



Frequently Asked Questions Related to HLC Decision

Does this mean we are closing?

Absolutely not. We remain a fully accredited institution. Out of 18 sub-criteria and 37 assumed practices, the Higher Learning Commission found only one area of concern regarding our limited resources and their potential impact on current and future operations. We are fully prepared to work closely with the commission in resolving the issue identified as expeditiously as possible.

What does this mean for the value of my Wittenberg degree?

A degree from Wittenberg will continue to hold the same value in the marketplace and in the lives of our alumni as it always has. Nothing changes because of this designation.

Does this mean that we are no longer fully accredited?

No, we will just need to work with the Higher Learning Commission to address what we have already been addressing for the last year. We appreciate the due diligence HLC performed in making its decision.

What does this mean for Wittenberg overall?

What this means for Wittenberg University at the moment is what we have known for some time: our financial challenges are real, but they are not insurmountable. We are still an accredited institution, and this decision reflects where we have been, not where we are going.

How do we plan to address?

Over the last six months, we have worked to develop more than \$11 million in unrestricted funds, which will enable us to solidify our operations and meet our financial obligations. Our current strategic planning process and forthcoming recommendations from the faculty and provost regarding an exciting academic restructuring further support our forward momentum. Additionally, our enrollment numbers are trending in the right direction, and our fundraising efforts are bearing fruit.

Do we have to do anything in light of this new designation?

Every 10 years, institutions need to be re-accredited. Our next accreditation has been slated for 2027 already, but it will now include a comprehensive evaluation by HLC no later than April 2027. This new designation also requires that we insert the word "probation" wherever we note our accreditation online, in print materials, and in any communications.

Are more cuts on the horizon?

No, we cannot cut our way to success. Rather, we are continuing to examine ways to increase investments in our mission-driven experience and life-changing education.

If I do feel the need to leave, will my credits transfer?

What credits are accepted is solely dependent on the school a student plans to transfer to, but, in general, this new status from HLC should not affect the ability to transfer credits.

Will I be accepted into graduate school?

Generations of Wittenberg graduates have pursued their master's degree and/or doctorate successfully. This status will not affect admittance to future graduate programs.

What does this mean for my professor or coach?

While it is natural for people to take on new endeavors throughout their careers, we do not foresee this new status changing the way our professors or coaches teach and engage daily with our students.