

#### 4.2.a Mission review

The governing board ensures the regular review of the institution's mission.

**Compliance Judgment:** In Compliance

#### Rationale

**Review Policies and Requirements.** Among the fundamental responsibilities of the USC Board of Trustees as stipulated in [Section 1, Article IV of the Board's Bylaws](#) <sup>[1]</sup> is the duty to “define the mission, role and scope of the University System and each of its major component institutions.” Also, in accordance with [59-103-45\(6\) of the South Carolina Code of Laws](#), <sup>[2]</sup> the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education is charged with the responsibility to “review and approve each institutional mission statement to ensure it is within the overall mission of that particular type of institution as stipulated by [Section 59-103-15](#) <sup>[3]</sup> and is within the overall mission of the State.”

In accord with the responsibilities of the USC Board of Trustees and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, the mission statement of USC Aiken is periodically revised by personnel on the campus and forwarded to the Board of Trustees and the Commission on Higher Education for review and approval. The [Board of Trustee Mission Review Policy](#) <sup>[4]</sup> requires a review and, if necessary, an update of the missions of each component institution at least once every four years.

**Evidence of Compliance with Review Policies.** The mission of USC Aiken is periodically reviewed internally, typically, in advance of or in concert with the creation of a new strategic plan. The current [mission statement](#) <sup>[5]</sup> and [core values](#) <sup>[6]</sup> were crafted following a review in 2016 by a campus committee consisting of administrators, faculty, and staff before being endorsed by the faculty assembly on August 16, 2016 and the classified employee association on September 28, 2016. The Board of Trustees subsequently reviewed and approved the mission statement on December 13, 2016 as shown in the [minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting](#) <sup>[7]</sup> held that day. The mission

was subsequently reviewed and approved by the [South Carolina Commission for Higher Education on February 7, 2017](#).<sup>[8]</sup>

### **Supporting Documentation**

1. [Article IV of USC Board of Trustees Bylaws](#)
2. [South Carolina Code of Laws 59-103-45](#)
3. [South Carolina Code of Laws 59-103-15](#)
4. [Board of Trustees Mission Review Policy](#)
5. [USC Aiken Mission Statement](#)
6. [USC Aiken Values Statement](#)
7. [Review and Approval of Mission Statement by the Board of Trustees](#)
8. [Review and Approval of Mission Statement by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education](#)