



**Transnational Association of Christian  
Colleges and Schools  
Accreditation Commission Meeting  
October 29-30, 2018**

Hyatt Regency DFW International Airport  
2334 International Parkway  
Dallas, TX 75261

**COMMISSION ACTIONS**

**CANDIDATE STATUS**

Candidate Status is granted to institutions that are in Basic Compliance with the TRACS Standards. Basic Compliance is the determination by the Accreditation Commission that an institution is in full compliance with all Standards related to the Institutional Eligibility Requirements (IERs) and has the ability to be in Substantive Compliance with all of the Accreditation Standards within the period of candidacy. Candidacy is for a period of up to five years. During that time, each institution must come into compliance with all TRACS Standards, conduct a Self-Study, host an Evaluation Team, and appear before the Accreditation Commission for Accredited Status by October 2023. To maintain Candidate Status, the institution must remain in compliance with all IER-related standards.

The following institutions were granted Candidate Status by the TRACS Accreditation Commission after completing a successful self-study and being evaluated by an on-site evaluation team:

**Gather 4 Him Bible College** (3021 West Clearwater Avenue, Kennewick, WA 99336)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Gather 4 Him Christian College Candidate status as a Category I institution approved to offer Associate degree programs. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2019, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

**Horizon University** (2040 S. Brea Canyon Road, Suite 100, Diamond Bar, CA 91765)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Horizon University Candidate status as a Category III institution approved to offer Bachelor's and Master's degree programs. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2019, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

**Paine College** (1235 Fifteenth Street, Augusta, GA 30901)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Paine College Candidate status as a Category II institution approved to offer Bachelor's degree programs. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2019, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

**Underwood University** (2855 Rolling Pin Lane, Suwanee, GA 30024)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Underwood University Candidate status as a Category III institution approved to offer Bachelor's and Master's degree programs. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2019, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

## **DEFERRAL OF CANDIDATE STATUS**

**Calvary Chapel University** (1771 East Palomar Street, Chula Vista, CA 91913)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to defer granting Candidate (pre-accredited) status to Calvary Chapel University (CCU). This action was taken due to the institution's inability to demonstrate compliance with specified TRACS Standards as well as a general lack of clarity regarding CCU's compliance with certain TRACS Accreditation Commission expectations. The Commission action of deferral requires that CCU submit a Progress Report addressing the remaining "In Process" Recommendations and Suggestions by February 15, 2019. Once it has been determined that CCU is able to demonstrate the appropriate level of compliance with the issues which led to the deferral, the institution will be able to re-appear before the Accreditation Commission for re-consideration of Candidate status.

## **ACCREDITED STATUS**

Accredited Status is granted to institutions that are in Substantive Compliance with the TRACS Standards. Substantive Compliance indicates that the Accreditation Commission has determined that an institution's level of compliance is sufficient to warrant accreditation and that the institution can come into full compliance with all the Accreditation Standards within a maximum of two years. Initial accreditation is for a period of five years. For Reaffirmation I, each institution must complete a successful self-study, host an on-site team evaluation, respond to the team recommendations, and appear before the Accreditation Commission by October 2023.

The following institutions were granted Accredited Status by the TRACS Accreditation Commission after completing a successful self-study and being evaluated by an on-site evaluation team:

**Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary and Bible School** (3134 E. Medicine Lake Boulevard, Plymouth, MN 55441)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary and Bible School Accredited status as a Category III institution approved to offer Diplomas and Master's degree programs. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2019, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

**California Graduate School of Theology** (11277 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92843)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant California Graduate School of Theology Accredited status as a Category IV institution approved to offer Certificates and Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degree programs. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2019, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

**Sierra States University** (1818 S. Western Ave. #304, Los Angeles, CA 90006)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Sierra States University Accredited status as a Category IV institution approved to offer Associate, Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degree programs. The institution has satisfied all recommendations, and no further reports are due at this time.

## **REAFFIRMATION**

Reaffirmation is granted to institutions that are in *Substantive Compliance* with the TRACS Standards. *Substantive Compliance* indicates that the Accreditation Commission has determined that an institution's level of compliance is sufficient to warrant accreditation and that the institution can come into full compliance with all the Accreditation Standards within a maximum of two years. Reaffirmation is for a period of ten years with an Interim Fifth Year Review (IFYR). For the next Reaffirmation cycle, the institution must complete a successful self-study, host an on-site team evaluation, respond to the team recommendations, and appear before the Accreditation Commission by October 2028.

The following institutions were granted Reaffirmation by the TRACS Accreditation Commission after completing a successful self-study and being evaluated by an on-site evaluation team:

**Hiwassee College** (225 Hiwassee College Drive, Madisonville, TN 37354)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Hiwassee College Reaffirmation I status as a Category II institution approved to offer Associate and Bachelor's degree programs, including Distance Education. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2019, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

**Ivy Christian College** (9401 Mathy Drive, Suite 380, Fairfax, VA 22031)

At the meeting on October 30, 2018, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Ivy Christian College Reaffirmation I status as a Category II institution approved to offer Certificates and Associate and Bachelor's degree programs, including Distance Education. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2019, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

## **REMOVAL OF ADVERSE ACTION**

**Boston Baptist College** (950 Metropolitan Avenue, Boston, MA 02136)

At the October 29-30, 2018, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to remove Boston Baptist College from Probation after determining that the institution has demonstrated financial stability and compliance with TRACS Standards 17.1 (an Institutional Eligibility Requirement) and 17.5.

## **STANDARD AND POLICY REVIEW**

At the October 29-30, 2018, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission approved changes to TRACS policies for distribution to TRACS member institutions for a 30-day comment period.

The Commission also gave final approval for changes to the following policies:

- *Board Policy 102 – Definitions*
- *Board Policy 311 – Annual Dues (new policy)*

## **SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES APPROVED BY THE ACCREDITATION COMMISSION**

At the October 29-30, 2018, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission approved the following substantive changes:

**Elim Bible Institute and College** (7245 College Street, Lima, NY 14485)

- *To add Distance Education*

**Reformed University** (1724 Atkinson Road, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043)

- *To add an MBA program*

Trinity Baptist College (800 Hammond Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32221)

- *To add an Associate of Science in Law Enforcement*
- *To add a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice*

Visible Music College (200 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN 38103)

- *To add certificate, bachelor's, and master's degree programs in Creative Leadership*
- *To add a certificate in Full Stack Web Development*

## **INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES REVIEWED BY THE ACCREDITATION COMMISSION**

At the October 29-30, 2018, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission reviewed the following institutional changes, previously approved by TRACS:

Apex School of Theology (1701 T. W. Alexander Drive, Durham, NC 27703)

- *To close the Columbus, GA teaching site*

Beulah Heights University (892 Berne Street SE, Atlanta, GA 30316)

- *To add an extension site within 30 miles of the main campus at 4851 River Road, Ellenwood, GA 30294*
- *To add an extension site within 30 miles of the main campus at 400 Technology Court, Smyrna, GA 30082*

Kernel University (3319 W. Lincoln Ave. #102, Anaheim, CA 92801)

- *To relocate the institution to 905 South Euclid Street, Fullerton, CA 92832*

Messenger College (400 South Industrial Blvd., Suite 300, Euless, TX 76039)

- *To relocate the institution to 2705 Brown Trail, Bedford, TX 76021*

Oikos University (7850 Edgewater Drive, Oakland, CA 94621)

- *To relocate the institution to 7901 Oakport Street, Suite 3000, Oakland, CA 94621*

Reformed University (1724 Atkinson Road, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043)

- *To add a teaching site at the following location: 128 Bangchuk-gil, Aewol-eup, Aewol, 63039, Jeju-do, South Korea*

Shorter College (604 Locust Street, North Little Rock, AR 72114)

- *To add a teaching site at the following location (in conjunction with participation in the Second Chance Pell program): Arkansas Community Corrections (NEACCC), 1351 Cyro Road, P.O. Box 487, Osceola, AR 72370*
- *To add a teaching site at the following location (in conjunction with participation in the Second Chance Pell program): Arkansas Community Corrections, 4823 West 7th Street, Little Rock, AR 72205*
- *To add a teaching site at the following location (in conjunction with participation in the Second Chance Pell program): Northwest Arkansas Community Correction Center, 114 North College Avenue, Fayetteville, AR 72701*

Southern Evangelical Seminary (3000 Tilley Morris Road, Matthews, NC 28105)

- *To relocate the institution to: 15015 Lancaster Highway, Charlotte, NC 28277*

Virginia Baptist College (4105 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22407)

- *To change the name of the institution to "Veritas Baptist College"*
- *To change the location of the institution to 181 US 50 E, Suite 204, Greendale, IN 47025*