

Summary of Negative Action: July 1, 2025

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

Place on a Show Cause Order

Faith Bible College (Norfolk, VA) until February 2026

The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has ordered Faith Bible College (Norfolk, Virginia) to Show Cause why its accreditation should be continued in light of the Commission on Accreditation's judgment that the institution fails to comply with the ABHE Institutional Accreditation Standards listed below:

- Standard 5: EE 2 (Financial stability, including adequate revenue streams to realize institutional mission and sufficient financial reserves to enable effective response to unforeseen financial circumstances and enrollment fluctuations)
- Standard 5: EE 5 (Adequate institutional resources, including financial resources, to support its mission, achieve educational goals, and ensure continuity of offerings)
- Standard 5: EE 6 (Sufficient personnel to adequately manage and maintain institutional resources)

A Show Cause report is required, due September 15, 2025, providing persuasive evidence that accreditation should not be withdrawn, followed by a focused evaluation visit to assess institutional compliance with Institutional Accreditation Standard 5.

The Commission on Accreditation has acknowledged receipt of the May 16, 2025, notification from Faith Bible College (VA) regarding intent to close, effective June 30, 2025, and voluntarily surrender its ABHE accreditation upon closure. If the institution's closure and voluntary surrender of accreditation are executed as planned, the show cause report and subsequent focused evaluation visit are waived.

[Action Letter](#)

The Meaning of a Show Cause Order

A show cause order is a negative, public action indicating that an institution's accredited or candidate status will be withdrawn unless it can provide persuasive evidence that such action should not be taken. The time allowed to provide this persuasive evidence is not to exceed one year. A teach-out plan, approved by the COA Substantive Change Officer or the appropriate COA committee, is required for institutions placed on show cause. 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 the show cause order. If the institution already has an approved teach-out plan on file, a new plan is not required unless changes are necessary.

In cases where an institution has been on probation for two years, but has failed to correct its deficiencies, a show cause order can only be issued for good cause. In the absence of good cause, the COA is required by federal regulations to remove an institution's status with the COA. The rationale for good cause must be substantive and defensible. A show cause order 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.