

Abstracted Summary of Final Actions: May-June 2019

Pursuant to §602.26 of Title 34 of U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, this report abstracts substantive changes only from all final actions taken recently by The Commission on Accrediting of The Association of Theological Schools (COAATS). Canadian schools are not included in this report. References correspond to the [compendium of accrediting documents](#). Information on individual schools can be found by accessing our [member school list](#).

At its semiannual meeting June 3-4, 2019, in Pittsburgh, PA, the Board of Commissioners of COAATS voted on the below actions with an effective date of **June 4, 2019**, unless otherwise noted.

PERIOD OF ACCREDITATION

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary - Elkhart, IN

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts in Christian Formation
 - Master of Arts (Theology and Global Anabaptism)
 - Master of Arts (Theology and Peace Studies)
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary - Austin, TX

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts in Ministry Practice
 - Master of Arts in Youth Ministry
 - Master of Arts (Theological Studies)
 - Doctor of Ministry
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Beeson Divinity School of Samford University - Birmingham, AL

To approve the request to *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2022, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2023].

Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University - Fort Worth, TX

To approve the request to *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to spring 2022, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire July 31, 2022].

Chapman Seminary of Oakland City University - Oakland City, IN

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Chapman Seminary of Oakland City University for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in the spring 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Doctor of Ministry
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Christ the King Seminary - East Aurora, NY

To approve the request to *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to spring 2020, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on July 31, 2020].
[ATS Commission staff action (May 6, 2019) on behalf of the Board of Commissioners]

Columbia Biblical Seminary of Columbia International University - Columbia, SC

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Columbia Biblical Seminary of Columbia International University for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts in Biblical Exposition
 - Master of Arts in Care and Counseling
 - Master of Arts in Chaplaincy
 - Master of Arts in Ministry Studies
 - Master of Arts in Youth Ministry Leadership
 - Master of Arts (Missiological Studies)
 - Master of Arts (Theological Studies)
 - Doctor of Ministerial Leadership
3. To approve the following extension site(s):
 - The complete-degree site at the Academy for World Mission in Korntal, Germany [Akademie für Weltmission, Hindenburgstrasse 36, Korntal-Münchingen D-70825, Germany] as a complete degree-granting site for the Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministerial Leadership.

Dominican Study Center of the Caribbean* - Bayamon, PR

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Dominican Study Center of the Caribbean for a period of five years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2024, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2024.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts (Biblical Studies)
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None
**See notification of institutional name change below.*

Fuller Theological Seminary - Pasadena, CA

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Fuller Theological Seminary for a period of five years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2024, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2024.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts in Ministry Leadership
 - Master of Arts in Global Leadership
 - Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry
 - Master of Arts (Theology)
 - Master of Arts (Intercultural Studies)
 - Doctor of Intercultural Studies
 - Master of Theology
 - Doctor of Ministry
 - Doctor of Philosophy (Intercultural Studies)
 - Doctor of Philosophy (Theology)
3. To approve the following extension site(s):
 - The extension site at 10200 Richmond Ave., Ste. 170, Houston, TX 77042 as a complete degree-granting site for the Master of Divinity, MA in Theology and Ministry, MA (Theology), and MA (Intercultural Studies)

Kenrick-Glennon Seminary - St. Louis, MO

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary - Louisville, KY

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy
 - Master of Arts (Religion)
 - Doctor of Ministry
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Loyola University Chicago Institute of Pastoral Studies – Chicago, IL

1. To grant initial accreditation to Loyola University Chicago Institute of Pastoral Studies for a period of seven years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2026, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2026.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts in Christian Spirituality
 - Master of Arts in Counseling for Ministry
 - Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling
 - Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies
 - Master of Arts in Social Justice
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Oblate School of Theology - San Antonio, TX

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Oblate School of Theology for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry
 - Master of Arts (Theology)
 - Master of Arts (Spirituality)
 - Doctor of Ministry
 - Doctor of Philosophy (Spirituality)
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Oral Roberts University College of Theology and Ministry - Tulsa, OK

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Oral Roberts University College of Theology and Ministry [graduate department] for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
 - Master of Divinity
 - Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies
 - Master of Arts in Practical Theology
 - Master of Arts in Professional Counseling
 - Master of Arts (Biblical Literature)
 - Master of Arts (Theological and Historical Studies)

Doctor of Ministry
Doctor of Philosophy (Theology)

3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary - Weston, MA

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
Master of Divinity
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary - Grand Rapids, MI

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
Master of Divinity
Master of Arts (Religion)
Master of Theology
Doctor of Philosophy
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Reformed Episcopal Seminary - Blue Bell, PA

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Reformed Episcopal Seminary for a period of seven years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring of 2026, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2026.
2. To approve the following degree program:
Master of Divinity
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Saint Meinrad School of Theology - St. Meinrad, IN

June 2019 VOTED:

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of Saint Meinrad School of Theology for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires, July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
Master of Divinity
Master of Arts (Theology)
Master of Arts (Catholic Philosophical Studies)
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Seattle University School of Theology and Ministry - Seattle, WA

To approve the request to *postpone* the next comprehensive evaluation visit *to* fall 2021, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2022].

University of St. Thomas School of Theology - Houston, TX

1. To reaffirm the accreditation of University of St. Thomas School of Theology for a period of ten years, with the next comprehensive evaluation visit in spring 2029, one term before the period of accreditation expires on July 31, 2029.
2. To approve the following degree programs:
Master of Divinity
Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies
Master of Arts (Theological Studies)
3. To approve the following extension site(s): None

Westminster Theological Seminary - Philadelphia, PA

To approve the request to *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit *to* spring 2022, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on July 31, 2022].

[ATS Commission staff action (May 24, 2019) on behalf of the Board of Commissioners]

NEW/REVISED DEGREE

Calvin Theological Seminary - Grand Rapids, MI

To approve the Doctor of Ministry.

Catholic University of America School of Theology and Religious Studies – Washington, DC

To approve the Master of Arts (Catholic Clinical Ethics).

[Conditional approval by the Board in February 2019; staff confirmed contingency met 6/14/2019]

Central Baptist Theological Seminary - Shawnee, KS

To approve the Master of Arts in Counseling.

Iliff School of Theology - Denver, CO

To approve the Doctor of Ministry.

Northeastern Seminary at Roberts Wesleyan College - Rochester, NY

To approve the Master of Arts in Ministry Practice.

Northern Baptist Theological Seminary - Lisle, IL

To approve the Doctor of Theological Ministry.

Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University - St. Davids, PA

To approve the Master of Practical Theology.

Pontifical College Josephinum - Columbus, OH

To approve the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies.

Regent University School of Divinity - Virginia Beach, VA

To approve the Master of Arts (Apologetics and Cosmogony).

Seattle Pacific Seminary - Seattle, WA

To approve the Master of Arts in Worship and the Arts.

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary - Wake Forest, NC

To approve the Master of Arts in Church Revitalization.

St. Mary's Seminary and University - Baltimore, MD

To approve the Doctor of Ministry.

NEW/EXPANDING EXTENSION SITE TO OFFER AT LEAST HALF A DEGREE

Immaculate Conception Seminary of Seton Hall University - South Orange, NJ

1. To grant approval to offer the complete Master of Arts [MA] at a new, complete degree extension site located at 701 Lawrenceville Rd, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 [The Catholic Diocese of Trenton].
2. To authorize a focused visit within six months of the start of classes to determine if resources are available and appropriate to offer the complete Master of Arts degree at a new, complete degree extension site located at 701 Lawrenceville Rd, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary of Andrews University - Berrien Springs, MI

1. To grant approval to offer the complete Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry at a new, complete degree extension site located at 4747 NW 63rd St, Oklahoma City, OK 73132 [Oklahoma City Central Seventh-day Adventist Church].
2. To exempt the school from the focused visit requirement for extension sites offering more than half of a degree program, based on criteria listed in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, section III.A.1.

CLOSING/RELOCATING EXTENSION SITE OFFERING AT LEAST HALF A DEGREE

Bethel Seminary of Bethel University - St. Paul, MN

1. To approve the closing of the complete degree extension site located at Bethel Seminary San Diego (6116 Arosa St, San Diego, CA 92115), where the MDiv, MA in Mental Health Counseling, MA in Marital and Family Therapy, MA in Ministry, MA (Christian Thought), and MA (Theological Studies) are currently offered.

2. To approve the school's teach-out plan and teach-out agreement, since these meet the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

Denver Seminary – Denver, CO

To approve the reduction in scope (*from* offering the complete MA in Leadership *to* offering less than half of it) and the relocation of the school's Amarillo, TX extension (formerly: 6100 Soncy Rd, Amarillo, TX 79119) *to* 100 S Harrison St, Amarillo, TX 79101, effective August 19, 2019. All students at the former site will either relocate to the new site or complete their degree online [*ATS Commission staff action (May 6, 2019) on behalf of the Board of Commissioners*]

Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary of Fresno Pacific University - Fresno, CA

1. To approve the closing of the complete degree extension site located at 245 N. Plaza Drive, Visalia, CA 93291, where the MA in Marriage and Family Therapy is currently offered.
2. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

Neal T. Jones Seminary of Washington University of Virginia - Annandale, VA

1. To approve the closing of the complete degree extension site, effective August 15, 2019, that is located at 8950 Old Annapolis Rd #223, Columbia, MD 21045, where the MDiv and MA in Christian Counseling are currently offered.
2. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary - New Orleans, LA

1. To approve the closing of the complete degree extension site, effective December [1], 2019, that is located at 500 River Knoll Way, Columbus, GA 31904 (Wynbrook Baptist Church), where the MDiv is currently offered.
2. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

CHANGE OF GOVERNANCE, INSTITUTION NAME, OR MAIN CAMPUS LOCATION

Alliance Theological Seminary - Nyack, NY *to* New York, NY

To approve the relocation of the school's main campus *from* 350 N. Highland Avenue, Nyack, NY 10960 *to* 2 Washington Street, New York, NY 10004, effective January 1, 2020.

Dominican Study Center of the Caribbean* - Bayamon, PR

- *4. To acknowledge notification of an institutional name change, *from* DOMINICAN STUDY CENTER OF THE CARIBBEAN *to* GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY IN PUERTO RICO, ST. ALBERT THE GREAT.

Franciscan School of Theology - Oceanside, CA *to* San Diego, CA

1. To approve the relocation of the school's main campus *from* 4050 Mission Ave, Oceanside, CA 92057 *to* 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110 (University of San Diego), effective September 3, 2019. The school will maintain its current location until June 30, 2020, to allow some current students near graduation to complete their degrees there.
2. To authorize a focused evaluation visit to the new campus location within six months of the relocation (visit anticipated fall 2019).
3. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

International Theological Seminary - El Monte, CA *to* West Covina, CA

1. To approve the relocation of the school's main campus *from* 3215-3225 N Tyler Ave, El Monte, CA 91731 *to* 540 E Vine Ave, West Covina, CA 91790, effective July 1, 2019.
2. To authorize a focused evaluation visit to the new campus location within six months of the relocation (visit anticipated fall 2019).
3. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

San Francisco Theological Seminary - San Anselmo, CA

1. To approve the seminary's request for a change of ownership resulting from a merger with the University of Redlands, effective July 1, 2019.
2. To authorize a focused visit, in light of this change of ownership, to take place no later than January 1, 2020 [anticipated in late fall 2019]. The focused visit is to determine that the newly embedded seminary continues to meet all applicable Commission standards, including the extent to which this acquisition has enabled the seminary to achieve financial equilibrium.

Urshan Graduate School of Theology - Florissant, MO to Wentzville, MO

1. To approve the relocation of the school's main campus *from* 704 Howdershell Road, Florissant, MO 63031 *to* 1151 Century Link Dr., Wentzville, MO 63385, effective August 1, 2019.
2. To authorize a focused evaluation visit to the new campus location within six months of the relocation (visit anticipated fall 2019).
3. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

CONCERNING REMOVAL OF NOTATION

A *notation* is a warning, i.e., negative action, to denote that a school partially meets a given Standard, which it must fully meet within two years or face withdrawal of accreditation, i.e., adverse action. See Policies and Procedures, section VII.E.

Ecumenical Theological Seminary - Detroit, MI

1. To accept the report(s) required in June 2017 and due April 1, 2019, adequately documenting how the school has addressed the following notation(s): N8.b, "*The institution's financial resources are not adequate for long term institutional vitality and there is no credible plan to address this issue in a timely and effective manner,*" and N1.b, "*The institution's planning processes are insufficient or ineffective.*"
2. To remove Notation N8.b, "*The institution's financial resources are not adequate for long term institutional vitality and there is no credible plan to address this issue in a timely and effective manner.*"
3. To remove Notation N1.b, "*The institution's planning processes are insufficient or ineffective.*"
4. To require a follow-up report by November 1, 2020.

George W. Truett Theological Seminary of Baylor University - Waco, TX

1. To accept the report(s) required in June 2017 and due April 1, 2019, adequately documenting how the school has addressed the following notation(s): N1.b, "*The institution's planning processes are insufficient or ineffective.*"
2. To remove Notation N1.b, "*The institution's planning processes are insufficient or ineffective.*"

CONCERNING IMPOSITION OF NOTATION

A *notation* is a warning, i.e., negative action, to denote that a school partially meets a given Standard, which it must fully meet within two years or face withdrawal of accreditation, i.e., adverse action. See Policies and Procedures, section VII.E.

Houston Graduate School of Theology - Houston, TX

1. To receive the report(s) required in June 2017 and due April 1, 2019, adequately documenting how the school has addressed the following notation(s): N8.b, "*The institution's financial resources are not adequate for long-term institutional vitality and there is no credible plan to address this issue in a timely and effective manner.*"
2. To *extend* for good cause for one year (*to* June 2020) Notation N8.b, "*The institution's financial resources are not adequate for long-term institutional vitality and there is no credible plan to address this issue in a timely and effective manner.*"
3. To require a report providing evidence for removal of this notation—initially imposed by vote of the Board in June 2017—no later than April 1, 2020, in order to be considered by the Board at its June 2020 meeting. The school is reminded that failure to adequately address the notation will result in an adverse action (withdrawal of accreditation) (Commission *Policies and Procedures*, VII.G.3).

Starr King School for the Ministry - Berkeley, CA

1. To *extend* for good cause for one year (*to* June 2020) Notation N8.b, "*The institution's financial*

resources are not adequate for long-term institutional vitality and there is no credible plan to address this issue in a timely and effective manner.”

2. To require a report providing evidence for removal of this notation—initially imposed by vote of the Board in June 2017—no later than April 1, 2020, in order to be considered by the Board at its June 2020 meeting. The school is reminded that failure to adequately address the notation will result in an adverse action (withdrawal of accreditation) (Commission *Policies and Procedures*, VII.G.3).

Report prepared June 26, 2019

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The Association of Theological Schools | The Commission on Accrediting

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