Public Disclosure:
East Central College status changed
from “Accredited” to “Accredited – On Notice”
Effective: June 28, 2018

The Higher Learning Commission has placed East Central College in Union, Missouri, on Notice. HLC took this action because of concerns related to the College’s teaching and learning, governance, planning, and institutional effectiveness.

Notice is a sanction meaning that an accredited institution is at risk of being out of compliance with HLC’s Criteria for Accreditation. While on Notice, the College 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 This Means for Students
In most cases, other colleges and universities 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. Students interested in pursuing a higher degree or transferring should contact the college or university they plan to attend so they are knowledgeable about its admission and transfer policies.

Noted Criteria for Accreditation
HLC concluded that the College meets, but with concerns, the following Criteria for Accreditation:

- Criterion Four, Core Component 4.B, “the institution demonstrates a commitment to educational achievement and improvement through ongoing assessment of student learning”
- Criterion Four, Core Component 4.C., “the institution demonstrates a commitment to educational improvement through ongoing attention to retention, persistence, and completion rates in its degree and certificate programs”
- Criterion Five, Core Component 5.B, “the institution’s governance and administrative structures promote effective leadership and support collaborative processes that enable the institution to fulfill its mission”
- Criterion Five, Core Component 5.C, “the institution engages in systematic and integrated planning”
- Criterion Five, Core Component 5.D, “the institution works systematically to improve its performance”

Next Steps
The College is required to provide evidence that it has addressed the issues that led to the sanction, no later than October 1, 2019 in preparation for HLC’s on-site evaluation no later than December 2019. In June 2020, the HLC Board of Trustees will determine whether the institution has demonstrated that it is in 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.