



**Public Disclosure:
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh status changed
from “Accredited” to “Accredited – On Notice”
Effective: November 2, 2017**

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has placed University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on Notice.

HLC took this action because it determined that the University is at risk of not meeting HLC's Criteria for Accreditation related to the institution's mission, institutional integrity, board autonomy, and effective leadership and collaboration. HLC took this action after its review of the background related to the University's pending civil lawsuit against two former employees and related litigation and the implications of this background for the University's oversight of its fiscal and administrative affairs and related matters.

What This Means for Students

Notice is a sanction meaning that an accredited institution is at risk of not meeting one or more of HLC's Criteria for Accreditation. The period of Notice is not more than two years.

While on Notice, the institution 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

The following Criteria for Accreditation must be addressed by the University:

- Criterion One, Core Component 1.D, “the institution's mission demonstrates commitment to the public good”
- Criterion Two, Core Component 2.A, “the institution operates with integrity in its financial, academic, personnel, and auxiliary functions; it establishes and follows policies and processes for fair and ethical behavior on the part of its governing board, administration, faculty, and staff”
- Criterion Two, Core Component 2.B, “the institution presents itself clearly and completely to its students and to the public with regard to its programs, requirements, faculty and staff, costs to students, control, and accreditation relationships”
- Criterion Two, Core Component 2.C, “the governing board of the institution is sufficiently autonomous to make decisions in the best interest of the institution and to assure its integrity”
- 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”

Next Steps

HLC requires that the University provide quarterly reports beginning February 1, 2018, on the status of pending litigation filed by or against the University of Wisconsin system and/or related entities regarding the issues that are the subject of the Notice sanction, including institutional or system improvements undertaken as a result of these matters.

When the legal issues are resolved, and no later than March 2019, the University will file a report to provide evidence that it has addressed the issues that led to the Notice sanction. No later than November 2019, the HLC Board of Trustees will determine whether the institution has demonstrated improvement and whether Notice can be removed. The University will be scheduled for its regular comprehensive evaluation in spring of 2018.

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.