

## ANALYZING A CASE FOR COMPLIANCE

**NOTE:** The information presented below by SACS is intended to assist the SACS **REVIEWERS** in focusing and developing its analysis of our institution's case for its compliance. This is important to us because it provides a "rule of thumb" about how our responses will be judged by their REVIEWERS.



COMPONENT	UNACCEPTABLE	WEAK	ACCEPTABLE
<b>The narrative includes a statement of the institution's perception of its compliance with the requirement</b>	Either the narrative does not include a statement of the institution's perception of its compliance with the requirement, or it is not applicable to the specific accreditation requirement.	The narrative includes a general statement of the institution's perception of its compliance with the requirement but it does not address each of the components of the requirement.  The narrative is not clear, concise, nor focused.	<b>The narrative includes a statement of the institution's perception of its compliance with the requirement that addresses each of the components of the requirement (as necessary).</b>  <b>The statement is focused solely on the requirement.</b>
<b>The rationale for the assertion</b>	The narrative provides no explanation of reason(s) for the assertions regarding compliance with all aspects of the requirement.	The narrative provides a limited discussion of the reason(s) for determining compliance with all aspects of the requirement.	<b>The narrative provides a clear and concise statement of the reason(s) for the assertion regarding the institution's perception of compliance with the requirement.</b>
<b>The evidence supporting the assertion</b>	Either no evidence is presented to support the institution's case or the evidence provided is unacceptable because of two or more of the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is not reliable</li> <li>• It is not current</li> <li>• It is not verifiable</li> <li>• It is not coherent</li> <li>• It is not objective</li> <li>• It is not relevant</li> <li>• It is not representative</li> </ul>	Either the evidence provided is uneven in its support of the institution's case or it is deficient because of one of the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is not reliable</li> <li>• It is not current</li> <li>• It is not verifiable</li> <li>• It is not coherent</li> <li>• It is not objective</li> <li>• It is not relevant</li> <li>• It is not representative</li> </ul>	<b>The evidence provided sufficiently supports the institution's case because of at least three of the following characteristics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>It is reliable</b></li> <li>• <b>It is current</b></li> <li>• <b>It is verifiable</b></li> <li>• <b>It is coherent</b></li> <li>• <b>It is objective</b></li> <li>• <b>It is relevant</b></li> <li>• <b>It is representative</b></li> </ul>

COMPONENT	UNACCEPTABLE	WEAK	ACCEPTABLE
<p>The <b>evidence-based analysis</b> of compliance</p> <p><b>Overall judgment</b> of the case for compliance</p>	<p>No analysis is offered.</p> <p>The analysis is not based on the evidence presented.</p> <p>The analysis does not pertain to the requirement.</p>	<p>The evidence-based analysis does not address all aspects of the requirement.</p> <p>The evidence-based analysis lacks coherency, clarity, and focus.</p>	<p><b>The evidence-based analysis addresses all aspects of the requirement.</b></p> <p><b>The evidence-based analysis is coherent, concise, and focused.</b></p>
	<p>The institution's case does not establish compliance because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. it does not adequately address the requirement</li> <li>b. the evidence is either missing or lacking</li> <li>c. the analysis is not grounded in data presented</li> <li>d. it is not coherent, clear, nor focused</li> </ul>		<p><b>The institution's case establishes compliance because:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. it directly addresses all aspects of the requirement</b></li> <li><b>b. the evidence provided is sufficient</b></li> <li><b>c. the analysis provided is sufficient</b></li> <li><b>d. the case is coherent</b></li> </ul>