



SACRAMENTO
STATE

Carnegie Re-Classification for Community Engagement

Preparing for 2026

Redefine the Possible™

What is the Carnegie Re-Classification for Community Engagement?

- A nationally recognized and prestigious elective classification/re-classification for institutions to demonstrate their commitment to community engagement
 - The classification process is intended as a self-study to identify strengths (supported by data and reports) and opportunities for continued improvement in institutionalizing community engagement.
 - The re-classification process focuses on demonstrated depth and pervasiveness of engagement across the university (in terms of level of collaboration, reciprocity, equity, etc.).
- Sacramento State received this classification in 2010 and re-classification in 2020.
- Re-classification now occurs on a five-year cycle; we are up for re-classification in 2026

Why Re-Classify?

- As an Anchor University, community engagement is a vital part of our identity and culture (this is who we are).
- The re-classification process provides a mechanism for thorough evaluation into whether our engagement is deep and pervasive (where we are now).
- The re-classification process also offers an opportunity to identify areas for future institutional change so that our engagement may be more collaborative, reciprocal, and equitable over time (where we want to be).

What's the re-classification process?

- The process involves gathering evidence and crafting a narrative that demonstrates the changes the campus has made to improve the institutionalization of community engagement since our last re-classification in 2020.
- We need to demonstrate that community engagement is deeply embedded across all divisions, units, and programs. The re-classification questions cover topics such as:

Institutional Context

Institutional Identity, Strategic Plans, and Priorities
Quality of Community Partnerships
Organizational Structure and Finance
Tracking and Assessments
Outcomes and Impacts

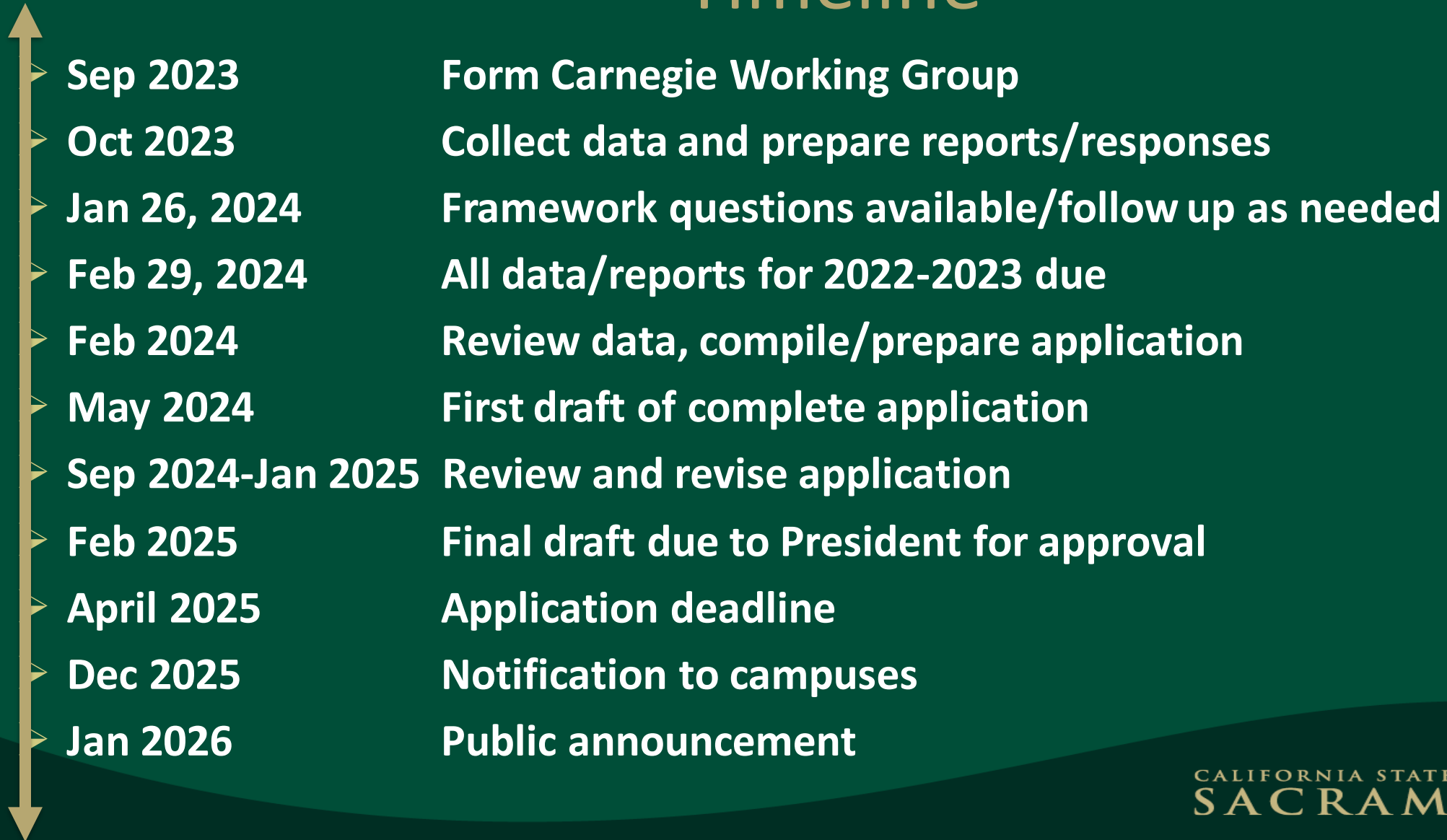
Curricular Engagement

Co-Curricular Engagement
Faculty and Staff Recruitment
Faculty Tenure and Promotion
Faculty and Staff Rewards
Pathways for Student Development

What has changed since our last re-classification in 2020?

- Fewer questions on outreach and relationship development and more questions on the quality of community partner relationships (pervasiveness, level of collaboration, and reciprocity).
- More questions generally on quality, pervasiveness, or depth of community engagement (CE) (e.g., the pervasiveness of the implementation of tenure and promotion policies that recognize CE).
- More questions on diversity, inclusion, and equity (e.g., whether we provide unencumbered resources to marginalized communities; whether we disaggregate faculty, student, community partner data based on demographics).
- More questions on assessment and how assessment data is used/disseminated to improve community engagement.
- A question specifically on the impacts of COVID

Timeline



Leadership

Under the auspices of Academic Affairs, the Carnegie Re-classification Process will be led by:

- **Conveners:**
 - David Ziegler, Interim Vice Provost for Student Academic Success
 - James German, Dean of Undergraduate Studies
- **Co-Chairs:**
 - Chong Choe-Smith, Faculty Associate for Community Engaged Learning, Community Engagement Center, and Associate Professor, Philosophy
 - Erin Rose Ellison, Faculty Associate for Community Based Research, Community Engagement Center, and Associate Professor, Psychology
- **Consultant** (in house): Dana Kivel, former Director, Community Engagement Center, former Co-Chair of Carnegie Working Group in 2020, Professor, RPTA

Additionally, we will invite colleagues from across campus to participate in the Carnegie Re-classification Working Group and Advisory Group.

What do we need from you?

- When the call for volunteers goes out across the campus, please consider joining the Carnegie Working Group.
- Please readily provide the team with information about your program/department, community engaged curriculum or other activities, faculty, staff, and students, accreditation information, assessment data, and anything else relevant to community engagement.
- Please participate in and/or support any surveys sent to students, faculty, staff, departments, or community partners.

Questions?

Please feel free to reach out to us!

Chong Choe-Smith, Faculty Associate for Community Engaged Learning, Community Engagement Center, and Associate Professor, Philosophy, choe-smith@csus.edu

Erin Rose Ellison, Faculty Associate for Community Based Research, Community Engagement Center, and Associate Professor, Psychology, ellison@csus.edu