



**Public Disclosure Notice on
Saint Joseph's College
Rensselaer, Indiana
Effective: November 3, 2016**

Saint Joseph's College (the College) in Rensselaer, Indiana, is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). It has been placed on Probation because the HLC Board of Trustees (the Board) determined that the College was out of compliance with HLC's Criteria for Accreditation. The Board took this action because of a concerns related to resources, planning and institutional effectiveness; quality, resources and support of teaching and learning; as well as evaluation and improvement of teaching and learning. The specific areas of non-compliance are noted below.

Understanding Probation

Probation is a public status signifying that an accredited institution is no longer in compliance with one or more of HLC's Criteria for Accreditation. The period of Probation is not more than two years from the date that the Board placed the institution on Probation. During the Probation period, the institution remains accredited and has the opportunity to remedy the concerns noted below.

In most cases, because institutions on Probation remain accredited, other institutions of higher education will continue to accept the institution's credits in transfer or for admission to a program at a higher degree level. However, students enrolled at an institution on Probation and interested in pursuing a higher degree or transferring should contact any institution they plan to attend in the future to confirm the institution's admission and transfer policies.

Recent Board Action

On November 3, 2016, the HLC Board of Trustees concluded that the College is out of compliance with the following Criteria for Accreditation:

- Criterion Five. Resources, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
 - Core Component 5.A "the institution's resource base supports its current educational programs and its plans for maintaining and strengthening their quality in the future."

The Board concluded that the College meets the following Criteria for Accreditation but with concerns:

- Criterion Three. Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support
 - Core Component 3.A, "the institution's degree programs are appropriate to higher education"

- Criterion Four. Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement
 - Core Component 4.A, “the institution demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs”
 - Core Component 4.B, “the institution demonstrates a commitment to educational achievement and improvement through ongoing assessment of student learning”
- Criterion Five. Resources, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
 - Core Component 5.C, “the institution engages in systematic and integrated planning”
 - Core Component 5.D, “the institution works systematically to improve its performance”

Next Steps

The College is required to file an Assurance Filing no later than January 8, 2018 providing evidence that the College has resolved the concerns of the Board identified in the Probation action and evidence that it meets the Criteria for Accreditation.

The College will be required to host a comprehensive evaluation no later than March 2018 to determine whether the concerns of the Board identified in its action have been resolved and the College meets the HLC Criteria for Accreditation.

At its meeting in November 2018, the Board will review materials related to this evaluation and determine whether the College can be removed from Probation. If the College has not resolved the Board's concerns that led to Probation, other action may be appropriate.

About the Higher Learning Commission

The Higher Learning Commission accredits approximately 1,000 colleges and universities that have a home base in one of 19 states that stretch from West Virginia to Arizona. HLC is a private, nonprofit regional accrediting agency. HLC's mission is to assure and advance the quality of higher learning. It is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The institutions HLC accredits include public, private not-for-profit, and proprietary institutions at degree levels from the associate's through the doctoral degree level and from small, specialized institutions through large research universities.

Students, parents, and others from the general public with questions regarding HLC's work should contact the Higher Learning Commission by email at info@hlcommission.org or by phone at 312-263-0456.

Posted November 17, 2016