

Helling, Mary

From: Kathy Bijak <kbijak@hlcommission.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 12:17 PM
To: Chicoine, David; Helling, Mary
Subject: Higher Learning Commission - South Dakota State University Confirmation of Open Pathway

Dear President and Accreditation Liaison Officer,

Thank you for declaring your institution's choice of the Open Pathway. This e-mail confirms that your institution is now participating in the Open Pathway as its process for reaffirmation of accreditation.

Within four months of the date of this e-mail, your institution's Statement of Affiliation Status (SAS) will have been updated to reflect the activities related to the Open Pathway accrediting process. The SAS will include any dates for interim reports or visits that had been previously scheduled. If there is any change related to monitoring, you will receive a separate letter explaining that change.

We encourage you to download and review the [Open Pathway booklet](#). Also available on the Commission website is a [document](#) that explains the Quality Initiative proposal process and provides sample forms.

Institutions scheduled for reaffirmation of accreditation in 2015-16, 2016-2017, or 2017-2018 should have received the link to the actual template early this summer. Please contact the Commission at the email below if you did not receive this link. Other institutions will receive the template prior to reaching Year 5 on the ten-year Open Pathway cycle. See the transition charts in the Open Pathway booklet to determine when this will occur for your institution.

If you have questions about any aspect of the transition to the Open Pathway, feel free to contact your Commission staff liaison or email pathways@hlcommission.org. We look forward to your smooth transition to the new Pathways model.

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

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April 5, 2012

President David L. Chicoine
South Dakota State University
Box 2201, AD 222
Brookings, SD 57007-2298

Dear President Chicoine:

This letter serves as formal notification and record of action taken concerning South Dakota State University by the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) of the Higher Learning Commission at its meeting on March 22, 2012.

Action. The IAC voted to affirm the recommendation that your institution may select the Open, AQIP, or Standard Pathway for reaffirmation of accreditation when the Commission transitions to Pathways September 1, 2012.

Information on the Open, AQIP, and Standard Pathways is available on the Commission's Web page, www.ncahlc.org. No response or action on your part is required or can be accepted at this time with regard to the Pathway election. In July, the Commission will inform you of the next steps in the transition and will request at that time that your institution declare the Pathway it intends to pursue.

The Commission does not make public the Pathway determination or selection. Institutions' Pathway designations will not appear on the SAS or OP.

If you have questions about your transition to Pathways, please write or call John A. Taylor. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you and your associates for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Manning
President