

## **UNIVERSITY POLICY AC-30.02-09/23**

**TO:** The University of West Florida Community

**FROM:** Dr. Martha D. Saunders, President

**SUBJECT:** Representation of Accreditation Status in Print and Electronic

Media

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:** Office of the Provost

## I. Purpose:

Accreditation in the United States plays a significant role in fostering public confidence in higher education, maintaining standards, enhancing institutional effectiveness, and improving higher education by establishing a common set of requirements with which accredited entities must comply. Any institution of higher education or academic program or unit within the institution, seeking or holding accreditation from one or more accrediting bodies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, must describe its accreditation status accurately and reference the accreditor in accordance with federal policy and the standards of the accrediting body.

## II. Policy:

UWF's institutional-level accreditation status must be accurately stated and must reference the accrediting body in accordance with 34 CFR §602.28 and the principles and requirements of the accrediting body. UWF's accreditation statement is published on the Institutional Accreditation page of the Department of Institutional Effectiveness under the Office of the Provost. The Office of Institutional Communications provides guidance to colleges and divisions of UWF as to standards for referencing the University's accreditation status. All units, programs, departments, colleges, divisions, and any individual acting on behalf of the University should adhere to the University guidelines for publishing information regarding the accreditation status of the University or one of its disciplines, colleges, or academic programs regardless of print or electronic media format. The accreditation status of any of UWF's disciplines, colleges, or academic programs must be accurately stated and must reference the accrediting body in accordance with 34 CFR §602.28 and any standards or guidelines provided by the relevant accrediting body.

No statement may be made regarding any possible future accreditation status.

DocuSigned by:		
Approved by: Martha Saunders	Date: 09/18/2023	
Dr Martha D Saunders		

**Authority:** BOG Reg. 1.001, University Board of Trustees Powers and Duties

Cross Ref.: None

**History:** Adopted August 2014; revised September 2023

**Last Review:** September 2023