

SACS Timeline

*SACS specifies these deadlines for institution on “track A”—that includes GTCC.

<i>*Activity</i>	<i>*Date</i>	<i>GTCC action</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Year One--orientation	January 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership team attends SACS conference and 2 regional orientation meetings • Campus-wide focus groups meet to find QEP focus and orient to new process • SACS Chair meets with campus groups to explain new processes • Compliance team appointed, oriented, and begins work 	<i>It's a whole new world for SACS—the “rules” are largely the same, but the way we do our self-study is very different—we need a while to learn and adapt.</i>
Year Two (2004)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance Certification due 	March 15, 2004	<p>Final report due to SACS. The report must be completely ready and submitted by this date.</p> <p><u>NOTE: Our internal deadline for this report is DECEMBER 15</u>, at which time Dr. Cameron will expect the report in its final form.</p> <p>Pat Abell is chairing our Compliance Audit Team.</p>	<p><i>This is the part of the SACS review familiar to most of us. The report is an item-by-item response to the SACS requirements and standards, telling them if we comply with those “rules.”</i></p> <p><i>Unlike past reports, however, it will be completed by a team of people whose reports will be submitted electronically to GTCC's SACS website.</i></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off-site peer review conducted 	<p>Third week of May, 2004</p>		<p><i>Our report—most of which will be accessible on line for the reviewers—will be read OFF CAMPUS by our SACS reviewers. Only items that seem questionable or are not adequately documented will be subject to the on-campus visit.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Enhancement Plan due 	<p>August 15, 2004</p>	<p>A more focused QEP will be developed through a review of Planning Units, the assistance of the Institutional Effectiveness Committee, and the coordination of the QEP team. We will submit a comprehensive report on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What we plan to do • How we plan to do it • How we plan to measure our results 	<p><i>The QEP is broadly defined in the Compliance Audit—having defined a QEP is part of the “Core Requirements” for SACS.</i></p> <p><i>However, that broad discussion is only the beginning. SACS requires us to submit a report that is no longer than 100 pages, detailing such things as</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A “defense” of our QEP topic as it relates to student learning</i> • <i>Evidence of campus-wide engagement in the process of determining the QEP</i> • <i>Timelines</i> • <i>Leadership</i> • <i>Assessment schedule</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site peer review conducted 	<p>Sept. 15-Oct 31, 2004</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team visits for three days • Exit conference with campus SACS team 	<p><i>This visit will be primarily to examine our plan and processes for implementing the QEP. In addition, any</i></p>

		<p>members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three to five weeks later, we will get the written “On-Site Review Report” 	<p><i>“residual matters” from the Compliance Audit will be subject to review. For example, the team might take a look at faculty credentials on file or other documentation not accessible on the on-line Compliance Report.</i></p>
<p>Year Three—Review by Commission on Colleges (SACS)</p>	<p>Third week of June, 2005</p>	<p>The Compliance and Reports Committee will review our “On-Site Report” in Atlanta for final approval and then final review by the full Commission.</p> <p>Re-affirmation results are announced at the SACS annual conference, usually held in December. The formal part of our work will be over—until we do a five-year update, the “Impact Report of the QEP on Student Learning.”</p>	<p><i>Our work on the Compliance Audit and planning for the QEP should be well completed by this time—what we will be focusing on are efforts continually to improve our compliance AND to follow through on our actions for the QEP.</i></p>