

Public Disclosure Notice

Missouri State University-West Plains status changed from “Accredited” to “Accredited – On Probation”

Effective: June 27, 2024

The Higher Learning Commission has placed Missouri State University-West Plains in West Plains, Missouri 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 requirement:

- Criterion 4, Core Component 4.B, “Assessment of student learning”

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

- Criterion 3, Core Component 3.A, “Academic offerings appropriate to higher education”
- Criterion 4, Core Component 4.A, “Ensuring quality of educational offerings”
- Criterion 5, Core Component 5.C, “Systematic and integrated planning and improvement”

Next Steps

The institution is required to hold an HLC on-site evaluation, which will take place no later than December 2025. In June 2026, the HLC Board of Trustees will determine whether the institution has demonstrated that 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. 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: June 27, 2024

Date of Posting: July 3, 2024