

## Abstracted Summary of Final Actions

Pursuant to §602.26 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the present report abstracts from all final actions taken during April and May 2017 on behalf of The Commission on Accrediting of The Association of Theological Schools (COAATS). Documentation referenced below can be found in the following [compendium of accrediting documents](#).

At its teleconference meeting on May 3, 2017, a Reader Panel of the Board of Commissioners of COAATS voted on the below actions, which were subsequently ratified, as needed, by the full Board of Commissioners—with an effective date of **May 9, 2017**, unless otherwise noted.

### ACTIONS RELATED TO PETITIONS

#### Extension Site(s):

##### **Kentucky / Tennessee**

[Asbury Theological Seminary](#) - Wilmore, KY

The Board of Commissioners voted:

1. To grant approval to offer less than half of the following new degree programs at the Memphis extension site of Asbury Theological Seminary located at Christ United Methodist Church, 4488 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38117:

*Degree Program Standard B*

Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Counseling  
Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling  
Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling

*Degree Program Standard D*

Master of Arts (Biblical Studies)  
Master of Arts (Intercultural Studies)  
Master of Arts (Theological Studies)

[effective date for above action only: **May 3, 2017**]

2. To expand the exception to Educational Standard, sections ES.2.1.1 and ES.4.2.19, and Degree Program Standard A, section A.3.1.3, to include Degree Program Standard B, section B.3.1.3, in order that credits earned at this site may count toward the residency expectation of the Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Counseling, Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling, and the Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling degrees. This exception does not increase the amount of approved coursework at the site to 50 percent or more.

##### **Texas**

[Dallas Theological Seminary](#) - Dallas, TX

The Board of Commissioners voted:

1. To grant approval to expand the existing extension site located at WoodsEdge Community Church (25333 Gosling Rd., Spring, Texas 77389) from offering less than half to offering the complete degree for each of the following:

*Degree Program Standard B*

Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling  
Master of Arts in Christian Education  
Master of Arts in Christian Leadership  
Master of Arts in Cross-Cultural Ministries

*Degree Program Standard D*

Master of Arts (Christian Studies)

Master of Biblical and Theological Studies

*Degree Program Standard A & Degree Program Standard I*

Master of Theology

*(approved in January 1995 as a special nomenclature for the combined  
MDiv and ThM degrees)*

2. To exempt the site from a focused evaluation visit since it meets the exemption criteria described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual* (section III.A.1.e).

**New Degree(s):**

**Illinois**

[Northern Baptist Theological Seminary](#) - Lombard, IL

The Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Master of Arts in Urban Leadership (Degree Program Standard B, professional MA) degree program.

*Report prepared May 26, 2017*

**Christopher The, MAR, MDiv, PhD Candidate** | Director, Commission Information Services

**The Association of Theological Schools | The Commission on Accrediting**

10 Summit Park Drive | Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1110 | 412-788-6505, ext. 253 | [the@ats.edu](mailto:the@ats.edu) | [www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu)