

Public Disclosure Notice

Mesalands Community College status changed from “Accredited” to “Accredited - Probation” Effective: February 29, 2024

The Higher Learning Commission has placed Mesalands Community College in Tucumcari, New Mexico 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 3, Core Component 3.C, “Sufficiency of faculty and staff”
- Assumed Practice D.3, “Future financial projections”

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

- Criterion 2, Core Component 2.A, “Integrity” (met with concerns)
- Criterion 2, Core Component 2.C, “Sufficient Board autonomy” (met with concerns)
- Criterion 5, Core Component 5.A, “Effective governance and administrative structures” (met with concerns)
- Criterion 5, Core Component 5.B, “Resource base” (met with concerns)

Next Steps

The institution is required to provide evidence that it has addressed the issues that led to the sanction, no later than July 1, 2025, in preparation for HLC's on-site evaluation that will be held no later than September 2025. In February 2026, the HLC Board will determine whether the institution has demonstrated 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.

Date of Action: February 29, 2024

Date of Posting: March 6, 2024