

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

**Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of  
PAINE COLLEGE  
Augusta, Georgia  
Issued June 27, 2013, by SACS Commission on Colleges**

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

Action by the Board of Trustees of SACS Commission on Colleges took place on June 20, 2013, and the institution's next review is June 2014.

**What is the accreditation status of Paine College?** Paine College is accredited by SACS Commission on Colleges; however, the institution was continued on Warning for twelve months after review of a First Monitoring Report, financial statements, and a Special Committee Report. Prior to the institution's next review by the Commission in June 2014, a Special Committee will conduct an on-site evaluation of its compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*—the accreditation standards of the Commission. The Commission's accreditation includes all components of the institution—all programs, branch campuses, off-campus sites, and distance learning programs as reported to the Commission; thus, the Warning status applies to the entire institution.

**What does Warning mean?** Warning is a public sanction imposed by the Commission on Colleges following determination of significant non-compliance with the Core Requirements, Comprehensive Standards, or the Federal Requirements of the *Principles of Accreditation* of the Commission, failure to make timely and significant progress toward correcting the deficiencies that led to the finding of non-compliance, or failure to comply with Commission policies and procedures. The maximum total time during one monitoring period that an institution may be on Warning is two years. In June 2014, Paine College will have been on Warning for two years and it will also be at the end of its two-year monitoring report. For additional information about sanctions, see the Commission's policy entitled "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership" that can be accessed at <http://www.sacscoc.org/policies.asp>.

**Why was Paine College continued on Warning?** Paine College was continued on Warning because the SACSCOC Board of Trustees determined that the institution had failed to demonstrate compliance with Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial Resources), Comprehensive Standard 3.8.3 (Qualified staff), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of finances), and Comprehensive Standard 3.10.4 (Control of sponsored research/external funds), and Federal Requirement 4.7 (Title IV program responsibilities) of the *Principles of Accreditation*. These standards expect an institution to provide evidence that it (1) has a sufficient number of qualified staff in the area of library and other learning resources to accomplish the institution's mission; (2) has a sound financial base and a recent financial history demonstrating financial stability; (3) exercises control over all its financial resources; (4) maintains financial control over externally funded or sponsored research and programs; and (5) complies with its program responsibilities under Title IV. (To read full statements for the standards cited above, access the *Principles of Accreditation* at <http://www.sacscoc.org/principles.asp>.)

**What will happen in June 2014?** The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of Paine College following review of financial statements, a Second Monitoring Report addressing the standards cited above for non-compliance, and the report of a Special Committee that will visit the institution in spring 2014. The Board will have the following options: (1) remove the institution from Warning without an additional report or with a Fifth-Year Follow-Up Report; (2) continue accreditation for good cause, place the institution on Probation, authorize a Special Committee, and request an additional report; and (3) remove the institution from membership with the Commission on Colleges for failure to comply with the *Principles of Accreditation* or failure to meet the provisions of good cause. Commission staff will not speculate on what decision might be made by the Board of Trustees in June 2014.

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

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**Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of  
PAINE COLLEGE  
Augusta, Georgia  
Issued June 26, 2014, by SACS Commission on Colleges**

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

Action by the Board of Trustees of SACS Commission on Colleges took place on June 19, 2014, and the institution's next review is June 2015.

**What is the accreditation status of Paine College?** Paine College is accredited by SACS Commission on Colleges; however, the institution has been continued in accreditation for good cause and placed on Probation for 12 months after review of a Second Monitoring Report, financial statements, and a Special Committee Report. This review initially stemmed from financial information submitted to SACSCOC from the U.S. Department of Education. Prior to the institution's next review by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees in June 2015, a Special Committee will conduct an on-site evaluation of the institution's compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*—the accreditation standards of the Commission. The Commission's accreditation includes all components of the institution—all programs, branch campuses, off-campus sites, and distance learning programs as reported to the Commission; 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 *Principles of Accreditation* of SACS Commission on Colleges, 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 Commission to assume it will remedy all deficiencies within a twelve month period, **and** (3) the institution has provided assurance to the Commission that it is not aware of any other reasons, other than those identified by the Commission, 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. The maximum consecutive time that an institution may be on Probation is two years. In June 2015, Paine College will conclude 12 months on Probation. For additional information about sanctions, refer to the Commission's policy entitled "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership" that can be accessed at <http://www.sacscoc.org/policies.asp>.

**Why was Paine College continued in accreditation for good cause and placed on Probation?** Paine College was continued in accreditation for good cause and placed on Probation because it had exhausted its two-year monitoring period for complying with the *Principles*, and SACSCOC Board of Trustees determined that the institution did not demonstrate compliance with Core Requirement 2.2 (Governing board), Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial resources), Comprehensive Standard 3.2.2.2 (Governing board control: fiscal stability of the institution), Comprehensive Standard 3.2.2.3 (Governing board control: institutional policy), Comprehensive Standard 3.2.8 (Qualified administrative/academic officers), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of finances), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.4 (Control of sponsored research/external funds), Comprehensive Standard 3.11.2 (Institutional environment), and Federal Requirement 4.7 (Title IV program responsibilities) of the *Principles of Accreditation*. The cited standards expect an accredited institution to provide evidence that it (1) has a sound financial base and resources demonstrating financial stability and a recent financial history of financial stability, (2) has a Board that ensures adequate resources and is not controlled by the Board's minority, (3) clearly defines the legal authority and operating control within the institution's governance structure in the areas of fiscal stability and institutional policy, (4) has qualified administrative and academic officers, (5) exercises control over all its financial resources and its externally funded or sponsored research and program, and (6) complies with its program responsibilities under Title IV. (To read the full statement for the standard cited above, access the *Principles of Accreditation* at <http://www.sacscoc.org/principles.asp>.)

**What will happen in June 2015?** The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of Paine College following review of a Third Monitoring Report submitted by the institution addressing the standards cited above, and the report of a Special Committee that will visit the institution in spring 2015. The Board will have the following options: (1) remove the institution from Probation without an additional report or with a Fifth Year Follow-Up Report, (2) continue accreditation for good cause, continue Probation, request an additional report, and authorize a special committee visit, and (3) remove the institution from membership with SACS Commission on Colleges for failure to comply with the standards or failure to meet the provisions of good cause. Commission staff will not speculate on what decision might be made by the Commission's Board in June 2015.

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