



Preparing for the
**SACSCOC ON-SITE
REAFFIRMATION REVIEW**
MARCH 23-25, 2026



Table of Contents

03

Accreditation Overview

04

Reaffirmation Components

05

On-Site Review Standards

06

On-Site Review Schedule

07

On-Site Review Committee

08

Reaffirmation Resources & Contacts

Accreditation Overview

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

SACSCOC is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit degree-granting colleges and universities. MTSU's institutional accreditation assures stakeholders and the public that the university meets established standards of quality. Accreditation also allows faculty and students to access federal and state funding.

MTSU was first accredited by SACSCOC in 1928, with its most recent reaffirmation in 2016. The university undergoes reaffirmation every 10 years through an extensive self-study and peer review of its compliance with SACSCOC policies and procedures and the standards outlined in *The Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement*. For the 2026 cycle, MTSU was approved for Differentiated Review, a streamlined reaffirmation process for SACSCOC institutions in good standing.

This guide provides an overview of the reaffirmation process and helps prepare the campus community for the On-Site Reaffirmation Review scheduled for March 23-25, 2026.



Reaffirmation of Accreditation Components

1

Compliance Certification Report - September 2025

MTSU's Standards Team, made up of administrators, faculty, and staff from across campus, completed a self-study and gathered evidence to show how the university meets the 40 standards required in the Differentiated Review Process. In September 2025, MTSU submitted this Compliance Certification Report to the Off-Site Review Committee.

2

Off-Site Review - November 2025

An Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee comprised of evaluators from SACSCOC peer institutions outside Tennessee reviewed MTSU's Compliance Certification Report. The Committee prepared a report explaining its findings of the university's compliance with each standard, which was shared with university leadership and the On-Site Reaffirmation Committee.

3

Focused Report - February 2026

MTSU submitted a Focused Report addressing the four standards found noncompliant by the Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee. The On-Site Reaffirmation Committee will review the Focused Report before they arrive on campus to conduct the On-Site Review.

4

On-Site Review - March 2026

MTSU will host an On-Site Reaffirmation Committee comprised of a second group of evaluators from SACSCOC peer institutions outside Tennessee from March 23-25, 2026. During the visit, reviewers will meet with campus administrators, faculty, staff, and students to follow up on standards identified in the Off-Site Review and to verify compliance with standards related to U.S. Department of Education requirements. At the end of the visit, the committee will share its findings with university leadership in a formal report.

5

SACSCOC Board of Trustees Decision - December 2026

A Committee on Compliance and Reports (C&R) of the SACSCOC Board of Trustees will review the On-Site Reaffirmation Committee's Report and any response by the university. The Executive Council and the full SACSCOC Board of Trustees will then determine MTSU's accreditation status and any required follow-up. The final decision will be announced to the College Delegate Assembly during the December 2026 Annual Meeting.



On-Site Review Standards

- | | | | |
|--------------|--|-------------|--|
| 1.1 | Integrity | 10.2 | Public Information |
| 4.1 | Governing Board Characteristics | 10.5 | Admissions Policies and Practices |
| 5.4 | Qualified Academic/
Administrative Officers | 10.6 | Distance and Correspondence
Education |
| 6.1 | Full-Time Faculty | 10.7 | Policies for Awarding Credit |
| 6.2.a | Faculty Qualifications | 12.1 | Student Support Services |
| 6.2.b | Program Faculty | 12.4 | Student Complaints |
| 6.2.c | Program Coordination | 13.2 | Financial Documents |
| 8.1 | Student Achievement | 13.6 | Federal and State Responsibilities |
| 8.2.a | Student Outcomes: Educational
Programs | 13.7 | Physical Resources |
| 9.1 | Program Content | 14.1 | Publication of Accreditation Status |
| 9.1 | Program Length | 14.3 | Comprehensive Institutional
Reviews |
| 9.3 | General Education Requirements | 14.4 | Representation to Other Agencies |

For more information about each standard, visit www.mtsu.edu/sacscoc/standards-showcase/

On-Site Reaffirmation Schedule

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

- 08:00 AM** Committee Executive Session
- 09:30 AM** Welcome Session with President McPhee and Reaffirmation Team
- 10:15 AM** Concurrent Standard Interview Sessions with Faculty and Staff
- 12:00 PM** Concurrent Lunch Sessions with Trustees, Faculty, and Students
- 01:15 PM** MTSU Campus Tour
- 02:30 PM** Concurrent Standard Interview Sessions with Faculty and Staff
- 03:00 PM** Committee Executive Session
- 04:00 PM** Committee Chair Courtesy Briefing with President McPhee

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

- 08:00 AM** Committee Executive Session
- 09:00 AM** Exit Conference with President McPhee and Reaffirmation Team



On-Site Reaffirmation Committee



Dr. Christina Morell, Committee Chair
Associate Provost and Director of Institutional Research and Analytics (Retired)
University of Virginia



Dr. Geoffrey Klein
Vice President
SACSCOC



Dr. Charles J. Klink
Associate Vice President
Virginia Commonwealth University



Dr. Kelli R. Brown
Chancellor
Western Carolina University



Dr. Jodi Pettazoni
Associate Vice Provost & Director of Assessment
UNC Greensboro



Dr. Jorge Figueroa Flores
Vice Provost for Academic Innovation
Texas State University



Dr. Brett Powell
Executive Vice President of Finance & Administration, CFO
Tarleton State University



Dr. Chaudron Gille
Provost & Senior Vice President
University of North Georgia



Dr. Sara Zeigler
Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Eastern Kentucky University



Reaffirmation Resources & Contacts

MTSU Reaffirmation of Accreditation Website

<https://www.mtsu.edu/sacscoc/reaffirmation/>

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