Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of
KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE
Owensboro, Kentucky
Issued June 13, 2019, 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 Kentucky Wesleyan College. Information presented below is in accord with SACSCOC’s disclosure policy; staff of the Commission cannot comment further on questions specifically related to Kentucky Wesleyan College. The institution has reviewed this statement prior to public posting.

Action by SACSCOC Board of Trustees took place on June 13, 2019, and the institution’s next review is June 2020.

What is the accreditation status of Kentucky Wesleyan College? Kentucky Wesleyan College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges; however, the institution was denied reaffirmation, continued in accreditation, and continued on Warning for twelve (12) months after review of a monitoring report regarding financial matters. SACSCOC 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 it mean to be denied reaffirmation, continued in accreditation, and continued on Warning? A Warning imposed by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees at the time of an institution’s comprehensive decennial review follows a determination of significant non-compliance with the Core Requirements or Standards of the Principles of Accreditation—the accreditation standards of SACSCOC; failure to make timely and significant progress toward correcting the deficiencies that led to the findings of non-compliance; or failure to comply with SACSCOC policies and procedures. The maximum total time during one monitoring period that an institution may be on Warning is two years. In June 2020, Kentucky Wesleyan College will have been on Warning for two years. For additional information about sanctions, see SACSCOC’s policy entitled “Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership.”

Why was Kentucky Wesleyan College denied reaffirmation, continued in accreditation, and continued on Warning? Kentucky Wesleyan College was denied reaffirmation, continued in accreditation, and continued on Warning because the SACSCOC Board of Trustees determined that it had failed to demonstrate compliance with Core Requirement 4.1.b (Governing board characteristics), Core Requirement 13.1 (Financial resources) as well as Standards 13.3 (Financial responsibility), 13.4 (Control of finances), and 13.6 (Federal and state responsibilities) of the Principles of Accreditation. A Special Committee was not authorized to visit the institution. These standards expect an institution (1) to have a governing board of at least five members that exercises fiduciary oversight of the institution; (2) to have sound financial resources and a demonstrated, stable financial base to support the mission of the institution, and the scope of its programs and services; (3) to manage its financial resources in a responsible manner; (4) to exercise appropriate control over all its financial resources; and (5) that an institution (a) is in compliance with its program responsibilities under Title IV of the most recent Higher Education Act as amended, and (b) audits financial aid programs as required by federal and state regulations. (To read the full statements for the standards cited above, access the Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement.)

What will happen in June 2020? The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of Kentucky Wesleyan College following a review of a Monitoring Report submitted by the institution addressing the standards cited above for non-compliance. The Board will have the following options: (1) reaffirm accreditation and remove the institution from Warning without an additional report; (2) reaffirm accreditation and remove the institution from Warning and request a Fifth-Year Follow-Up Report; (3) deny reaffirmation, continue accreditation, place the institution on Probation, request a Monitoring Report, and authorize a Special Committee; and (4) remove the institution from membership for failure to comply with the Principles of Accreditation. Commission staff will not speculate on what decision might be made by the Board of Trustees in June 2020.

For additional information regarding SACSCOC’s accreditation process, access the Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement.