

Summary of Negative Actions: February 17, 2021

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

Place on Warning

America Evangelical University (Los Angeles, CA) until February 2022

The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has placed America Evangelical University on warning for one year for weakness in meeting the following ABHE Institutional Accreditation Standards:

- Standard 2: EE 1, 2 (documentation of evidence validating, as a result of using the outcomes assessment plan, that students are achieving the stated outcomes relative to institutional goals, program-specific objectives and course objectives)
- Standard 3: EE 5, 7 (documentation of honest, open, and timely communication related to compliance with agencies such as accrediting, licensing, and governing bodies regarding submission of reports and requested documentation, and communication with COA; documentation demonstrating evidence of integrity in financial matters with respect to ownership and missional use of property)
- Standard 6b: EE 8 (evidence documenting a budget process that is informed by institutional planning)

A progress report, due November 15, 2022, is required documenting the institution's efforts at addressing these issues. Institutional representatives are expected to meet with the Commission in February 2022 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](#)

Continue on Warning

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

The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has deferred action on review of accreditation status (warning) for Horizon College and Seminary until June 2021 in light of the anticipated closing date of March 15, 2021 for the sale of the institution's previous campus. The Commission will review the institution again at the June 2021 Commission meeting and make a decision on subsequent action.

Horizon College and Seminary was placed on warning in February 2019 and continued on warning for a second year in February 2020 for weakness in complying with the following ABHE Institutional Accreditation Standards:

- 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)
- Standard 6b, Essential Element 6 (sufficient financial reserves to enable effective response to unforeseen financial circumstances and enrollment fluctuations).

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.

Continue on Probation

Olivet University (Anza, CA) until February 2022

The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has continued Olivet University on probation for a second year for failure to comply with the following accreditation standards:

- Standard 3: EE 7 (compliance with applicable legal obligations to repay debts, establishment of adequate internal controls and resolution of all judicial actions with the State of New York and the Environmental Protection Agency)
- Standard 4: EE 7 (evidence of the implementation and operation of a conflict of interest policy for board members that addresses issues such as financial interests, contracts, related-party transactions, or other personal interests in the institution)
- Standard 5: EE 3 (document with evidence a clear organizational structure, appropriate to the size and scope of the institution that encompasses all units and roles)

- Standard 6a: EE 1; 6b: EE 5, 7 (an adequate number of qualified personnel to provide financial administrative oversight; appropriate board oversight of financial management to meet public accountability obligations; adequate controls to safeguard assets and protect personnel from accusations of wrongdoing).

A progress report, due May 15, 2021, is required documenting the institution's efforts at addressing these issues. The progress report will be followed by a focused evaluation team visit to review institutional compliance in these areas. Institutional representatives are expected to meet with the Commission in February 2022 before the Commission makes a decision on subsequent action. The institution retains its accredited status with the Commission on Accreditation while on probation.

[Action Letter](#)

Selma University (Selma, AL) until February 2022

The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has continued Selma University on probation for a second year for failure to comply with the following accreditation standards:

- Condition of Eligibility (COE) 15 (Sustained and viable student enrollment in its educational programs over the past two years)
- COE 18 (Institutional stability and capacity (document with evidence that the institution has a pattern of stability in enrollment and finances)
- COE 19 (Financial base indicating that the institution can achieve its mission and goals within a balanced budget and at a safe level of debt)
- Standard 3: EE 7 (documentation that the institution demonstrates integrity in financial matters and in compliance with applicable legal and governmental regulations)
- 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 efforts and results of the financial recovery plan)
- Standard 6b: EE 6 (documentation of sufficient financial reserves to enable effective response to unforeseen financial circumstances and enrollment fluctuations)
- Standard 10: EE 10 (effective library leadership by a credentialed director)

An updated financial recovery plan is due May 15, 2021, followed by a focused evaluation team visit, and a special progress report, due November 15, 2021, addressing the concerns noted. Institutional representatives are expected to meet with the Commission in February 2022 before the Commission makes a decision on subsequent action. The institution retains its accredited status with the Commission on Accreditation while on probation.

[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 17, 2021.