



October 26, 2012

President Joe Schaffer
Laramie County Community College
1400 E. College Dr.
Cheyenne, WY 82007-3299

Dear President Schaffer:

This letter is formal notification of the action taken concerning Laramie County Community College by the Higher Learning Commission. At its meeting on October 22, 2012, the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) voted on the items below. This letter serves as the official record of this action, and the date of this action constitutes the effective date of your new status with the Commission. Included with this letter is information on the Commission's transition to the new Pathways model for reaffirmation of accreditation. Your institution has the option to remain in the AQIP Pathway or select the Open or Standard Pathway. You are asked to declare your pathway choice at this time.

Action. The IAC concurred with the evaluation findings and voted to continue the accreditation of Laramie County Community College with the next reaffirmation of accreditation in 2019-20.

If the current Commission action includes changes to your institution's *Statement of Affiliation Status (SAS)* or *Organizational Profile (OP)*, the changes will appear in these documents on the Commission's Web site by November 5, 2012. The *SAS* is a summary of your institution's ongoing relationship with the Commission. The *OP* is generated from data you provided in your most recent Institutional Update.

If you have questions about these documents after viewing them, please contact Dean Dube (ddube@hlcommission.org). Information about notifying the public of this action is found in Chapter 8.3-3 and 8.3-4 of the *Handbook of Accreditation, Third Edition*, available at <http://tinyurl.com/HLCchapter8>.

Please be aware of Commission policy on planned or proposed institutional changes that require Commission action before their initiation. You will find the Commission's change policy at ncahlc.org/information-for-institutions/institutional-change.html. If you have questions about how planned institutional changes might affect your relationship with the Commission, please write or call Jeffrey Rosen.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you and your associates for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sylvia Manning".

Sylvia Manning
President

Enclosure: Information on Selecting and Declaring a Pathway

INFORMATION ON PATHWAYS TRANSITION PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Information on Selecting and Declaring a Pathway for institutions that have the option to remain in AQIP or select the Open or Standard Pathway

On September 1, institutions accredited by the Higher Learning Commission will begin the transition to the new Pathways model for reaffirmation of accreditation. This message provides updated information about the transition process. Information on the new pathways model has been shared through previous emails, regional workshops last year, and the Annual Conference for the past three years. Resources on pathways are listed below.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

Your institution is currently in AQIP. You have the option to remain in AQIP or choose the Standard Pathway or the Open Pathway.

- Declare your pathway choice by **completing the [Declaration Form](#) and returning it to the Commission. You should complete the Declaration Form even if you elect to remain in AQIP.**
- The form is due within 90 days of the date on the Commission's letter that accompanied this document.

HOW TO CHOOSE THE PATHWAY

- Review the [Standard Pathway](#) and [Open Pathway](#) booklets. If the institution chooses one of these pathways, it will begin in Year One of the ten-year cycle.
- If the institution chooses to remain in AQIP, the timing of next events will remain the same, i.e., it will be placed in Year One of the seven-year AQIP cycle.

Note: For all Pathways, any currently required monitoring (reports and focused evaluations) will be reviewed in the context of the chosen pathway.

- Review the section on Rules and Timing after the September 2012 Initial Transition on page two of the document, "[Moving between Pathways.](#)"
- [Audio-recordings and slide presentations](#) on pathways from the 2012 Annual Conference are also available for review.
- Choose the pathway that best fits your institution by completing the [Declaration Form](#).

For those institutions that select the Open Pathway, the Commission will send information on the Quality Initiative Proposal process upon receipt of the Declaration Form.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ON PATHWAYS

The Pathways procedures and systems are designed to be user-friendly. However, the Commission will announce a series of optional webinars and online videos to support the Standard and Open Pathways in the near future.

All institutions in the Standard and Open Pathways will use the Commission's online **Assurance System** to upload and link evidentiary materials to their Assurance Arguments, which make the case for how the institution meets the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation. Institutions will gain access to the Assurance System in fall 2013. Live training webinars will be available for institutions during the month in which they are granted access to the Assurance System and recorded versions will remain available "on-demand" along with other online help systems after that time. The schedule of webinars will be posted on the Commission's website in the near future. The Commission will also provide opportunities for hands-on experiences at the Annual Conference, April 5-9, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions about any aspect of the transition to Pathways, 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.

The Higher Learning Commission

cc: Accreditation Liaison Officer