

Abstracted Summary of Final Actions: July–September 2024

Pursuant to §602.26 of Title 34 of U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, this report abstracts from all final actions taken recently by The Commission on Accrediting of The Association of Theological Schools (COAATS) concerning substantive changes only for schools in the US (Canadian schools are not included in this report). The membership of COAATS has adopted new [Standards of Accreditation](#) and [Policies and Procedures](#), effective July 1, 2020. Information on individual schools can be found by accessing our [member school list](#). Past abstracts can be found [here](#).

At its reader panel meeting conducted via videoconference on September 20, 2024, the Board of Commissioners of COAATS voted on the below actions with an effective date of **September 27, 2024**—unless otherwise noted..

SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE RELATED TO PERIOD OF ACCREDITATION

Missio Theological Seminary - Philadelphia, PA

To approve an additional one-semester *delay* – equaling one-year total delay – of the school's comprehensive visit (*from* fall 2024 *to* spring 2025) and to adjust the school's period of accreditation accordingly [i.e., to expire July 31, 2025].

SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE RELATED TO NEW DEGREE PROGRAM LEVEL

Reformed Theological Seminary - Jackson, MS

To approve the Master of Theology (ThM) degree program (see Standard 4.10-12).

Wake Forest University School of Divinity - Winston-Salem, NC

To approve the Master of Arts in Religion (MA in Religion), representing a substantive change at a new degree level (see Standards 4.6-9).

SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE RELATED TO DISTANCE (ONLINE) EDUCATION

M. Christopher White School of Divinity of Gardner-Webb University - Boiling Springs, NC

To grant approval for comprehensive distance education (half or more of any approved degree).

SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE RELATED TO ADDITIONAL LOCATION

Reformed Theological Seminary - Jackson, MS

1. To approve the relocation of the school's additional location at 1202 Dragon Street, Suite 104, Dallas, TX 75207, approved to offer complete master's-level degrees, about 17 miles to Town North Presbyterian Church (1776 North Plano Road, Richardson, TX 75081), as of October 1, 2024.
2. To approve the school's teach-out plan indicating that all students will relocate to the new location, since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in *Policies and Procedures*, III.L.2.
3. To exempt the new location from a focused evaluation visit since the school meets the three exemption criteria stated in *Policies and Procedures*, III.D.4.

Shepherds Theological Seminary - Cary, NC

1. To grant approval to expand the school's addition location at Emmanuel Baptist Church (7320 Steep Hollow Road, Bryan, TX 77808), presently approved to offer 24-49 percent of a degree, to offer 50-99 percent of a master's degree.
2. To authorize a focused visit within six months of this substantive change to verify that the location at Emmanuel Baptist Church (7320 Steep Hollow Road, Bryan, TX 77808) has the resources, facilities, and personnel described in the school's petition. The visit is to include review of an updated memorandum of agreement. (Visit anticipated: spring 2025)

Trinity Evangelical Divinity School - Deerfield, IL

1. To grant approval to close the school's additional location at 9010 SW 137th Avenue, Suite 101, Miami, FL 33186 (effective May 4, 2024).
2. To approve the school's teach-out plan, since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in *Policies and Procedures*, III.L.2.
3. To grant approval to close the school's additional location at 955 Rock Island Road, North Lauderdale, FL, 33068 (effective May 4, 2024).
4. To approve the school's teach-out plan, since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in *Policies and Procedures*, III.L.2.

ACTION TAKEN RELATED TO PUBLIC SANCTION (WARNING, PROBATION, OR SHOW CAUSE)

International Theological Seminary - West Covina, CA

1. To receive the school's teach-out plan required by the Board in February 2024.
2. To require a follow-up report by the 1st of November 2024, in which the school includes completion options for every affected student who would not be able to complete their programs and information on potential charges and fees for transferring students with concrete steps taken by the institution to minimize and/or offset those charges.

Seminario Evangélico de Puerto Rico - San Juan, PR

To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in *Policies and Procedures*, III.L.2.

Report prepared: September 30, 2024

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The Association of Theological Schools | The Commission on Accrediting

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