GENERAL INFORMATION

**Name of Institution**  Coastal Carolina University

**Name, Title, Phone number, and email address of Accreditation Liaison**
Dr. Robert J. Sheehan  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs,  
843-349-2089  
sheehan@coastal.edu

**Name, Title, Phone number, and email address of Technical Support person for the Compliance Certification**
Ms. Vivian McCain,  
Assessment Coordinator  
843-349-2733  
vmccain@coastal.edu

Mr. Justin Essary  
Web Applications Programmer  
843-349-2651  
jmessary@coastal.edu

**Submission date of this completed document:**  
September 2, 2011
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

1. Level of offerings (Check all that apply)

☐ Diploma or certificate program(s) requiring less than one year beyond Grade 12
☐ Diploma or certificate program(s) of at least two but fewer than four years of work beyond Grade 12
☐ Associate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 60 semester hours or the equivalent designed for transfer to a baccalaureate institution
☐ Associate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 60 semester hours or the equivalent not designed for transfer
☒ Four or five-year baccalaureate degree program(s) requiring a minimum of 120 semester hours or the equivalent
☐ Professional degree program(s)
☐ Master's degree program(s)
☐ Work beyond the master's level but not at the doctoral level (such as Specialist in Education)
☐ Doctoral degree program(s)
☐ Other (Specify) _____

2. Types of Undergraduate Programs (Check all that apply)

☐ Occupational certificate or diploma program(s)
☐ Occupational degree program(s)
☐ Two-year programs designed for transfer to a baccalaureate institution
☒ Liberal Arts and General
☒ Teacher Preparatory
☐ Professional
☐ Other (Specify) _____
GOVERNANCE CONTROL

Check the appropriate governance control for the institution:

☐ Private *(check one)*

☐ Independent, not-for-profit

   Name of corporation OR
   Name of religious affiliation and control: _____

☐ Independent, for-profit *

   Name of corporation: _____

☒ Public *(check one)*

☒ Not part of a state system, institution has own independent board

☐ Part of a state system, system board serves as governing board

☐ Part of a state system, system board is super governing board, local governing board has delegated authority

☐ Part of a state system, institution has own independent board

* If an institution is part of a state system or a corporate structure, a description of the system operation must be submitted as part of the Compliance Certification for the decennial review. See Commission policy “Reaffirmation of Accreditation and Subsequent Reports” for additional direction.
INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION
FOR REVIEWERS

Directions: Please address the following and attach the information to this form.

1. History and Characteristics

Provide a brief history of the institution, a description of its current mission, an indication of its geographic service area, and a description of the composition of the student population. Include a description of any unusual or distinctive features of the institution and a description of the admissions policies (open, selective, etc.). If appropriate, indicate those institutions that are considered peers. Please limit this section to one-half page.

2. List of Degrees

List all degrees currently offered (A.S., B.A., B.S., M.A., Ph.D., for examples) and the majors or concentrations within those degrees, as well as all certificates and diplomas.

3. Locations and Distance Education

List locations (country, state, and city) where course work toward a degree, diploma, or certificate can be obtained primarily through traditional classroom instruction. For each site, indicate the partial or complete degree offered and, for each degree, certificate, or diploma, whether a student can obtain 50 percent of credits toward any of the educational programs.

Provide a brief description of distance education credit offerings that can be obtained primarily through electronic means and indicate where the students are located. Indicate any degree or certificate programs that can be completed primarily through electronic means. Please limit this brief description to one-half page, if possible.

4. Accreditation

List all agencies that currently accredit the institution or any of its programs and the date of the last review for each. Identify the accrediting agency that is the gatekeeper for federal funds if it is not the Commission on Colleges. Describe any sanctions applied or negative actions taken by any of these accrediting bodies (including the Commission) during the two years previous to the submission of this report in regard to your institution.

5. Relationship to the U.S. Department of Education

Indicate any limitations, suspensions, or termination by the U.S. Department of Education in regard to student financial aid or other financial aid programs during the previous three years. Report if on reimbursement or any other exceptional status in regard to federal or state financial aid.

Updated: February 2008
1. History and Characteristics

History

Coastal Carolina University was founded in 1954 by a group of local community members determined to improve the educational, economic and cultural capacities of the region. Throughout its history, the institution has maintained a close, reciprocal relationship with the surrounding area, which, during the past 57 years, has changed from a primarily agricultural district to a major Atlantic coast resort. Coastal Carolina University was for 30 years a branch campus of the University of South Carolina (USC). Since separating from the USC system in 1993, the institution has flourished. The University offers 55 baccalaureate major fields of study and 7 graduate degree programs. The most successful programs are based on unique aspects of the area’s geography and economy.

Mission Statement

Approved by the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees on April 18, 1997

Update adopted by the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees on December 14, 2007

Coastal Carolina University is a public comprehensive liberal arts institution that seeks to develop students who are both knowledgeable in their chosen fields and prepared to be productive, responsible, healthy citizens with a global perspective. To deliver on this commitment, Coastal Carolina recruits highly qualified and motivated students, faculty, and staff from the region, state, nation, and world to create a diverse and dynamic student-centered learning environment.

Because Coastal Carolina embraces the teacher-scholar model, it places primary emphasis on high quality teaching and engaged learning, and it supports faculty research, creative activities, and expert collaboration in the community, state, nation, and world. This focus enables faculty and staff to mentor students in collaborative research, creative opportunities, and internships. To nurture this active learning community, Coastal Carolina maintains a broad range of contemporary technologies, programming, support services, and innovative course offerings and delivery methods. The result is alumni who are well prepared for professional careers or graduate programs in their chosen fields and who continue to be connected to Coastal Carolina.

Inspired by its founding in 1954 to serve the educational needs of the immediate area, Coastal Carolina has grown with the region to become a mid-sized regional comprehensive university with a tradition of a strong liberal arts core. As such, Coastal Carolina commits its resources to maintaining a population of 8,000 – 12,000 students by building baccalaureate and selective master's programs of national and/or regional significance in the arts and sciences, business, humanities, education, and health and human services. Coastal Carolina fully embraces its leadership role as a regional center of economic and intellectual resources, lifelong learning, cultural and recreational opportunities, and athletic programs.

As Coastal Carolina executes this mission, it recognizes its responsibility to be a role model to the community and to the professions by assuring fair and honest treatment of people with whom it interacts and sustainable stewardship of resources entrusted to it, adopting the highest standards of integrity and accountability, and committing itself to excellence through continuous self-improvement.
Characteristics (Student Profile)

- Fall 2010 enrollment: 8,706 students; 8,203 undergraduate and 503 graduate students from 46 states and 43 foreign countries
- South Carolina residents:
  - First-time freshmen: 47 percent
  - All undergraduate students: 52 percent
- Out-of-state residents including international:
  - First-time freshmen: 53 percent
  - All undergraduate students: 48 percent
- Male/Female: 45/55 percent
- Average SAT score for first-time freshmen: 1,008
- Average high school GPA for first-time freshmen: 3.34

Distinctive Features

- Waties Island, 1,062 acres of pristine barrier island on the Atlantic coast, provides a natural laboratory for extensive study in marine science and wetlands biology. Studies conducted by the University’s Burroughs & Chapin Center for Marine and Wetland Studies play a vital role in shaping public policy relating to coastal resource management issues along the South Carolina coast as well as other U.S. shorelines. The Center is a major participant in a statewide study to explore the viability of offshore wind energy production.
- More than 200 students are enrolled in the University’s Golf Management Program, founded in 1997 in response to the needs of the thriving golfing industry in the Myrtle Beach area. The University’s program is one of only 20 in the nation accredited by the PGA of America.
- Currently, more than $102 million in major construction is underway on Coastal Carolina University’s campus, marking the University’s most ambitious construction program in its 57-year history. In the coming months, construction will be underway on three major academic buildings (Science, Information Commons, and Classroom Office Building) and a student Recreation/Convocation facility; when complete, these four new buildings will add more than 231,000 square feet to the main campus and will enhance the University's infrastructure and complement its mission.
- Coastal Carolina University has made it easier for students with two-year AA/AS degrees from accredited technical or community colleges to be admitted into the University's four-year degree program by waiving core requirements, Fall 2010.

Admission Policies

- Freshman Applicants - For freshmen admission consideration, both quantitative and qualitative measures guide the Office of Admissions in reaching a final admission decision. Freshmen admission policies include that an applicant projects and attains a high school diploma or its equivalent, has an acceptable grade average in 20 college preparatory course prerequisites established by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, and meets acceptable standardized tests requirements (SAT or ACT). The University reserves the right to request additional information or any additional relevant information provided by the applicant can be used to support the application. International freshmen applicants must provide proof of English proficiency through the attainment of an acceptable TOEFL result and the completion of a bank certification on the Confidential Financial Statement on the International Student Admissions Application.
Transfer Applicants - A transfer applicant is considered “an applicant who has attended another regionally accredited post-secondary institution in any capacity, regardless if credit is earned, after the completion of high school.” For transfer admission consideration, all transfer applicants should have at least 24 semester credits, be eligible to return to the last institution attended, and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 on all course work at all colleges attended. Applicants transferring with less than 24 semester credits must meet both transfer and freshmen admissions requirements.

Auditions - Admission into the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theatre program is via audition/interview only and is separate from admission into the University. Effective Fall 2011, students choosing to declare a music major will also be required to complete a successful audition in order to be accepted into the major.

Peer Institutions

Coastal Carolina University’s peer group includes the following institutions:

- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Georgia College and State University
- Murray State University
- Radford University
- University of Tennessee – Chattanooga
- University of Tennessee – Martin
- University of Wisconsin – Stout
- Valdosta State University
- Western Carolina University
- Winthrop University

Aspirant Institutions

Coastal Carolina University’s aspirant group includes the following institutions:

- Appalachian State University
- College of Charleston
- James Madison University
- Rowan University
- University of North Carolina - Wilmington
## List of Degrees

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baccalaureate Degrees</th>
<th>Specializations/Concentrations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.A. Accounting</td>
<td>CMA/Finance Track</td>
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<td>CPA Track</td>
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<td>B.A. Art Studio</td>
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<td>B.S. Biochemistry</td>
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<td>B.S. Biology</td>
<td>Cell/Molecular Biology &amp; Genetic</td>
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<td>Integrative Biology</td>
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<td>Ecology, Evolution &amp; Conservation</td>
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<td>B.S. Chemistry</td>
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<td>B.S. Computer Science</td>
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<td>B.A. Communication</td>
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<td>B.A. Dramatic Arts</td>
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<td>B.A. Early Childhood Education</td>
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<td>B.A./B.S. Economics</td>
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<td>B.A.Ed. Elementary Education</td>
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<td>B.A. English</td>
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<td>B.S. Exercise and Sport Science</td>
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<td>Financial Management</td>
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<td>B.A. Graphic Design</td>
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<td>B.S. Health Administration</td>
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<td>B.S. Health Promotion</td>
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<td>B.A. History</td>
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<td>B.S. Information Systems</td>
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<td>B.A./B.S. Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
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<td>B.S. Management</td>
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<td>B.S. Marine Science</td>
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<td>B.S. Marketing</td>
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<td>B.S. Mathematics, Applied</td>
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<td>B.A. Middle Level Education</td>
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<td>B.A. Music</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
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<td>Performance</td>
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<td>Teacher Preparation</td>
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<td>B.A. Musical Theatre</td>
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<td>B.A. Philosophy</td>
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<td>B.S. Nursing</td>
<td>Physical Education/Teacher</td>
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<td>B.S.P.E. Education</td>
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<td>B.S. Physics, Applied</td>
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<td>B.A. Political Science</td>
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<td>B.A./B.S. Psychology</td>
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<td><strong>Baccalaureate Degrees</strong></td>
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</table>
| B.S. Recreation and Sport Management | Recreation Management  
Sport Management |
| B.S. Resort Tourism Management | |
| B.A. Sociology | Criminology  
Health and Aging  
Social Justice  
Generalist |
| B.A. Spanish | |
| B.A. Special Education – Learning Disabilities | |
| B.F.A. Theatre Arts | Acting  
Design and Technology  
Physical Theatre |

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<tr>
<th><strong>Graduate Degrees</strong></th>
<th><strong>Specializations/Concentrations</strong></th>
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<td>M.A. Writing</td>
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</table>
| M.Acc Accountancy | Art  
Music  
English  
Science  
Mathematics  
Social Studies |
| M.A.T. Education | |
| M.Ed. Educational Leadership | Instructional Technology  
Literacy  
Early & Elementary Grades |
| M.Ed. Learning and Teaching | |
| M.B.A. Business Administration | |
| M.S. Coastal Marine and Wetland Studies | |

**Certificate Programs**

Gerontology Certificate (UG)  
Fraud Examination (GR)
3. Locations and Distance Learning

Locations

Coastal Carolina University
108 Blanton Circle
Conway, SC 29526

All degrees; more than 50% of credits earned at this site (99.4% of all courses).

Myrtle Beach Education Center
U.S. 17 Bypass & 79th Avenue North
Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

Some courses offered; no significant portion of any single degree (0.6% of all course).

Waccamaw Higher Education Center
160 Willbrook Boulevard
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

Only non-credit courses are offered.

The University offers the majority of courses (99.4%) at the Conway location. A select number of courses (0.6%) are offered at the Myrtle Beach Education Center.

Distance Education-Delivered via Blackboard as Course Management Software

Between Spring 2010 and Spring 2011 the total number of online distance learning sections offered at Coastal Carolina University increased from 62 sections in Spring 2010 to 85 sections in Spring 2011. Distance learning sections comprised 3% of all course sections in spring 2010 and 4% of all course sections in Spring 2011. Currently, online courses are offered in two formats: totally online and hybrid courses involving some online study along with face-to-face elements. A Bachelor of Science in Health Administration degree completion program received approval and will begin fall 2011 and delivered online.

4. Accreditation (Accreditation Cycle)

Coastal Carolina University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award the baccalaureate and master’s degrees.

In addition to being accredited by SACSCOC, several programs are accredited by their respective associations as follows:

- The E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration is accredited by AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.
- The Spadoni College of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the South Carolina State Board of Education.
- Coastal Carolina University is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).
- The Department of Computer Science is accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).
- The Department of Music is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).
- The Department of Theatre is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).
5. Relationship to the U.S. Department of Education

Coastal Carolina University is in good standing with the U.S. Department of Education in regard to student financial aid and is not, nor ever has been placed on suspension, termination, or restriction.