



ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR BUSINESS SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

July 18, 2025

Michael Davis
President
Fairmont State University
1201 Locust Avenue
Fairmont, WV, 26554, USA

Dear President Davis:

The Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Board of Commissioners met on April 3-4, 2025, and approved the business program reaffirmation for Fairmont State University. Congratulations!

Fairmont State University is conditionally accredited with the following Notes and Conditions:

Place a Note on Criterion 3.3. The business unit did not list trend data in Table 3.2 for each of the student and stakeholder segments. The data presented was only for alumni. An opportunity exists for the business unit to not only provide trend data for stakeholders, but to do so based upon programs and/or modalities, as appropriate. For example, the business unit recognized the need for more specific tracking based upon modality, but has not yet been able to collect and assess the data.

Place a Note on Criterion 3.4. While the business unit provided data on achieving alumni satisfaction goals, there is an opportunity for improvement to track other metrics that would show the business unit is listening and learning from its stakeholders and is in continuous improvement.

Place a Note on Criterion 4.3. The business unit has an opportunity to use Table 4.1 for all of their program outcomes and assessment findings. The PDF version did not provide needed information regarding the results and action plans to be taken for each measure that was assessed. Not having details about potential action plans can limit the business unit's ability to make data-driven decisions for both curricular and operational improvements.

Place a Note on Criterion 5.2.a.2. The business unit would benefit from having an appropriate mix of faculty teaching in each of its programs. One program, the healthcare management program, had the majority of instruction completed by only one faculty member. The use of adjuncts and/or guest speakers would aid students in the diversity of thought/perspectives.

Place a Note on Criterion 6.1.a. The business unit has an opportunity for improvement by ensuring that processes are properly followed regarding curriculum delivery and that students are taking the appropriate courses. It was revealed during the site visit that students may be assigned a graduate-level courses as a substitution for a

required undergraduate course. Some of the graduate-level courses have prerequisites that students have not met. Having students take courses that are not at the appropriate level could cause issues in the design, implementation, and future improvements of courses and the overarching curriculum.

Place a Condition on Criterion 7.1.a. The business unit has an opportunity to provide two data points on each accredited program and each program requesting accreditation. The business unit provided retention rates for a few programs, but not all programs. Graduation rates were listed as being shown, but were not present in the dashboard.

Place a Condition on Criterion 7.4.b. The business unit has an opportunity to provide evidence explaining how business operation processes are improved based on findings.

Place a Condition on Criterion 7.4.c. The business unit has an opportunity to provide evidence explaining how educational support processes are improved based on findings.

The business unit would benefit from using the Tables as prescribed by ACBSP to ensure information is being portrayed in a user-friendly and understandable manner.

Conditions and Notes indicate that either the Standard or Criteria is not fully met, and should be viewed as an opportunity to move your program to a higher level of excellence. It would be extremely rare that a school receive accreditation without these conditions or notes given ACBSP's Core Value of Continuous Improvement and Organizational Learning, that "Business schools and programs should pursue regular cycles of planning, execution, and evaluation of every process and system. Ongoing improvement of these processes and systems leads to ever higher quality and student/stakeholder satisfaction."

Progress on the Notes and Conditions must be reported in future reports. You are encouraged to work with Melanie Hicks on the removal of the Notes and Conditions. Commissioner Hicks may be contacted by phone at 434-592-3723, or by e-mail at mhicks@liberty.edu. You may also contact Lucie Depoo at ldepoo@acbsp.org.

You must provide a report on the Notes and Conditions on **2/15/2027**. Conditions must be removed by **2/15/2029**. Your first full Quality Assurance Report is due on **2/15/2029**. Your ten-year reaffirmation is due in **2035**.

ACBSP will inform the public of decisions on accreditation status made by the Boards of Commissioners by posting the accreditation decisions on the ACBSP Website. The decisions on accreditation status can be accessed from www.acbsp.org/?page=decisions and will appear as the following:

Fairmont State University (Fairmont, WV, USA)

If you have any comments concerning this notification, please let me know.

ACBSP encourages you to publicly announce that your business programs are accredited. In the next few weeks, we will be sending you, via e-mail, a sample ACBSP Press Release and ACBSP Logo files for publicizing your accreditation. As you prepare these materials, the following is your official ACBSP statement:

The following business programs at Fairmont State University are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs:

**BS Accounting
BS Business Administration
BS Healthcare Management
BS Information Systems
MBA
MS Healthcare Management**

For updates, visit the ACBSP website, www.acbsp.org.

Congratulations on maintaining such high-quality business programs.

Sincerely,



Steve Parscale, Ph.D.
Chief Accreditation Officer

Cc: Timothy Oxley, Interim Dean - College of Business & Aviation
Gina Fantasia, Professor of Business & Director of Accreditation