

Summary of Negative Action: November 12, 2019

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

Place on Warning

Selma University (Selma, AL) until February 2020

The institution has been placed on warning due to concerns for integrity in financial matters and compliance with applicable legal and governmental regulations (Standard 3, EE 7); the cultivation of adequate revenue streams sufficient to realize institutional goals (Standard 6b, EE 3); risk management policies and procedures sufficient to safeguard assets (Standard 6b, EE 4); sufficient financial reserves to enable effective response to unforeseen financial circumstances and enrollment fluctuations (Standard 6b, EE 6); adequate internal controls to safeguard assets and protect personnel from accusations of wrongdoing (Standard 6b, EE 7); and evidence that financial aid practices meet regulatory and reporting requirements (Standard 7c, EE 2). A progress report addressing these issues, including a financial recovery plan and a teach-out plan is due December 15, 2019. Institutional representatives are expected to meet with the Commission on Accreditation in February 2020 before the Commission makes a decision on subsequent action. The institution retains its accredited status with the Commission on Accreditation while on warning.

[Action Letter](#)

The Meaning of Warning

Warning is a negative, public action indicating that the Commission on Accreditation (COA) has determined that an institution is in substantial compliance with ABHE standards, but meets one or more standards with sufficient weakness that, if the current trend is not altered, the institution is in jeopardy of being found out of compliance with a standard in the near future and placed on probation. The institution retains accredited or candidate status with ABHE during a period of warning, and will be subject to periodic monitoring, which may include progress reports and/or focused visits by COA staff or evaluation teams. If weaknesses are not resolved within the time specified (usually one year), the COA may (1) extend the warning for a second year, (2) place the institution on probation, (3) order the institution to show cause why its accreditation or candidate status should be continued, or (4) withdraw accreditation or candidate status. Warning is rarely extended beyond two years. Rather, an institution that fails to strengthen specified weaknesses by a stated COA deadline is placed on probation. Warning is not an appealable action.

Action effective November 12, 2019.