

**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)**
<http://www.sacscoc.org>

**Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of
PRAIRIE VIEW A & M UNIVERSITY
Prairie View, Texas**

Issued December 9, 2018, 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 Prairie View A&M University. Information presented below is in accord with SACSCOC's disclosure policy; staff of the Commission cannot comment further on questions specifically related to Prairie View A&M University. The institution has reviewed this statement prior to public posting.

Action by SACSCOC's Board of Trustees took place on December 9, 2018, and the institution's next review is December 2019.

What is the accreditation status of Prairie View A&M University? Prairie View A&M University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges; however, the institution was continued in accreditation for Good Cause and placed on Probation for 12 months following the SACSCOC Board of Trustees' action on a Third Monitoring Report following action on a Referral Report in December 2016. Prior to the institution's next review by the Board of Trustees in December 2019, a Special Committee will conduct an on-site evaluation of its compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*—the accreditation standards of the Commission. 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 Probation status applies to the entire institution.

What does it mean to be continued in accreditation for Good Cause and placed on Probation? When an institution has exhausted its two-year monitoring period for complying with the SACSCOC *Principles of Accreditation*, instead of removing the institution's accreditation, the SACSCOC Board of Trustees can extend accreditation for Good Cause if (1) the institution has demonstrated significant recent accomplishments in addressing non-compliance, **and** (2) the institution has provided evidence which makes it reasonable for the Board to assume it will remedy all deficiencies within a 12-month period, **and** (3) the institution has provided assurance to the Board that it is not aware of any other reasons, other than those identified by the Board, why the institution cannot be continued for Good Cause. An institution must be placed on Probation when it is continued in membership for Good Cause beyond the maximum two-year monitoring period. Probation is the most serious public sanction imposed by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees short of loss of accreditation. The maximum consecutive time that an institution may be on Probation is two years. In December 2019, Prairie View A&M University will have been on Probation for Good Cause for one year. For additional information about sanctions, see SACSCOC's policy entitled "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership" that can be accessed at <http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/SanctionPolicy.pdf>.

Why was Prairie View A&M University continued in accreditation for Good Cause and placed on Probation? Prairie View A&M University was continued in accreditation for Good Cause and placed on Probation because the SACSCOC Board of Trustees determined that while the institution met the conditions for Good Cause, it had failed to demonstrate compliance with Standard 13.6 (Federal and state responsibilities) of the *Principles of Accreditation*. This standard expects an institution to demonstrate that it (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. In reviewing the institution's compliance with these program responsibilities under Title IV, SACSCOC relies on documentation forwarded to it by the U.S. Department of Education. (To read the full statements for the standards cited above, access the *Principles of Accreditation* at <http://www.sacscoc.org/principles.asp>.)

What will happen in December 2019? The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of Prairie View A&M University following review of a Fourth Monitoring Report submitted by the institution addressing the standard cited above for non-compliance, and the report of a Special Committee that will visit the institution in fall 2019. The Board will have the following options: (1) continue accreditation and remove the institution from Probation without an additional report; (2) continue accreditation for Good Cause, continue on Probation, request an additional Monitoring Report and authorize a Special Committee visit; or (3) 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 December 2019.

For additional information regarding SACSCOC's accreditation process, access the *Principles of Accreditation* (<http://www.sacscoc.org/principles.asp>).