

**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)**
<http://www.sacscoc.org>

**Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
Waco, Texas
Issued December 15, 2016, by SACSCOC**

The following publicly available information is provided by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) concerning the accreditation of Baylor University. Information presented below is in accord with SACSCOC's disclosure policy; staff of the Commission cannot comment further on questions specifically related to Baylor University. The institution has reviewed this statement prior to public posting.

Action by SACSCOC's Board of Trustees took place on December 4, 2016, and the institution's next review is December 2017.

What is the accreditation status of Baylor University? Baylor University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges; however, the institution was placed on Warning for 12 months after review of a Special Report originating from unsolicited information generated through media sources alleging non-compliance with standards regarding the appropriateness and adequacy of student support services, the competency and experience of administrative officers, enforcement of personnel appointment policies, control of intercollegiate athletics, institutional admission policies, the qualifications of student affairs and services staff, the adequacy of procedures for addressing student complaints, and compliance with SACSCOC's policies. Prior to the institution's next review by SACSCOC's Board of Trustees in December 2017, a Special Committee will conduct an on-site evaluation of its compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*—the accreditation standards of the Commission. SACSCOC's accreditation includes all components of the institution—all programs, branch campuses, off-campus sites, and distance learning programs as reported to the Commission; thus, the Warning status applies to the entire institution.

What does Warning mean? Warning is a public sanction imposed by SACSCOC's Board of Trustees following determination of significant non-compliance with the Core Requirements, Comprehensive Standards, or Federal Requirements of SACSCOC's *Principles of Accreditation*; failure to make timely and significant progress toward correcting the deficiencies that led to the finding of non-compliance; or failure to comply with SACSCOC's policies and procedures. The maximum total time during one monitoring period that an institution may be on Warning is two years. In December 2017, Baylor University will have been on Warning for 12 months. For additional information about sanctions, see SACSCOC's policy entitled "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership" that can be accessed at <http://www.sacscoc.org/policies.asp>.

Why was Baylor University placed on Warning? Baylor University was placed on Warning because SACSCOC's Board of Trustees determined that the institution had failed to demonstrate compliance with Core Requirement 2.10 (Student support services), Comprehensive Standard 3.2.11 (Control of intercollegiate athletics), and Comprehensive Standard 3.11.2 (Institutional environment) of the *Principles of Accreditation*. These standards expect an institution to provide evidence that it (1) provides appropriate student support programs, services, and activities consistent with mission to enhance development of students, (2) ensures that the chief executive officer exercises appropriate control over the institution's intercollegiate athletics program, and (3) takes reasonable steps to provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment for all members of the campus community. (To read the full statements for the standards cited above, access the *Principles of Accreditation* at <http://www.sacscoc.org/principles.asp>.)

What will happen in December 2017? SACSCOC's Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of Baylor University following review of a First Monitoring Report addressing the standards cited above for non-compliance, and the report of a Special Committee that will visit the institution in fall 2017. The Board will have the following options: (1) remove the institution from Warning without an additional report; (2) continue accreditation, continue Warning, and request an additional report, with/without a Special Committee; (3) continue accreditation, place the institution on Probation, request an additional report, and authorize a Special Committee; and (4) remove the institution from membership for failure to comply with the standards. Commission staff will not speculate on what decision might be made by the SACSCOC's Board of Trustees in December 2017.

For additional information regarding SACSCOC's accreditation process, access the *Principles of Accreditation* (<http://www.sacscoc.org/principles.asp>).