STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

SAINT FRANCIS UNIVERSITY
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www.francis.edu

Chief Executive Officer: Fr. Gabriel J. Zeis, T.O.R, President

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Enrollment (Headcount): 1695 Undergraduate; 650 Graduate
Control: Private (Non-Profit)
Affiliation: Religious- Roman Catholic Church
Carnegie Classification: Master's - Larger Programs
Degrees Offered: Postsecondary Certificate (>=1 year, < 2 years), Associate's, Bachelor's, Postbaccalaureate Certificate, Master's, Doctor's - Professional Practice (Doctor of Physical Therapy);
Distance Education Programs: Fully Approved

Accreditors Recognized by U.S. Secretary of Education: American Occupational Therapy Association, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education; American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education; Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Other Accreditors: Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc.; Council on Social Work Education; International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education; Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing; Pennsylvania State Department of Education for approved programs in Teacher Education

Instructional Locations

Branch Campuses: None

Additional Locations: Altoona Career Technology Center, Altoona, PA; Bedford County Technical Center, Hollidaysburg, PA; Bellwood Antis High School, Bellwood, PA; Bishop McCort Catholic High School, Johnstown, PA; Dixon University Center, Harrisburg, PA; Greater Johnstown Area Vo-Tech, Johnstown, PA; Joseph and Elizabeth Shaw Public Library, Clearfield, PA; Juniata Valley High School, Alexandria, PA; Northern Cambria High School, Northern Cambria, PA; Somerset Area School District, Somerset, PA; South Hills School of Business and Technology, State College, PA; Tussey Mountain School District, Saxton, PA
Other Instructional Sites: Altoona Area High School, Altoona, PA; Bishop Carroll High School, Ebensburg, PA; Bishop Guilfoyle High School, Altoona, PA; Blacklick Valley School District, Nanty Glo, PA; Blair County Head Start, Altoona, PA; California Area High School, Coal Center, PA; Cambria County Head Start, Johnstown, PA; Cambria Heights High School, Patton, PA; Cambria Rowe Business College, Johnstown, PA; Central Cambria School District, Ebensburg, PA; Central Martinsburg School District, Martinsburg, PA; Chartiers Houston High School, Houston, PA; Claysburg Kimmel High School, Claysburg, PA; Concurrent Technologies Corporation, Johnstown, PA; Conemaugh Township High School, Davidsville, PA; Conemaugh Valley School District, Johnstown, PA; Derry Area High School, Derry, PA; DuBois Central Catholic, Dubois, PA; Ferndale Area High School, Johnstown, PA; Forest Hills High School, Sidman, PA; Greater Latrobe High School, Latrobe, PA; Holidausburg Area High School, Hollidaysburg, PA; Ligonier Valley High School, Ligonier, PA; Memorial Medical Center, Johnstown, PA; Mercer Area High School, Mercer, PA; Moshannon Valley High School, Houtzdale, PA; Northern Bedford High School, Loysburg, PA; Penn Cambria School District, Cresson, PA; Purchase Line High School, Commodore, PA; Richland Area High School, Johnstown, PA; Saint Francis University in Ambialet, Ambialet, France, France; Saint Francis University in Parma, Parma, Italy, Italy, Serra Catholic High School, McKeesport, PA; Shanksville Stoney Creek High School, Friedens, PA; Sheetz Corporate Complex, Altoona, PA; South Hills School of Business and Technology, Altoona, PA; St. Mary's Area High School, Saint Mary's, PA; State College Area High School, State College, PA; Tyrone Area School District, Tyrone, PA; United High School, Armagh, PA; Washington High School, Washington, PA; Westmont Hilltop High School, Johnstown, PA

ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

Status: Member since 1939

Last Reaffirmed: November 17, 2011

Most Recent Commission Action:

November 21, 2013: To accept the progress report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

Brief History Since Last Comprehensive Evaluation:

November 17, 2011: To accept the Periodic Review Report and to reaffirm accreditation. To request a monitoring report, due November 1, 2012, documenting evidence of (1) the development of appropriate criteria for the selection and evaluation of trustees and the president, and the completion and implementation of a more formal process for the evaluation of the president (Standard 4); (2) development and implementation of a comprehensive, organized, and sustained process for the assessment of institutional effectiveness and the use of assessment results to improve processes and programs (Standard 7); and (3) development and implementation of an organized and sustained assessment process that utilizes results to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. A small team visit may follow submission of the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

June 28, 2012:
To note the visit by the Commission's representative. To remind the institution of the monitoring report, due November 1, 2012, documenting evidence of (1) the development of appropriate criteria for the selection and evaluation of trustees and the president, and the completion and implementation of a more formal process for the evaluation of the president (Standard 4); (2) development and implementation of a comprehensive, organized, and sustained process for the assessment of institutional effectiveness and the use of assessment results to improve processes and programs (Standard 7); and (3) development and implementation of an organized and sustained assessment process that utilizes results to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). A small team visit may follow submission of the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

**August 27, 2012:** To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request. To re-classify the following instructional sites as additional locations: (1) Northern Cambria High School, 813 35th Street, Northern Cambria, PA 15714; and (2) Juniata Valley High School, 7775 Juniata Valley Pike, P.O. Box 318, Alexandria, PA 16611. To include the additional location at Bishop McCort Catholic High School, 25 Osbourne Street, Johnstown, PA 15905 within the scope of the institution's accreditation. The Commission requires written notification within thirty days of the commencement of operations at the additional locations. In the event that operations at the additional locations do not commence within one calendar year from the approval of this action, approval will lapse.

**August 27, 2012:** To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request and to include the online Master of Health Science degree program within the scope of the institution's accreditation.

**August 27, 2012:** To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request; to note the institution's decision to close the following additional locations: (1) Mt. Union High School, 706 N. Shaver Street, Mt. Union, PA 17066; (2) Hollidaysburg Area High School, North Montgomery Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648; and (3) East Side Elementary School, 220 Messenger Street, Johnstown, PA 15902; and to remove the additional locations from the scope of the institution's accreditation. To remind the institution of the monitoring report, due November 1, 2012, documenting evidence of (1) the development of appropriate criteria for the selection and evaluation of trustees and the president, and the completion and implementation of a more formal process for the evaluation of the president (Standard 4); (2) development and implementation of a comprehensive, organized, and sustained process for the assessment of institutional effectiveness and the use of assessment results to improve processes and programs (Standard 7); and (3) development and implementation of an organized and sustained assessment process that utilizes results to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). A small team visit may follow submission of the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

**March 7, 2013:** To accept the monitoring report. To request a progress report, due October 1, 2013, documenting further progress in the implementation of its recently developed institutional assessment plan and delineating how specific results
have been used to improve processes and programs (Standard 7) and to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

Next Self-Study Evaluation: 2015 - 2016

Next Periodic Review Report: 2021

Date Printed: May 5, 2014

DEFINITIONS

Branch Campus - A location of an institution that is geographically apart and independent of the main campus of the institution. The location is independent if the location: offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential; has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

Additional Location - A location, other than a branch campus, that is geographically apart from the main campus and at which the institution offers at least 50 percent of an educational program. ANYA ("Approved but Not Yet Active") indicates that the location is included within the scope of accreditation but has not yet begun to offer courses. This designation is removed after the Commission receives notification that courses have begun at this location.

Other Instructional Sites - A location, other than a branch campus or additional location, at which the institution offers one or more courses for credit.

Distance Education Programs - Fully Approved, Approved (one program approved) or Not Approved indicates whether or not the institution has been approved to offer diploma/certificate/degree programs via distance education (programs for which students could meet 50% or more of the requirements of the program by taking distance education courses). Per the Commission's Substantive Change policy, Commission approval of the first two Distance Education programs is required to be "Fully Approved." If only one program is approved by the Commission, the specific name of the program will be listed in parentheses after "Approved."

EXPLANATION OF COMMISSION ACTIONS

An institution's accreditation continues unless it is explicitly suspended or removed. In addition to reviewing the institution's accreditation status at least every 5 years, actions are taken for substantive changes (such as a new degree or geographic site, or a change of ownership) or when other events occur that require review for continued compliance. Any type of report or visit required by the Commission is reviewed and voted on by the Commission after it is completed.

In increasing order of seriousness, a report by an institution to the Commission may be accepted, acknowledged, or rejected.

Levels of Actions:

Grant or Re-Affirm Accreditation without follow-up

Defer a decision on initial accreditation: The institution shows promise but the evaluation team has identified issues of concern and recommends that the institution be given a specified time period to address those concerns.

Postpone a decision on (re)affirmation of) accreditation: The Commission has determined that there is insufficient information to substantiate institutional compliance with one or more standards.

Continue accreditation: A delay of up to one year may be granted to ensure a current and accurate representation of the institution or in the event of circumstances beyond the institution's control (natural disaster, U.S. State Department travel warnings, etc.)

Recommendations to be addressed in the next Periodic Review Report: Suggestions for improvement are given, but no follow-up is needed for compliance.

Supplemental Information Report: This is required when a decision is postponed and are intended only to allow the institution to provide further information, not to give the institution time to formulate plans or initiate remedial action.

Progress report: The Commission needs assurance that the institution is carrying out activities that were planned or were being implemented at the time of a report or on-site visit.

Monitoring report: There is a potential for the institution to become non-compliant with MSCHE standards; issues are more complex or more numerous; or issues require a substantive, detailed report. A visit may or may not be required.

Warning: The Commission acts to Warn an institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy when the institution is not in compliance with one or more Commission standards and a follow-up report, called a monitoring report, is required to demonstrate that the institution has made appropriate improvements to bring itself into compliance. Warning indicates that the Commission believes that, although the institution is out of compliance, the institution has the capacity to make appropriate improvements within a reasonable period of time and the institution has the capacity to sustain itself in the long term.

Probation: The Commission places an institution on Probation when, in the Commission’s judgment, the institution is not in compliance with one or more Commission standards and that the non-compliance is sufficiently serious, extensive, or acute that it raises concern about one or more of the following:

1. the adequacy of the education provided by the institution;
2. the institution’s capacity to make appropriate improvements in a timely fashion; or
3. the institution’s capacity to sustain itself in the long term.

Probation is often, but need not always be, preceded by an action of Warning or Postponement. If the Commission had previously postponed a decision or placed the institution on Warning, the Commission may place the institution on Probation if it determines that the institution has failed to address satisfactorily the Commission’s concerns in the prior action of postponement or warning regarding compliance with Commission standards. This action is accompanied by a request for a monitoring report, and a special visit follows. Probation may, but need not always, precede an action of Show Cause.

Suspend accreditation: Accreditation has been Continued for one year and an appropriate evaluation is not possible. This is a procedural action that would result in Removal of Accreditation if accreditation cannot be reaffirmed within the period of suspension.

Show cause why the institution’s accreditation should not be removed: The institution is required to present its case for accreditation by means of a substantive report and/or an on-site evaluation. A “Public Disclosure Statement” is issued by the Commission.

Remove accreditation: If the institution appeals this action, its accreditation remains in effect until the appeal is completed.

Other actions are described in the Commission policy, "Range of Commission Actions on Accreditation."