

Summary of Negative Actions: February 12, 2020

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

Continue on Warning

Horizon College and Seminary (Saskatoon, SK) until February 2021

The institution has been continued on warning for a second year due to weaknesses in meeting Condition of Eligibility 19 (a financial base indicating that the institution can achieve its mission and goals with a balanced budget and at a safe level of debt), Standard 6b, Essential Element 3 (cultivation of adequate revenue streams sufficient to realize institutional goals), and Standard 6b, Essential Element 6 (sufficient financial reserves to enable effective response to unforeseen financial circumstances and enrollment fluctuations). A progress report, due November 15, 2020, is required documenting the institution's efforts at addressing these issues. Institutional representatives are expected to meet with the Commission in February 2021 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.

Place on Probation

Olivet University (Anza, CA) until February 2021

The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has placed Olivet University on probation for failure to comply with the following accreditation standards:

- COE 20 (Documentation that a substantial portion of institutional income is allocated to educational programs and purposes)
- COE 21; Standard 6b, EE 1 (Evidence of financial stability as documented by submission of FY17-18 & FY18-19 audits)
- Standard 3, EE 5, 7 (Documentation of honest and open communication with accrediting, licensing, and governing bodies; integrity in all financial matters and in compliance with applicable legal and governmental regulations)
- Standard 6b, EE 4, 5, 7 (Documentation of risk management policies and procedures, appropriate board oversight, and adequate internal controls over critical financial and governance areas as demonstrated by progress toward adopting recommendations emerging from Crowe's Business Process and Corporate Governance Risk Assessment)

[Action Letter](#)

Selma University (Selma, AL) until February 2021

The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has placed Selma University on probation for failure to comply with the following accreditation standards:

- COE 18: Institutional stability and capacity (document with evidence that the institution has a pattern of stability in enrollment and finances)
- Standard 3, EE 7 (documentation that the institution demonstrates integrity in financial matters and in compliance with applicable legal and governmental regulations)
- Standard 6a, EE 1 (documentation of qualified personnel to provide basic services to students, faculty, and administration)
- Standard 6b, EE 3 (documentation of adequate revenue streams sufficient to realize institutional goals, including a detailed accounting of the status, and any actions already taken, of the five methods of fund raising included in the Selma University's Response Letter, dated September 13, 2019)
- Standard 6b, EE 6, 7 (documentation of sufficient financial reserves to enable effective response to unforeseen financial circumstances and enrollment fluctuations; adequate internal controls to safeguard assets and personnel from accusations of wrongdoing)
- Standard 7, Core (documentation that the institution has developed and implemented an enrollment management plan that is consistent with its mission and addresses current issues of recruitment, admission, student financial services, and retention)

[Action Letter](#)

The Meaning of Probation

Probation is a negative, public action indicating that the COA has determined that the institution no longer complies with one or more of the Standards for Accreditation. The institution retains accredited or candidate status with ABHE during a period of probation, and will be subject to periodic monitoring, which may include progress reports and/or focused visits by COA staff or evaluation teams. Should the institution fail to correct the identified deficiencies within two years, the COA must take adverse action against the institution and remove its accreditation or candidate status. Where there is sufficient progress, the COA may grant a one-year extension of accreditation or candidate status for “good cause” to allow the institution to demonstrate substantial compliance with the Standards for Accreditation. An institution on probation and/or show cause for two years cannot be returned to warning. .

A teach-out plan, approved by the appropriate COA committee (APCAN for candidate institutions, PRSC for accredited institutions), is required for institutions placed on probation. The institution will be required to submit a teach-out plan in accord with specifications in the Policy and Process for Reviewing a Required Teach-Out Plan within 60 days of the notice informing it of the probationary status. If the institution already has an approved teach-out plan on file, a new plan is not required unless changes are necessary.

Placement on probation may be appealed in accordance with the ABHE Policy on Reviews and Appeals. Notification of an appealable action will not be released until appeal options have been exhausted and the action is final.

All actions effective February 12, 2020.