



HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

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January 14, 2022

Dr. Caron Daugherty
President
Flint Hills Technical College
3301 W. 18th Ave.
Emporia, Kansas 66801

Dear President Daugherty:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Flint Hills Technical College by the Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission at its meeting on January 10, 2022. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with HLC.

Action with Interim Monitoring. IAC continued the accreditation of Flint Hills Technical College with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation in 2031-32. In conjunction with this action, IAC required the following interim monitoring.

Interim Report. An interim report due 12/29/2023 on credit hour compliance, consistent learning outcomes, program review, co-curricular assessment, and planning.

Further, IAC changed the team's evaluation of Core Component 4.C from "Met with Concerns" to "Met" removing the requirement for monitoring on this area. In addition to this change, IAC modified the visiting team's recommendation for the monitoring requirement as noted in the Rationale section below.

In taking this action, the IAC considered materials from the most recent evaluation and the institutional response (if applicable) to the evaluation findings.

Rationale: IAC did not change the requirements for federal compliance and Core Component 5.C. The following are modified monitoring requirements from the team report:

Core Component 3.A

The discrepancies of contact hours per credit hour in some course offerings, the inconsistency of learning outcomes between sections of the same course, and has led the Review Team to judge the Core Component 3.A Met With Concerns and to recommend monitoring in which FHTC can provide evidence on the development of a process for ensuring that course learning outcomes remain the same no matter the instructor, the location, or the modality. Perhaps a common course syllabus template for courses might resolve this issue. (See Federal Compliance.)

Core Component 4.A

Maintaining a regular program review process and acting on findings is a requirement for accreditation. While FHTC has a plan for completing and continuing program reviews and acting on findings, the institution has demonstrated that this has not been completely accomplished at an institutional level. IAC recommends monitoring of the Program Review process. Through the monitoring process, FHTC should clearly show that a) the Program Review process is ongoing, b) that programs which were leaders in following the process have completed the program review process and acted on their action plans, and 3) programs later in instituting the process are on time completing yearly steps. Programs should also



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have detailed evidence of action plans being implemented. Evidence should link plans to processes for assessment of student learning, evaluation of operations, planning and budgeting. Related to Core Component 5.C, documentation should link institutional budgeting with the improvement of student learning.

Core Component 4.B

Remove the monitoring requirement related to “curricular assessment.” The institution will provide a monitoring report by Fall of 2023 in which it demonstrates outcomes for co-curricular assessment, data from the evaluative process, and changes made as the result of the assessment.

In two weeks, this action will be added to the *Institutional Status and Requirements (ISR) Report*, a resource for Accreditation Liaison Officers to review and manage information regarding the institution’s accreditation relationship. Accreditation Liaison Officers may request the ISR Report on HLC’s website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/isr-request>.

Within the next 30 days, HLC will also publish information about this action on its website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/Student-Resources/recent-actions.html>.

If you have any questions about these documents after viewing them, please contact the institution’s staff liaison Stephanie Brzuzy. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Gellman-Danley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

CC: ALO