The following publicly available information is provided by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) concerning the accreditation of Wiley College. Information presented below is in accord with the SACSCOC disclosure policy; staff of SACSCOC cannot comment further on questions specifically related to Wiley College. The institution has reviewed this statement prior to public posting.

Action by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees took place on December 8, 2019, and the institution’s next review is December 2020.

What is the accreditation status of Wiley College? Wiley College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges; however, the institution was placed on Warning for twelve (12) months after review of the institution’s Referral Report following submission of the institution’s Fifth-Year Interim Report. A Special Committee was not authorized to visit the institution. 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 Warning mean? Warning is a public sanction imposed by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees following determination of significant non-compliance with the Core Requirements or Standards 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 policies and procedures. The maximum total time during a monitoring period that an institution may be on Warning is two years. In December 2020, Wiley College will have been on Warning for twelve (12) months. For additional information about sanctions, see SACSCOC’s policy entitled “Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership.”

Why was Wiley College placed on Warning? Wiley College was placed on Warning because the SACSCOC Board of Trustees determined that the institution failed to demonstrate compliance with Standard 5.4 (Qualified administrative/academic officers), Core Requirement 8.1 (Student achievement), Standard 10.7 (Policies for awarding credit), Core Requirement 13.1 (Financial resources), and Standard 13.3 (Financial responsibility) of the Principles of Accreditation. These Core Requirements and Standards expect an institution to (1) employ administrative and academic officers with appropriate experience and qualifications to lead the institution; (2) identify, evaluate, and publish goals and outcomes for student achievement appropriate to the institution’s mission, the nature of the students it serves, and the kinds of programs offered; (3) publish and implement policies for determining the amount and level of credit awarded for its courses, regardless of format or mode of delivery; (4) 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; and (5) manage its financial resources in a responsible manner. (To read the full statement for the standards cited above, access the Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement.)

What will happen in December 2020? The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of Wiley College 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) remove the institution from Warning and request a Fifth Year Follow-Up Report, (3) continue the institution on Warning, request a monitoring report, with or without authorizing a Special Committee visit; (4) place the institution on Probation, request a monitoring report, and authorize a Special Committee visit; and (5) 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 Board of Trustees in December 2020.

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