



30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400 | Chicago, IL 60602-2504 | 312-263-0456  
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Serving the common good by assuring and advancing the quality of higher learning

June 30, 2003

President Ronald L. Taylor  
DeVry University  
One Tower Lane, #1000  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Dear President Taylor:

This letter is formal notification of the action taken concerning DeVry University by the Higher Learning Commission. At its meeting on June 23, 2003, the Institutional Actions Council voted to continue the accreditation of DeVry University, and to adopt any new items entered on the attached Statement of Affiliation Status (SAS). The Commission Board of Trustees validated that action through its validation process concluded on June 30, 2003. The date on this letter constitutes the effective date of this new status with the Commission.

Although the University has worked to improve graduation rates since the 1997 focused visit, the materials of the evaluation visit demonstrated that retention and graduation rates remained ongoing challenges, causing the institution to lower its expectations for its graduation rate. The Readers recommended that the University address its retention and graduation rates at the same time that it provides its progress report on the implementation of the merger with the Keller Graduate School of Management. In light of the resulting growth in online delivery and new campuses, the intent of the report is to learn whether DeVry is meeting its adjusted expectations. I ask the University to explain its current goals for retention and graduation and to document its progress in meeting those goals. This addition to the required progress report is due on or before May 31, 2004.

Normally a new Record of Status and Scope (RSS) is attached to this letter. The RSS includes the SAS and the Statement of Institutional Scope and Activities (SISA). The SISA is generated from the database and includes specific information gleaned from your Annual Report as well as from the team. This year we are holding the annual report information gathered online until our database redesign is complete. The Annual Report was designed to link with the new database, not our current one. Therefore, instead of sending you a Record of Status and Scope that is not current, I choose only to send the SAS portion of it. As soon as the new database is finished and tested, I will forward your full Record of Status and Scope. It will summarize the relationship between the Commission and DeVry University. Modifications to it may require prior approval from the Commission, although several sections of the Statement of Institutional Scope and Activity can be modified through submission of the Annual Report. In the meantime, I highly recommend that if you have any questions about how planned institutional changes might affect your relationship with the Commission, you write or call Robert R. Appleson, your staff liaison.

**Changes in your institution that would require further Commission action prior to their initiation are found in Chapter 12 of *The Handbook of Accreditation, Second Edition* and on pages 42-46 of the March 2002, *Addendum to the Handbook*. The *Addendum* can be found on the Commission's website at [www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org](http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org) under the Information for Affiliated Institutions and Consultant Evaluators. Please review them with care.**

Information about informing the public of this action is found in Chapter 15 of the Commission's *Handbook*.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees I thank you and your associates for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Steven D. Crow  
Executive Director

Enclosure: Statement of Affiliation Status

cc: Evaluation Team Members  
Chair of the Board



## The Higher Learning Commission

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### DEVRY UNIVERSITY One Tower Lane, #1000 Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

#### *Statement of Affiliation Status*

*Status:* Accredited (2002\* - .)

*Highest degree awarded:* Master's.

*Most recent action:* June 30, 2003.

*Stipulations on affiliation status:* The institution may offer any degree program within the general field of business and management (including information systems) at the level of Master's or below. The institution may offer any degree program within the general fields of computer and engineering technology at the level of Bachelor's or below. The institution will notify the Commission of any new degree programs at the graduate level. The institution may offer any of its programs through onsite presentation, through distance delivery, or through a mixture of onsite presentation and distance delivery. The institution may open campuses and degree sites anywhere in the United States with prior notification to the Commission showing that appropriate state approvals have been obtained. International programs are limited to the programs in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

*New degree sites:* No prior Commission approval required for offering existing degree programs at new sites within the United States.

*Progress reports required:* 5/31/04; A report on the implementation of the merger into a single entity.

*Monitoring reports required:* None.

*Contingency reports required:* None.

*Other visits required:* None.

*Last comprehensive evaluation:* 2001-02.

*Next comprehensive evaluation:* 2011-12.

\* Note on date of accreditation: Accredited as a single entity on February 1, 2002. The result of a merger of DeVry Institutes, first accredited in 1981, and Keller Graduate School of Management, first accredited in 1977.