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about\_occ/office\_of\_the\_president/Pages/Educational-Master-Plan.aspx

### Orange Coast, College Atlas



The OCC Atlas has served as the college's official fact book since 2000. It was designed to provide pertinent information about Orange Coast College's students and the surrounding community. The OCC Atlas is arranged into five sections: Environment and Access,

Student and Enrollment Trends, Student Outcomes, Student Equity Outcomes, and Employee Data. The atlas is published annually. The current version of the Atlas can be accessed at the link below.

http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about\_occ/college\_ facts/Documents/OCC%20Atlas%202017-2018%20revised%20November%2020%202018.pdf

### College Core Indicators & Institution Set, Standards

Orange Coast College's core indicators are the critical outcomes that illustrate progress towards meeting its goals. Goals are further delineated by strategic objectives, which provide specifics on how goals are operationalized. Core indicators supporting the goals and strategic objectives are defined with performance targets to gauge the extent to which the College is making progress. The core indicators are organized by the College's values and goals (C-L-A-S-S). To access college's latest analysis on its progress towards its core indicators, click on the Core Indicators and Institution-Set Standards Report below.

http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/about\_occ/Institutional\_Effectiveness/Documents/OCC%20 Core%20Indicators\_Nov%202018.pdf