

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

**Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of
SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY
Saint Leo, Florida
Issued December 5, 2023, 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 Saint Leo University. Information presented below is in accord with SACSCOC's disclosure policy; SACSCOC staff cannot comment further on questions specifically related to Saint Leo University. The institution has reviewed this statement prior to public posting.

Action by SACSCOC Board of Trustees took place on December 3, 2023, and the institution's next review is December 2024.

What is the accreditation status of Saint Leo University? Saint Leo 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. SACSCOC accreditation includes all components of the institution—all programs, branch campuses, off-campus sites, and distance education 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? Saint Leo University had been on monitoring for two (2) years and the maximum consecutive time for a monitoring period is two (2) years. Saint Leo University was at the end of its two-year monitoring period, however, 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. Probation is the most serious public sanction imposed by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees short of loss of accreditation. In December 2024, Saint Leo University will have been on Probation for Good Cause for one (1) year. For additional information about sanctions, see the SACSCOC policy entitled "[Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation and Removal from Membership](#)".

Why was Saint Leo University continued in accreditation for Good Cause and placed on Probation? Saint Leo University was continued in accreditation for Good Cause and placed on Probation because the SACSCOC Board of Trustees determined that the institution failed to demonstrate compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*, namely, Standard 13.3 (*Financial responsibility*). A Special Committee was authorized to visit the institution. This standard expects an institution to manage its financial resources in a responsible manner. (To read the full statements for the standard cited above, access the [Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement](#).)

What will happen in December 2024? The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will consider the accreditation status of Saint Leo University following a review of a monitoring report submitted by the institution addressing the standards cited above for non-compliance. The Board will have the following options: (1) remove the institution from Probation without an additional report; (2) Recommend removal from sanction and request a Follow-Up Report at the time of submission of the Fifth-Year Interim Report (only if applicable and if institution complies with all standards at the time); (3) continue accreditation, continue on Probation for Good Cause, request a monitoring report, and authorize a Special Committee visit the institution; or (4) remove the institution from membership for failure to comply with the *Principles of Accreditation*. SACSCOC staff will not speculate on what decision might be made by the Board of Trustees in December 2024.

For additional information regarding SACSCOC's accreditation process, access the [Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement](#).)