Public Disclosure
Defiance College status changed
from “Accredited” to “Accredited – On Probation”
Effective: June 22, 2023

The Higher Learning Commission has placed Defiance College in Defiance, Ohio on Probation. HLC took this action because it determined that the institution is out of compliance with HLC requirements.

The initial period of Probation is not more than two years. Probation affords an institution a reasonable period to address HLC’s concerns. While on Probation, the institution remains accredited, and it has the opportunity to remedy the issues that led to the sanction.

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 that they are knowledgeable about the admission and transfer policies for that college or university.

Noted HLC Requirements
HLC concluded that the institution is out of compliance with the following HLC requirements:

- Criterion Five, Core Component 5.B, “resource base” (Not Met)

HLC concluded that the institution needs to address additional concerns related to the following HLC requirements:

  - Criterion Three, Core Component 3.A, “degree programs appropriate to higher education” (Met with Concerns)
  - Criterion Four, Core Components 4.A, “program review” and 4.B “assessment of student learning” (Met with Concerns)
  - Criterion Five, Core Component 5.C, “systematic and integrated planning and improvement” (Met with Concerns)

Next Steps
The institution is required to provide evidence that it has addressed the issues that led to the sanction and that it is otherwise in compliance with HLC’s requirements, no later than October 1, 2024 in preparation for HLC’s on-site evaluation that will take place no later than December 2024. In June 2025, the HLC Board of Trustees will determine whether the institution has demonstrated that it is in compliance with HLC requirements and whether Probation can be removed.

To provide transparency for all stakeholders, HLC publishes a Directory of Institutions on its website (hlcommission.org/directory). The directory includes information about a college or university’s accreditation status, recent activities and upcoming activities.

About the Higher Learning Commission
The Higher Learning Commission accredits approximately 1,000 colleges and universities in the United States. 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.

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