

July 18, 2024

Mr. Gary Wilfert Chancellor Pathways College 2226 N. 7th Street, Suite 220 Phoenix, AZ 85006

## Dear Chancellor Wilfert:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Pathways College (Pathways) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting on June 28, 2024. At that meeting the Commission deferred action on the special visit pending receipt of additional information. This deferral of action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Special Visit to Pathways on February 29 – March 1, 2024, using the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by Pathways prior to the Special Visit. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues John Hall, Founder, and Daniella Baker, Chief Academic Officer/ALO. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations.

## **Actions**

- 1. Receive the Special Visit team report
- 2. Defer Action
- 3. Schedule a Progress Report to be submitted no later than August 8, 2024 to provide:
  - a. A copy of all notifications from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) related to Pathways' Initial Application for participation in Title IV Federal Assistance Programs and any responses from Pathways to ED. (CFRs 1.7, 2.13 and 3.4)
  - b. Certification of Pathways College's current status as a California non-profit public benefit corporation, or confirmation that this corporate status has been relinquished or withdrawn and the date of any change in status. (CFRs 1.1 and 1.8)
  - c. Formal documentation of the appointment of the current Chancellor, the date of the appointment, and the reason for the change. (CFR 3.8)
  - d. Evidence of specific plans for appointing or the actual appointment of a chief financial officer whose primary responsibility is to the college (CFRs 3.4 and 3.8)
  - e. Documentation of specific plans for developing the college's student services and support as enrollment increases. For example, Pathways has

indicated an anticipated increase in non-traditional and adult students. This may necessitate additional academic support services. Please submit any plans for responding to the needs and assuring the academic success of these and other students. (CFR 2.13)

## **Deferral of Action**

Deferral is not a final decision but allows the Commission to indicate to an institution the need for additional information or progress in one or more specified areas before the Commission will take action. Deferrals are granted for a maximum period of one year.

The Commission requires this Progress Report by August 8, 2024, to allow Pathways to provide more information relative to its compliance with Standard 1, specifically CFRs 1.1, 1.7 and 1.8; Standard 2, specifically CFR 2.13; and Standard 3, specifically CFRs 3.4 and 3.8 as noted above.

After reviewing the Progress Report, the Commission will determine the next appropriate action which may include a sanction, in the event it determines that the institution does not comply with WSCUC standards; Formal Notice of Concern, if it determines that the institution is in danger of being found out of compliance with one or more standards if current trends continue; or continuation to the next scheduled action, in each case with additional monitoring as warranted. In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of Pathways' governing board.

The Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the work that Pathways undertook in preparing for and supporting this accreditation review. WSCUC is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. Please contact me if you have any questions about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,

Jamienne S. Studley

President

JSS/thh

Cc: Tracy Poon Tambascia, Commission Chair

Daniella Baker, ALO

Frank Covaleskie, Board Chair

Members of the Accreditation Visit Team

Tamela Hawley, Vice President