

December 18, 2020

Dr. Steve Cole
Chancellor
Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas
183 College Drive
De Queen, AR 71832

Dear Chancellor Cole:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas by the Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission at its meeting on December 14, 2020. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with HLC.

Action with Interim Monitoring. IAC continued the accreditation of Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation in 2029-30. Despite comprehensive review modifications associated with COVID-19, the institution's next Reaffirmation of Accreditation date remains aligned with the start date of the original comprehensive review in Spring 2020. In conjunction with this action, IAC required the following interim monitoring.

Interim Report: Interim report due May 31, 2022: a report that should demonstrate a comprehensive level of understanding of the co-curricular assessment process and how co-curricular activities for each program contributes to the students' learning experience and how data has been used to drive improvements; should include comprehensive reports of retention, persistence, and completion and a comprehensive understanding of the data and its use to inform the institution on its level of performance and identification of improvements; and outline how financial allocations align with the institutional strategic plans.

Embedded Report: Embedded monitoring in the Year 4 Assurance Review to include comprehensive reports of retention, persistence, and completion as they compare to established internal targets and external benchmarks. The reports should demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the data and include an analysis of the data that informs the institution on its level of performance and identification of improvements.

In taking this action, the IAC considered materials from the most recent evaluation and the institutional response (if applicable) to the evaluation findings.

Rationale: The IAC agrees with the determination that the 2022 Interim Report due 5/31/2022 over three designated areas is appropriate. However, it finds that the second Interim Report, seeking further follow up related to retention, persistence and completion and the analysis and use of those data to inform institutional performance, should instead be an embedded report as a special focus of the Year 4 comprehensive evaluation or Assurance Review which will occur in the same year, 2024.

In taking this action, the IAC considered materials from the most recent evaluation and the institutional response (if applicable) to the evaluation findings.

In early January, this action will be added to the *Institutional Status and Requirements (ISR) Report*, a resource for Accreditation Liaison Officers to review and manage information regarding the institution's accreditation relationship. Accreditation Liaison Officers may request the ISR Report on HLC's website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/isr-request>.

Within the next 30 days, HLC will also publish information about this action on its website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/Student-Resources/recent-actions.html>.

Please note: Revisions to HLC's Criteria for Accreditation will go into effect on September 1, 2020. Institutions will be evaluated against the revised Criteria for all reviews conducted after that date, including reviews related to previously assigned monitoring. Institutional reports submitted after September 1, 2020, that reference the Criteria should be written to the revised version. More information about the revised Criteria, including a crosswalk between the current and revised versions, is available on HLC's website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/criteria>.

If you have any questions about these documents after viewing them, please contact the institution's staff liaison Linnea Stenson. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Gellman-Danley".

Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

CC: ALO