

September 12, 2024

Rev. Tiff Shuttlesworth, President  
Northpoint Bible College  
320 South Main Street  
Haverhill, MA 01835  
tiffshuttlesworth@me.com

Dear President Shuttlesworth:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. This letter is your official notification of ABHE Commission on Accreditation actions relative to Northpoint Bible College. The ABHE Commission on Accreditation reviewed your institution at its September 10, 2024 meeting and took the following action:

**Receive the Financial Progress Report submitted July 15, 2024, and additional financial information submitted on August 29, 2024, place Northpoint Bible College (MA) on probation, and continue accreditation in light of the Commission on Accreditation's judgment that the institution fails to comply with the ABHE Institutional Accreditation Standards listed below. Require that the Progress Report, due November 15, 2024, address the following concerns (in addition to those noted in the February 27, 2024 Action Letter):**

- **Standard 5, EE 2 (demonstrate with evidence financial stability, including adequate revenue streams to realize institutional mission and sufficient financial reserves to enable effective response to unforeseen financial circumstances and enrollment fluctuations)**
- **Standard 5, EE 5 (demonstrate with evidence adequate institutional resources, including financial resources to support mission, achieve educational goals, and ensure continuity of offerings)**

Probation is a negative, public action indicating that the COA has determined that the institution no longer complies with one or more of the Standards for Accreditation. The institution retains accredited status with ABHE during a period of probation, and will be subject to periodic monitoring, which may include progress reports and/or focused visits by COA staff or evaluation teams. Should the institution fail to correct the identified deficiencies within two years, the COA must take adverse action against the institution and remove its accreditation status. Where there is sufficient progress, the COA may grant a one-year extension of accreditation status for "good cause" to allow the institution to demonstrate substantial compliance with the Standards for Accreditation. An institution on probation for two years cannot be returned to warning.

Placement on probation may be appealed in accordance with the ABHE *Policy on Appeals* (provided below). Please note the grounds for appeal as stated in the policy. If an appeal is desired, formal notification of intent to appeal must be received in the Commission on Accreditation office no later than ten (10) days from receipt of this letter. Documentation for the appeal must be received in the Commission on Accreditation office no later than thirty (30) days from receipt of this letter. If a request for appeal is not received within ten days of receipt of this letter, the action then becomes final, and the institution will

receive a final action letter. **Public notification of an appealable action is not released until appeal options have been exhausted and the action is final.**

ABHE provides notification of final actions to the United States Department of Education, state, and provincial postsecondary education offices, and recognized accrediting agencies at the same time as final notification is provided to the institution. Within 24 hours of notifying the institution, the final action and rationale for the action will be posted to the ABHE website and appear on Accreditation Profile in the institution's directory listing at <https://abhe-dir.weaveeducation.com/>. A link to this action letter will also be available on the ABHE website. **Within seven (7) days after receiving final notification from the COA of a decision to place the institution on probation, the institution must publish notice of the action to its website. The prescribed language for that notification is found below:**

"The ABHE Commission on Accreditation has placed Northpoint Bible College (MA) on probation for failure to comply with the following accreditation standard(s).

[Statement of Standards and weaknesses as noted in the COA action letter]

"The institution retains accredited status with ABHE during this period of probation and will be subject to periodic monitoring, which may include progress reports and/or focused visits by Commission on Accreditation staff or evaluation teams. Should the institution fail to correct the identified deficiencies within two years, the Commission on Accreditation must take adverse action against the institution and remove its accreditation status. Where there is sufficient progress, the Commission on Accreditation may grant a one-year extension of accreditation status for "good cause" to allow the institution to demonstrate substantial compliance with the Standards for Accreditation.

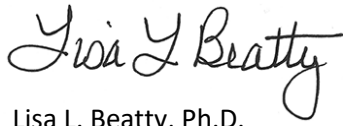
A teach-out plan, approved by the COA Substantive Change Officer or the appropriate COA committee, is required for institutions placed on probation. The institution will be required to submit a teach-out plan in accord with specifications in the *Policy on Teach-Out Plans and Teach-Out Agreements* within 60 days of the notice informing it of probationary status. If the institution already has an approved teach-out plan on file, a new plan is not required unless changes are necessary.

In addition to the report indicated above, the institution will be expected to send representatives to meet with the COA at the February 2025 meeting to respond to questions and provide clarifications regarding further progress in addressing the concerns. At that time, the COA will act to remove probation, continue probation, or impose another sanction, depending on the progress made in strengthening compliance with the ABHE Standards noted above.

The effective date of this action is September 10, 2024. Please see the Report Guide at [www.abhe.org/accreditation/accreditation-documents/](http://www.abhe.org/accreditation/accreditation-documents/) for assistance in formatting and submitting any reports required by the Commission.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions that arise regarding this communication. May God bless your continued engagement in biblical higher education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa L. Beatty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa L. Beatty, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Commission on Accreditation

cc: Rev. Robert Reeves, Board Chair, [pastorbob@rcalvary.org](mailto:pastorbob@rcalvary.org)  
Dr. Dan Howell, Accreditation Liaison, [dhowell@northpoint.edu](mailto:dhowell@northpoint.edu)