

Summary of Negative Action: July 3, 2023

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

Place on Probation

Hayfield University (Fullerton, CA) until February 2024

The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has placed Hayfield University (CA) on probation for failure to comply with the following ABHE Institutional Accreditation Standards/Condition of Eligibility:

- Condition of Eligibility 15: Student Body (Documented evidence that the institution has a sustained and viable student enrollment in its education programs over the past two years, typically an FTE of 10 or headcount of 30 students or more).
- Standard 2: EE 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 (Documented evidence that the institution has completed cycles of assessment accompanied by metrics or other means that effectively assess whether or not the institution is achieving its stated objectives; documented evidence of multiple means to validate student learning outcomes; evidence of meaningful analysis of assessment data and use of results by appropriate constituencies for the purpose of improvement in teaching, learning, and institutional effectiveness through completed cycles of assessment; documented evidence of a written, comprehensive institutional improvement plan based on assessment results and aligned with realistic resource projections; documented evidence of the ongoing provision of reliable information to the public regarding institutional performance and student achievement)
- Standard 4: EE 6, 10, 11 (Documented evidence that the institution has a governing board that assists in generating resources for the institution; documented evidence of a board recruitment process and an orientation process that ensures the development and stability of new members; documented evidence that a process of board communication relative to mission, finances, and programs has been implemented)
- Standard 6a: EE 3 (Documented evidence that the institution has the availability of adequate resources for employee welfare, including professional development)
- Standard 6b: EE 5 (Documented evidence that the institution has appropriate and ongoing board oversight of financial management)
- Standard 7a: EE 1; Standard 7d: EE 1, 2 (Documented evidence that the institution has an enrollment management plan that describes recruitment strategies that target students in line with the institutional mission; provide evidence of adequate resources to address the needs of at-risk students and improve retention; and evidence that the assessment process leads to improvement in student retention and completion)
- Standard 9b: EE 5 (Documented evidence that the institution's faculty is involved in decision making processes related to admissions criteria, curriculum, and student development)

- Standard 10: EE 9, 13 (Documented evidence that the institution has a collection of learning resources that is appropriate based on the curriculum, age of resources, usage, and formats; evidence of curricular requirements and services to teach information literacy)
- Standard 11b: EE 6 (Documented evidence that the institution has a system of ongoing ministry program review and documented evidence of the use of assessment of outcomes leading to program improvement)

The self-study, due November 15, 2023, is required to document the institution's efforts to address these issues. Institutional representatives are expected to meet with the Commission in February 2024 before the Commission makes a decision on subsequent action. The institution retains its candidate 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 COA Substantive Change Officer or the appropriate COA committee, 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 on Teach-Out Plans and Teach-Out Agreements within 60 days of the notice informing it of 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 Appeals. Public notification of an appealable action is not released until appeal options have been exhausted and the action is final.