

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

**Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of  
CUMBERLAND UNIVERSITY  
Lebanon, Tennessee  
Issued June 23, 2017, 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 Cumberland University. Information presented below is in accord with SACSCOC's disclosure policy; staff of SACSCOC cannot comment further on questions specifically related to Cumberland University. The institution has reviewed this statement prior to public posting.

Action by SACSCOC's Board of Trustees took place on June 15, 2017, and the institution's next review is June 2018.

**What is the accreditation status of Cumberland University?** Cumberland University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges; however, the institution was placed on Warning for twelve months after review of a Referral Report following submission of the institution's Fifth-Year Interim Report in June 2016. SACSCOC's accreditation includes all components of the institution—all programs, branch campuses, off-campus sites, and distance learning programs as reported to SACSCOC; 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 the 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 June 2018, Cumberland University will have been on Warning for twelve 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 Cumberland University placed on Warning?** Cumberland University was placed on Warning because SACSCOC's Board of Trustees determined that the institution had failed to demonstrate compliance with Core Requirement 2.8 (Faculty) and Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1.1 (Institutional effectiveness—educational programs) of the *Principles of Accreditation*—the accreditation standards of SACSCOC. These standards expect an institution to provide evidence that it (1) has an adequate number of full-time faculty to ensure the quality and integrity of each of its programs and (2) identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent of achievement, and evidence of improvement in educational programs, including student learning. (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 June 2018?** SACSCOC's Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of Cumberland University following review of a Monitoring Report addressing the standards cited above for non-compliance. The Board will have the following options: (1) remove the institution from Warning without an additional report; (2) continue accreditation, continue Warning, request an additional report, and may authorize 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 June 2018.

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