



*Commission on Colleges  
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools*

**Part 4: INSTITUTIONAL SUMMARY FORM  
PREPARED FOR COMMISSION REVIEWS**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Name of Institution** Northwest Florida State College

**Name, Title, Phone number, and email address of Accreditation Liaison**

Dr. Melinda Stein, Dean of Instructional Services and Professional Programs, (850) 729-5366, steinm@nwfsc.edu

**Name, Title, Phone number, and email address of Technical Support person for the Compliance Certification**

Mr. Gregg E. Laird, Network Administrator, (850) 974-2024, lairdg@nwfsc.edu

**Submission date of this completed document:** March 25, 2010

## 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.*

**Northwest Florida State College** was initially established by the Florida Legislature in 1963 as the 18<sup>th</sup> of the state's community colleges. Students have been enrolled in degree programs from its opening in August 1964 to the present. Okaloosa-Walton Junior College served 309 full-time and 458 part-time students during that initial year, since then has graduated more than 28,000 students, and now serves an annual unduplicated head count of approximately 17,000. In March 1988, the District Board of Trustees changed the name to Okaloosa-Walton Community College (OWCC) to recognize the college's expanded role in economic development, cultural programs, and other endeavors. Further expansion of the college's mission occurred in April 2003, with the Florida State Board of Education's authorization to develop baccalaureate programs, followed in December 2003 by a change in the college's accreditation level to baccalaureate degree-granting level II status by the Commission on Colleges (COC) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. To reflect the college's addition of bachelor's programs, the college's Board of Trustees acted to change the name of the college to Okaloosa-Walton College. On July 8, 2008, following the creation of the new State College System by the 2008 Florida Legislature in Senate Bill 1716, the District Board of Trustees changed the college's name to Northwest Florida State College.

While the mission of the institution has expanded to include baccalaureate degrees, NWFSC continues its long-standing commitment to an open-door admissions policy, associate degree programs, adult education, certificate programs, and affordable tuition. The college's mission is to provide quality educational programs and services which enable students to achieve their goals and which enhance the community through academic, career/technical, cultural, economic, and personal development opportunities.

The college serves primarily the Okaloosa and Walton counties in Florida. Okaloosa County is home to the main Niceville campus, the 2+2 campus shared with the University of West Florida, the Robert L. F. Sikes Center (Crestview), and educational centers on the Eglin and Hurlburt military bases. Two other locations serve Walton County: the Chautauqua Center in DeFuniak Springs and the South Walton Center.

These seven centers are distinctive features of NWFSC, illustrating its commitment to access. The college is also well known for its Collegiate High School, a national Blue Ribbon school operated as a charter school by agreement with the Okaloosa County School Board and as provided in Florida statutes.

In 2008-2009, NWFSC's student population was 55.9% female and 64.9% part-time. White students comprised 76.5% of the student body, black students made up 10.1%, with other races making up the remaining 13.4%. Students pursuing traditional associate's degrees (A.A., A.S., A.A.S) accounted for 69.2% of NWFSC FTE, with the remainder coming from baccalaureate, vocational, college preparatory, adult and continuing education.

## **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.*

### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

### **Bachelor of Applied Science in Project Management**

### **Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education**

### **Bachelor of Science in Middle Grades Math Education**

### **Bachelor of Science in Middle Grades Science Education**

### **Associate of Arts**

#### **Associate of Applied Science**

- Architectural Design and Construction Technology
- Business Administration
- Computer Engineering Technology
- Criminal Justice Technology
- Customer Relationship Management
- Database Technology
- Digital Media/Multimedia Technology
- Drafting and Design Technology
- Early Childhood Education
- Emergency Administration & Management
- Graphic Arts Technology
- Health Services Management
- Industrial Management Technology
- IT Security
- Manufacturing Technology
- Music Production Technology
- Networking Administrator
- Office Administration
- Theater and Entertainment Technology

#### **Associate of Science**

- Accounting Technology
- Computer Information Administrator
- Computer Programming and Analysis
- Database Technology
- Emergency Medical Services
- IT Security
- Nursing (RN)
- Radiography
- Recreation Technology

#### **College Credit Certificates**

- Accounting Technology Management
- Audio Technology
- AutoCAD Foundations
- Business Management
- Child Care Management

- Child Development/Early Intervention
- Cisco (CCNA)
- Computer Programming
- Computer Programming Specialist
- Computer Specialist (MSCE/MCSA)
- Digital Media/Multi/Media Authoring
- Digital Media/Multimedia Presentation
- Drafting
- Emergency Administrator and Manager
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Graphic Design Production
- Graphic Design Support
- Homeland Security Emergency Manager
- Infant/Toddler
- Information Technology Management
- Information Technology Technician
- Marketing Operations
- Medical Office Management
- Microcomputer Repair/Installer
- Microsoft Certified Systems Developer
- Office Management
- Office Specialist
- Paramedic
- Preschool
- Stage Technology
- UNIX System Administrator

**Applied Technology Diploma**

- Customer Service Technology
- Insurance/Medical Coder

**Vocational Certificates**

- Accounting Operations
- Administrative Assistant
- Auxiliary Law Enforcement Officer Basic
- Corrections Basic
- Customer Assistance Technology
- Customer Service Representative
- Dental Assisting
- Firefighting Basic
- Law Enforcement Basic

**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.*

Location	Degrees	50% of Credits Offered
Niceville, Okaloosa County, Florida	Bachelor of Applied Science in Project Management	Yes
	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Yes
	Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education	Yes
	Bachelor of Science in Middle Grades Mathematics	Yes

	Education	
	Bachelor of Science in Middle Grades Science Education	Yes
	A.A.	Yes
	A.S.	Yes
	certificates	Yes
Fort Walton Beach, Okaloosa County, Florida	A.A.	Yes
	A.S.	Yes
	certificates	Yes*
Eglin Air Force Base, Okaloosa County, Florida	A.A.	Yes*
	A.S.	Yes*
	certificates	No
Hurlburt Air Force Base, Okaloosa County, Florida	A.A.	Yes*
	A.S.	Yes*
	certificates	No
<i>Crestview, Okaloosa County, Florida</i>	A.A.	Yes
	A.S.	Yes
	certificates	Yes*
DeFuniak Springs, Walton County, Florida	A.A.	Yes
	A.S.	Yes
	certificates	Yes*
South Walton, Walton County, Florida	A.A.	No
	A.S.	No
	certificates	No

\* Specific course offerings at the centers are subject to change in an attempt to provide greater access for the students. Responses on this chart reflect the variety of coursework that is possibly offered at the centers.

*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.*

Both general education and elective courses are offered as distance learning. Selected business, computer science, drafting, biological sciences, allied health, mathematics, and natural and social science courses, as well as general education courses, such as English Composition I and II, Art Appreciation, and American Government, are offered. Selected upper division nursing and business courses are also available to students pursuing the Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Applied Science in Project Management programs. All NWFSC distance learning courses are taught by faculty who hold credentials in the relevant subject matter. The majority are full-time faculty who also teach traditional classes and whom distance students can contact or visit during office hours. The majority of students taking distance learning classes reside in the local area.

#### **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.*

Northwest Florida State College	Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges	December 2001	No sanctions or negative actions
Associate's in Nursing (R.N.)	Florida Board of Nursing	December 30, 2009	No sanctions or negative actions
Bachelor's in Elementary Education (K-6)	Florida Department of Education	July 1, 2008	No sanctions or negative actions
Bachelor's in Mathematics Education (5-9)	Florida Department of Education	July 1, 2009	No sanctions or negative actions
Bachelor's in Nursing	Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	October 6, 2008	No sanctions or negative actions
Bachelor's in Science Education (5-9)	Florida Department of Education	July 1, 2009	No sanctions or negative actions
Certificate in Dental Assisting	American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accrediting	March 12, 2010	No sanctions or negative actions
Child Development and Education Center	National Association for the Education of Young Children	July 31, 2008	No sanctions or negative actions
Collegiate High School	Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Secondary and Middle Schools	November 2008	No sanctions or negative actions
Criminal Justice	Florida Department of Law Enforcement Training Center Certification	January 13, 2010	No sanctions or negative actions
Emergency Medical Services	Bureau of Emergency Medical Service	January 2009	No sanctions or negative actions
Northwest Florida State College	American Heart Association Training Center Certification	November 2009	No sanctions or negative actions

## 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.*

Northwest Florida State College has had no limitations, suspensions, or terminations by the U.S. Department of Education with regard to student financial aid or other financial aid programs during the previous three years.

*Updated: February 2008*