

**Public Disclosure
Bacone College
Designation: Financial Distress
Effective: June 28, 2023**

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has assigned a Financial Distress designation to Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma, based on the institution being placed on Heightened Cash Monitoring 2 (HCM2) by the U.S. Department of Education and related information.

A Financial Distress designation is a consumer protection mechanism meant to apprise the public that current conditions at an accredited college or university raise serious concerns about its resource base to support its educational programs per HLC's Criteria for Accreditation, including Core Component 5.B. HLC does not undertake any independent evaluation of the institution in advance of assigning a designation.

Bacone College remains accredited while it pursues efforts to remedy concerns that have led to the designation.

What the Financial Distress designation Means for Students

In most cases, colleges and universities will continue to accept the college's credits for transfer and admission to other higher degree programs and institutions. As all colleges and universities define their own transfer credit and admission policies, students interested in other institutions are advised to seek information on individual transfer and admission policies.

Next Steps

The institution will host a Focused Visit no later than November 2023 on various HLC requirements, including Core Component 5.B, and HLC anticipates the designation will remain in place until the Focused Visit process concludes. Following action on the Focused Visit by an appropriate decision-making body, HLC will determine whether the designation can be removed or if other action is necessary.

About the Higher Learning Commission

The Higher Learning Commission accredits approximately 1,000 colleges and universities throughout the United States. HLC is a private, nonprofit accrediting agency that 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.

Posted: June 29, 2023