

## Distance Education Accrediting Commission

### Public Notice: Show Cause Directive

February 1, 2023

The DEAC Accrediting Commission provides written notice to the U.S. Secretary of Education, the appropriate state licensing or authorizing agencies and accrediting agencies at the same time it notifies the institution of a decision to direct an institution to show cause why accreditation should not be withdrawn. In addition, DEAC provides written notice to the public on its website of the decision within 24 hours of the decision and provides a brief statement summarizing the reasons for the decision. (Section XV., Processes and Procedures, DEAC *Accreditation Handbook*). At its January 20, 2023 meeting, the Commission voted to continue to direct the following institution to show cause why accreditation should not be withdrawn:

**Aspen University**  
**4615 East Elwood Street, Suite 100**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85040**

On January 20, 2023, the Commission met to review and evaluate the status of Aspen University's teach-out of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Pre-licensure (BSN) program, the institution's position with respect to the Arizona Board of Nursing (AZ-BON) and the Arizona Board of Private Post-secondary Education (AZPPSE), and the institution's ongoing compliance with DEAC accreditation standards.

The Commission expressed concern with respect to AU's ongoing compliance with DEAC Accreditation Standards III.D., V.A., X.B., XI.E., and DEAC Procedures under Part Two, Section XVII.E. **The Commission therefore voted to direct AU to show cause as to why its accreditation should not be withdrawn and to require AU to undergo a special visit by a team of DEAC evaluators.** The action letter communicating the Commission's decision is available [here](#).

AU is required to provide DEAC with a Teach Out Plan and Teach Out Agreement in accordance with Section XXI.C, Processes and Procedures, DEAC *Accreditation Handbook*.

AU remains accredited by DEAC while the Show Cause Directive is in effect.