



Public Disclosure:
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago status changed
from “Accredited” to “Accredited – On Probation”
Effective: January 17, 2018

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has placed Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in Chicago, Illinois, on Probation. HLC took this action because it determined that the College does not meet HLC's Criteria for Accreditation related to financial resources.

Probation is a sanction meaning 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.

What Probation Means for Students

While on Probation, the College remains accredited, and it has the opportunity to remedy the issues that led to the sanction.

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. Students 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 that the College does not meet the following:

- 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”

HLC concluded that the College is at risk of not meeting the following:

- Criterion Five, Core Component 5.C, “the institution engages in systematic and integrated planning”

Next Steps

The School is required to provide evidence that it has addressed the issues that led to the sanction no later than March 1, 2019 in preparation for HLC's on-site evaluation no later than May 2019. In November 2019, the HLC Board of Trustees will determine whether the institution has demonstrated that it is in compliance with the Criteria for Accreditation and whether Probation 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.