

**Public Disclosure
Mesalands Community College
Designation: Financial Distress
Effective: March 2, 2023**

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has assigned a Financial Distress designation to Mesalands Community College in Tucumcari, New Mexico, based on the institution being placed on the Enhanced Fiscal Oversight Program by the New Mexico Higher Education Department on January 18, 2023, and related information.

A Financial Distress designation is a consumer protection mechanism meant to apprise the public that current conditions at an accredited college or university raise serious concerns about its resource base to support its educational programs per HLC's Criteria for Accreditation, including Core Component 5.B. HLC does not undertake any independent evaluation of the institution in advance of assigning a designation.

Mesalands Community College remains accredited while it pursues efforts to remedy concerns that have led to the designation.

What the Financial Distress designation Means for Students

In most cases, colleges and universities will continue to accept Mesalands Community College's credits for transfer and admission to other higher degree programs and institutions. As all colleges and universities define their own transfer credit and admission policies, students interested in other institutions are advised to seek information on individual transfer and admission policies.

Next Steps

Mesalands Community College will submit a Provisional Plan to HLC no later than March 19, 2023.

The institution will be subject to additional monitoring, including an Advisory Visit, which will take place no later than September 15, 2023. An appropriate decision-making body will ultimately determine whether conditions at the institution are indicative of whether the institution is in compliance with HLC requirements.

About the Higher Learning Commission

The Higher Learning Commission accredits approximately 1,000 colleges and universities throughout the United States. HLC is a private, nonprofit accrediting agency that 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.