
institution is also required to submit a Midterm Report in the third year of the six-year accreditation cycle.

Defer a decision on reaffirmation of accreditation. A Commission decision on accreditation is postponed pending receipt of specified additional information from the institution or to permit an institution to correct deficiencies and report to the Commission within six months or less. The response from the institution may be followed by a visit addressed primarily to the reasons for the decision. The Commission will specify the nature, purpose, and scope of the information to be submitted and of the visit to be made. The accredited status of the institution continues during the period of deferment.

IV. Sanctions

Institutions are advised the U.S. Department of Education requires recognized accrediting bodies to terminate accreditation when an institution found out of compliance with Accreditation Standards fails to come into compliance within a two-year period. Consequently, the Commission will take action to terminate accreditation if deficiencies are not resolved within this period. Under extraordinary circumstances, the institution may be granted additional time when the Commission determines good cause for extension exists.

- A. **Issue Warning.** When the Commission finds that an institution has pursued a course deviating from the Commission's Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, or Commission policies to an extent that gives concern to the Commission, it may issue a warning to the institution to correct its deficiencies, refrain from certain activities, or initiate certain activities. The Commission will specify the time within which the institution must resolve these deficiencies. During the warning period, the institution will be subject to reports and visits at a frequency to be determined by the Commission. If warning is issued as a result of the institution's comprehensive review, reaffirmation is delayed during the period of warning. The accredited status of the institution continues during the warning period.
- B. **Impose Probation.** When an institution deviates significantly from the Commission's Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, or Commission policies, but not to such an extent as to warrant a Show Cause order or the termination of accreditation, or fails to respond to conditions imposed upon it by the Commission, including a warning, the institution may be placed on probation. The Commission will specify the time within which the institution must resolve deficiencies. During the probation period, the institution will be subject to reports and visits at a frequency to be determined by the Commission. If probation is imposed as a result of the institution's comprehensive review, reaffirmation is delayed during the period of probation. The accredited status of the institution continues during the probation period.
- C. **Order Show Cause.** When the Commission finds an institution to be in substantial non-compliance with its Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, or Commission policies, or when the institution has not responded to the conditions imposed by the Commission, the Commission will require the institution to Show

Cause why its accreditation should not be withdrawn at the end of a stated period by demonstrating that it has corrected the deficiencies noted by the Commission and is in compliance with the Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards or Commission policies. In such cases, the burden of proof will rest on the institution to demonstrate why its accreditation should be continued. The Commission will specify the time within which the institution must resolve deficiencies. If the loss of accreditation will likely cause an institution to close, then during the Show Cause period, the institution must make preparations for closure according to the Commission's "Policy on Closing an Institution." While under a Show Cause order, the institution will be subject to reports and visits at a frequency to be determined by the Commission. If Show Cause is ordered as a result of the institution's comprehensive review, reaffirmation is delayed during the Show Cause order. The accredited status of the institution continues during the period of the Show Cause order.

V. Actions that Terminate Accreditation

Terminate Accreditation. If, in the judgment of the Commission, an institution has not satisfactorily explained or corrected matters of which it has been given notice, or has taken an action that has placed it significantly out of compliance with the Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies, its accreditation may be terminated. The Commission will give the institution written reasons for its decision. Termination of accreditation is subject to a request for review and appeal under the applicable policies and procedures of the Commission and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The accredited status of the institution continues pending completion of any review and appeal process the institution may request. Otherwise, the institution's accreditation ends on the date when the time period permitting such a request expires. In such a case, the institution must complete again the entire accreditation process.