Public Disclosure:
Bethel College status changed
from “Accredited” to “Accredited – On Notice”
Effective: November 7, 2019

The Higher Learning Commission has placed Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas on Notice. HLC took this action because it determined that the institution at risk of becoming out of compliance with HLC’s Criteria for Accreditation.

While on Notice, the institution remains accredited, and it has the opportunity to remedy the issues that led to the sanction. The period of Notice is not more than two years.

What Notice Means for Students
In most cases, other institutions of higher education will continue to accept the institution’s credits in transfer or for admission to a higher degree program. All colleges and universities define their own transfer and admission policies. Student should contact any institution they plan to attend in the future so they are knowledgeable about the admission and transfer policies for that institution.

Noted Criteria for Accreditation
HLC concluded the institution has demonstrated that it is in compliance with the HLC Criteria for Accreditation but is at risk of out of being compliance for the following Criteria:

- Criterion Four, Core Component 4.B, “the institution demonstrates a commitment to educational achievement and improvement through ongoing assessment of student learning.”
- Criterion Five, 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.”
- Criterion Five, Core Component 5.C, “the institution engages in systematic and integrated planning.”

Next Steps
The College is required to provide evidence that it has addressed the issues that led to the Notice sanction by February 1, 2021 in preparation for HLC’s on-site evaluation no later than April 2021. In November 2021, the HLC Board of Trustees will determine whether the institution has demonstrated that it is no longer at risk of being out of compliance with the Criteria for Accreditation and whether Notice can be removed.

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 accrediting agency. It is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. Questions? Contact info@hlcommission.org or call 312.263.0456.

Date of Action: November 7, 2019
Date of Posting: November 22, 2019