



## CISCO COLLEGE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Cisco / Abilene, Texas - February 18, 2020* - Cisco College recently passed its onsite accreditation inspection by SACSCOC (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges) with only one recommendation, according to Dr. Thad Anglin, president of the college.

That one recommendation was to improve the student experience in online classes.

As a result, Cisco College has already launched its Quality Enhancement Plan 2020 (QEP) aimed at improving the student experience in online courses. The five-year plan includes two major goals:

- (1) To connect students to resources that help them succeed in their online courses, such as 24-hour online tutoring and online instruction videos, and to use consistent course design standards.
- (2) To connect faculty to professional development opportunities that help them enhance their online courses, and also to utilize new resources to enhance the courses.

The expected results are to increase the online course success rate and to decrease the annual withdrawal rate.

“The SACSCOC reaffirmation process involved the completion of a comprehensive Compliance Certification audit which required an assessment of all programs and courses offered both on-campus and off-campus, and those delivered via distance learning,” Dr. Anglin stated.

“This critical set was followed up by the SACSCOC Off-Site Committee Review and subsequently a Focus Report response,” he said, “The Quality Enhancement Plan that was

presented to the on-site committee was found to align with the college's Mission and was accepted to move forward with several productive suggestions from the QEP Reviewer.”

The SACSCOC preparation by the institution consists of two major components: Compliance Certification and a Quality Enhancement plan. Once submitted, they are then reviewed by the Commission on Colleges. This consists of an off-site review, an on-site reaffirmation review, and then a review of the report by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees.

The entire process is something that institutions that award associate, baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degrees undergo every ten years to gain approval by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees.

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### ***About Cisco College***

Since first admitting students in 1940, Cisco College has offered programs and activities intended to encourage lifelong learning and enhance the quality of life in the communities it serves.

As a member of the Texas state system of publicly supported institutions of higher education, Cisco College maintains an open-door admissions policy and provides an array of learning, skill development and life experiences to motivate and challenge students. Classes are offered at two primary locations, Cisco and Abilene, in addition to several other off-campus sites. The College strives to maintain a student/faculty ratio which facilitates close interaction between faculty and students.

Cisco College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award Associate level degrees.