

X. Appeals of Actions by the Board of Commissioners

(cf. Bylaws of the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools, Section 2.14, Appeal of Accreditation Decisions)

- A. Unless otherwise specified, the time for requesting an appeal shall be within thirty days from receipt of the letter reporting the action of the Board of Commissioners. The request for an appeal shall be in writing.
- B. Regarding actions of the Board of Commissioners:
 - 1. If the institution believes that the action of the Board of Commissioners is unjust or based on erroneous information, the institution shall, either on its own initiative or at the invitation of the Board of Commissioners, first arrange to meet with at least three Commissioners to seek a mutually satisfactory resolution. The response of the Board of Commissioners to a written appeal, including relevant specifics, shall be communicated in writing.
 - 2. If, after such consultation, the institution believes the action of the Board of Commissioners still to be unjust or based on erroneous information, it shall have the right to appeal in writing within sixty days of the receipt of the written findings, to the Appeals Panel. Within 120 days after receiving the notice of appeal, accompanied by a consent and waiver to be bound by the provisions therein and hereof, the Appeals Panel shall arrange for a hearing to review the findings of the Board of Commissioners and the position of such Member. The Board of Commissioners and the moving party/parties shall have the right to representation in person and by counsel, if desired. The recommendation of the Appeals Panel, including relevant specifics, shall be made to the Board of Commissioners, which shall act on the recommendation. The decision of the Board of Commissioners shall be communicated in writing and shall be final and binding in accordance with the consent and waiver referenced herein (and as submitted concurrent with the appeal procedures).

COA PROCEDURES

XI. Complaints

The Commission has an obligation to the various publics it serves to give responsible consideration to complaints that may be made against any accredited school. The Board of Commissioners maintains policies and procedures for reviewing and responding to complaints. The complaint must be filed in writing, together with substantial documentation, as appropriate for the circumstance. The Board of Commissioners will determine if