



FORM

Institutional Response Form

Institution: Lake Superior State University **Institutional ID:** 1337

Evaluation Type: Standard Pathway, Comprehensive Evaluation: Visit to include embedded change request to offer the Master of Business Administration. Comprehensive visit to include Federal Compliance reviewer.

Date: 01/03/2017

Printed Name of President or Chancellor*: Dr. Thomas Pleger

Phone: (906) 635-2202 **Email:** tpleger@lssu.edu

Signature of President or Chancellor:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas Pleger", is written over a grey rectangular background.

(*HLC expects the response from the President, Chancellor, or chief executive officer if a different title is used.)

Instructions for Submitting Response

1. This form, and an additional written response if you choose to include one, must be submitted electronically on the following webpage: http://www.hlcommission.org/document_upload/.
2. If you choose to write an additional written response, it should be in the form of a letter to the Institutional Actions Council, should not exceed five pages, and must be sent electronically with this form within the two-week timeframe.

If a response is not received within the two weeks, HLC will conclude that the institution concurs with the accreditation recommendation.

General Questions

Please indicate ONE:

- The institution concurs with the accreditation recommendations and chooses not to submit a further response.
- The institution concurs with the accreditation recommendations and has enclosed a written response (please return with this form).
- The institution does not concur with the accreditation recommendations and chooses not to submit a further response.

- The institution does not concur with the accreditation recommendations and has enclosed a written response (please return with this form).
- The institution does not concur with the accreditation recommendations and requests an in-person hearing in place of an Institutional Actions Council (IAC) meeting (see definitions below).

In-person hearings are restricted to specific types of evaluation recommendations by HLC policy. These are: reaffirmation of accreditation; biennial visits in candidacy; focused visits; and financial and non-financial indicator monitoring. All decisions regarding substantive change and staff recommended monitoring or changes to the Statement of Affiliation Status are not eligible for in-person hearings. *Pathways designations recommendations are not eligible for in-person hearings.* Contact your HLC staff liaison for more information. Fees for in-person hearings are found in the schedule of *HLC Dues and Fees* at hlc.commission.org/dues.

Definitions

Institutional Response. HLC expects a written response from the President or Chancellor of an institution (or chief executive by a different title) within two weeks of receipt of an accreditation report or reaffirmation recommendation and provides the attached response form for this purpose. The institution may choose to include an additional written response in the form of a letter from the President or Chancellor to the Institutional Actions Council. These additional written responses should not be longer than five pages and must be received electronically with this form within the two-week timeframe.

Institutional Actions Council (IAC). The IAC is composed of Board-appointed peer reviewers and public members. The First and Second Committees of IAC conduct electronically mediated meetings and in-person hearings to review and act on accreditation recommendations.

IAC Meeting. IAC meetings consist of five or more members of the First or Second Committee of IAC, who read the full materials of the evaluation, discuss the findings, and act on the accreditation recommendations. IAC committees may agree with the accreditation recommendations they review or offer differing recommendations or decisions. The meetings are electronically mediated and held eight or more times per year. The majority of accreditation recommendations are reviewed at an IAC meeting. Exceptions include recommendations that are required by policy to be reviewed at an in-person hearing and recommendations that institutions request be reviewed at an in-person hearing instead of an IAC meeting.

IAC Hearing. In some circumstances, an institution may request or may be required to attend an IAC Hearing. IAC Hearings consist of five or more members of the First or Second Committee of IAC, who read the full materials of the evaluation, discuss the findings, and act on the accreditation recommendations. Conducted three times per year, IAC Hearings are held in-person and require the presence of institutional staff, HLC staff and evaluation team representatives. There is a fee for requested hearings. An institution that is considering an IAC Hearing should consult with its HLC staff liaison for more information, as not all accreditation decisions are eligible for review and action at a hearing.

IAC First Committee. Members of the IAC First Committee conduct meetings and hearings to act on accreditation recommendations. The First Committee is the initial group to review an institution's case after an accreditation evaluation; the Committee may agree with the evaluation team's recommendation or it may offer a different recommendation or render a different decision.

IAC Second Committee. In some circumstances, institutions or HLC staff may request that the First Committee's decision be reviewed by the IAC Second Committee. Members of the Second Committee conduct meetings and hearings to act on accreditation recommendations forwarded on request or by policy after the action of the First Committee. The Second Committee may agree with the evaluation team's recommendation or First Committee's decision or it may offer a different recommendation or render a different decision. Institutions should consult with their HLC staff liaison for more information.



January 6, 2017

Institutional Actions Council
Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Institutional Response: Reaffirmation Review

Members of the IAC,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Lake Superior State University I want to express my appreciation to the members of the Peer Review Team which conducted our recent reaffirmation review. The visiting team was thorough and complete in their review, and their interactions on campus were productive and professional.

Lake Superior State University concurs with the accreditation recommendations presented in the Final Report. We reaffirm our commitment to student achievement and learning, and to the process of continued institutional improvement and excellence.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Pleger, Ph.D.
President

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