

Statement from:



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HACC working to remove warning status from the
Middle States Commission on Higher Education**

HARRISBURG. – HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College, is moving forward on steps necessary for accreditation compliance by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

The steps the College has taken include:

- Completed a gap analysis to determine gaps between current status and systems, processes and evidence needed for compliance.
- Restructured the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.
- Engaged consultants to lead and manage the effort to remove the warning status.
- Acquired the software license for an assessment management system.
- Formed a task force to revise administrative procedures.
- Designed and implemented a software-based assessment management system.

“HACC has every expectation of resolving the areas of concern that resulted in the College being placed on warning status by Middle States and expects a complete turnaround by the Sept.1, 2013, deadline,” said John J. “Ski” Sygielski, Ed.D., president of HACC.

On Nov. 15, 2012, Middle States issued a warning to HACC regarding the College’s performance on three of the Commission’s 14 standards for accreditation. At that time, Sygielski said, the quality of HACC’s academic programs and courses is not at issue; rather, the warning addresses HACC’s “need to provide additional research and reports to demonstrate the high quality of the education the College provides.” HACC is still accredited and will remain accredited while on warning.

The College has a Sept. 1, 2013, deadline to submit a monitoring report to Middle States to prove that it has achieved compliance and can sustain compliance in the three standards.

For more information on the status of the HACC’s warning from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, please visit

<http://www.hacc.edu/AboutUs/InstitutionalEffectiveness/MiddleStates/index.cfm>.

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About HACC:

HACC, Central Pennsylvania’s Community College, was established in 1964 as the commonwealth’s first community college. HACC offers nearly 200 associate career and transfer degrees, certificate and diploma programs to nearly 22,000 credit students in a 10-county area with regional campuses in Harrisburg, Gettysburg, Lancaster, Lebanon and York, and an online Virtual Campus that reaches students on a global scale. In addition, HACC is Central Pennsylvania’s premier workforce development provider with thousands of students enrolled in areas such as job training, customized company contracts, public safety, healthcare, technology, trades and computer training. For more information, go to www.hacc.edu or call 1-800-ABC-HACC (1-800-222-4222).

About Middle States:

Per the Middle States website, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education is responsible for more than 525 accredited and candidate institutions, located in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and other locations abroad. The Commission accredits only degree-granting institutions, including colleges, universities, military academies and religious seminaries. The accreditation process is a voluntary, self-regulatory, peer review process. The Middle States Commission on Higher Education and its evaluators use information provided by candidate and

member institutions as a foundation for review of activities in conjunction with onsite interviews and data gathering in order to determine whether an institution meets the Commission's requirements of affiliation and standards for accreditation. For more information, go to <http://www.msche.org/>.

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