



July 12, 2024

Dr. Michael Amiridis
President
University of South Carolina - Columbia
206 Osborne Administration Bldg.
Columbia, SC 29208

Dear Dr. Amiridis:

Thank you for submitting the following substantive change:

Substantive change:
OCIS Closure
Fort Jackson Education Services Center
4600 Strom Thurmond Boulevard
Fort Jackson, SC 29207
Submission date:
5/13/2024
Intended Implementation date:
6/1/2024
Case ID:
SC026774

The University of South Carolina Columbia requests that the Fort Jackson Education Services Center's off-campus instructional site (OCIS) be closed.

The review was deferred for the following additional information on June 2, 2024:

1. Explain how affected parties – students, faculty, and staff – will be informed (notified) of the impending closure.
2. Explain whether the students subject to the teach-out plan will incur additional charges or other expenses because of the teach-out and, if so, how the students will be notified.
3. Describe how faculty and staff will be redeployed or helped to find new employment.

The response to the deferral was received on June 18, 2024.

The University will stop offering the Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) programs at the Fort Jackson Education Services Center off-campus site. The site is closing because no college program offerings will be held there.

Closure of the Fort Jackson instructional site will be communicated to faculty, staff, and students through several forms of communication (via email, direct mail, face-to-face, advisors, website, and staff and faculty meetings). Potential students will be informed that they may study at one of the University of South Carolina's two-year Palmetto College campuses, all of which offer the AA and AS programs on campus or online.

At the time the decision to close was made, there were students enrolled at the Fort Jackson Education Services Center off-campus instructional site. Students were given options to



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complete their program. Potential students interested in an associate degree may study at one of the University of South Carolina's two-year Palmetto College campuses, all of which offer the AA or AS programs on campus or online.

Currently enrolled students at Fort Jackson will be allowed to continue in the program until graduation or Fall 2027. If the students have not completed the program by Fall 2027, they will be encouraged to transfer to another program at the University of South Carolina Columbia or one of the two-year campuses. Fort Jackson students will be able to complete the associate's degree online with Palmetto College. Therefore, these students will still be served on the military base, but not in person.

An agreement with other institutions is not necessary. Students currently enrolled will not incur additional fees because of the closure and will continue to be advised and supported until Fall 2027.

This site closure will not directly impact faculty and staff. Faculty and staff members have not been on site since Spring 2020 (all courses were offered online). They will not need to be redeployed or find new employment. After closing this site, there will be sufficient work and responsibilities for them.

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges approves the closure of the Fort Jackson Education Services Center off-campus instructional site (OCIS).

Should you need assistance, please contact Dr. Kelli V. Randall at 404-994-6545 or via email at krandall@sacscoc.org.

Please include the Case ID number above in all submissions or correspondence about this substantive change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW:DDG/sb

cc: Mr. Donald Miles, Executive Director Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics,
University of South Carolina - Columbia
Dr. Kelli V. Randall, Vice President, SACSCOC