



New England Commission of Higher Education

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NOTICE RE: ACCREDITATION STATUS OF BAY STATE COLLEGE

On March 17, 2023, the New England Commission of Higher Education received notice from the Appeals Panel that its decision made on January 12, 2023 to withdraw accreditation from Bay State College as of August 31, 2023 has been affirmed. The decision to withdraw accreditation is now final.

In a letter dated May 16, 2022, the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) notified Bay State College that it was being placed on probation for failing to meet two of its nine standards, Standard 3 (*Organization and Governance*) and Standard 7 (*Institutional Resources*). It also issued a public Notation that the College was at risk of failing to meet two other standards, Standard 5 (*Students*) and Standard 6 (*Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship*). The College was again before the Commission in June, 2022 and also in August, 2022 when the Commission continued it on probation and affirmed the Notation. A team of evaluators visited the College for three days in November, 2022, and the report of that team was before the Commission for consideration on January 12, 2023 for the College to show cause why its accreditation should not be withdrawn. At its meeting on January 12, the Commission voted to withdraw Bay State College's accreditation as of August 31, 2023. This date was set to allow as many current students as possible to complete their degree without interruption. The basis for the decision to withdraw accreditation is that the College failed to meet its burden of proof that it would come into compliance with Standard 7 by the end of the probationary period. The standard on *Institutional Resources* requires the institution to demonstrate it "has sufficient human, financial, information, physical, and technological resources and capacity to support its mission;" that its "resources are sufficient to sustain the quality of its educational program and to support institutional improvement now and in the foreseeable future;" and to demonstrate "its financial capacity to graduate its entering class."

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