

Introduction

The University of Redlands School of Business (URSB) has demonstrated its commitment to teaching excellence and continuous quality improvement by pursuing accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). Founded in 1988, ACBSP is a premier accreditation body which accredits business programs of exceptionally high quality around the globe at over 1,000 institutions.

Based on the criteria of the National Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award, ACBSP evaluates institutional leadership; strategic planning; relationships with students and stakeholders; student learning and performance; faculty; and educational support systems.

Standard One

Administrators (chief academic officers, deans, department chairs) and faculty must personally lead and be involved in creating and sustaining values, business school or program directions, performance expectations, student focus, and a leadership system that promotes performance excellence. These values and expectations must be integrated into the business school's or program's leadership system; and the business school or program must continuously learn, improve, and address its societal responsibilities and community involvement.

Standard Two

The business school or program must have a process for setting strategic directions to better address key student and program performance requirements. The strategy development process should lead to an action plan for deploying and aligning key plan performance requirements. It should also create an environment that encourages and recognizes innovation and creativity.

Standard Three

A business school or program must have a systematic procedure to determine requirements and expectations of current and future students and stakeholders, including how the business school or program enhances relationships with students and stakeholders and determines their satisfaction. Stakeholders may include parents, employers, alumni, donors, other schools, communities, etc.

Standard Four

Business schools and programs must have an outcomes assessment program with documentation of the results and evidence that the results are being used for the development and improvement of the institution's academic programs. Each business school or program is responsible for developing its own outcomes assessment program.

Standard Five

The ability of a business school or program to fulfill its mission and meet its objectives depends upon the quality, number, and deployment of the faculty and staff. Hence, each institution seeking ACBSP accreditation for its business school or program must:

- 1) develop and implement policies and plans that ensure an excellent faculty, including a staffing plan that matches faculty credentials and characteristics with program objectives;
- 2) evaluate the faculty based on defined criteria and objectives;
- 3) provide opportunities for faculty development to ensure scholarly productivity to support department and individual faculty development plans and program objectives; and
- 4) foster an atmosphere conducive to superior teaching.

Standard Six

Business students share common professional requirements. For this reason, certain common subject matter (the Common Professional Component, or “CPC”) as well as areas of specialization are expected to be covered in baccalaureate degree programs in business.

The CPC is implicit graduate requirement for graduate-level business programs as well, whether required for admission to a graduate program, or delivered within a program as added coursework above the base of graduate program credit hours.

Financial resources, physical facilities, library and other learning resources, equipment including computing hardware and software, and resources at off-campus sites must be adequate to support a strong curriculum and excellence in teaching.

Each business school or program must have policies and procedures addressing the areas of recruiting, admitting, and retraining its students.