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Aviation Accreditation Board International February 13, 2025

SUMMARY OF RECENT ACTION

The Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI) is required to inform the public about its accreditation decisions. One of the ways AABI does this is to provide the public with information about the accreditation decision process, the nature and scope of AABI accreditation activity and the importance and value of accreditation. AABI also provides the public with detailed descriptions of its accreditation policies and procedures by publishing its Accreditation Criteria Manual (Form 201) and Policies & Procedures Manual (Form 225), along with all the AABI forms, on its website: <http://www.aabi.aero/forms.html> (Standard 2.A., October 4, 2021, *CHEA Standards and Procedures for Recognition*).

Special Appeal:

Vaughn College

Based on the recommendation of the Special Appeal Panel, the Board action was to grant accreditation for the Flight Education and Aviation Studies programs at Vaughn College for a period of one-year. If all the conditions outlined below are met, the remaining period of accreditation will be reinstated.

The Board accepted the institution's responses to Recommendations 1, 2, 9, and 11, as stated in the letter of July 31, 2024. The Board requires an Interim Report, due June 5, 2025, that provides a detailed plan and progress on how Vaughn College will comply with Recommendations 3-8, 10, and 12-15. The Board requires an additional interim report, due January 5, 2026, that provides acceptable evidence that Vaughn College has complied with recommendations 3-8, 10, and 12-15. Refer to the individual Recommendations below for specifics:

3. Provide evidence that the programs have achieved their program goals (AABI Criteria 5.4.2 and 5.5.2).

Provide evidence of how the program has achieved its program goals.

4. Report on the mechanisms used to gather industry and academic insights. The mechanisms used should be reported and clearly linked to programmatic decisions. Best practices should be developed and reported (AABI Criterion 3.2.3b).

Provide evidence that the institution reports on the mechanisms used to gather industry and academic insights. The mechanisms used should be reported and clearly linked to programmatic decisions.

5. Provide evidence that an assessment process is in place with reportable results demonstrating the achievement of program mission and educational goals by students and how the result of this assessment is used to improve the effectiveness of the program (AABI Criterion 3.2.3c).

Provide evidence that an assessment process is in place with reportable results demonstrating the achievement of program mission and education goals by students and how the results of this assessment are used to improve the effectiveness of the program.

6. Clear descriptions must be developed on how multilevel educational goals link to each other, starting with the institutional mission and moving to each component of the academic program (general education, core, and major) and how these are assessed by the program (AABI Criterion 3.3).

Provide clear descriptions on how the educational goals link to each other, starting with the institutional mission and moving to each component of the academic program (general education, core and major) and how these are assessed.

7. Assessment of student learning outcomes should become more explicit in linking each specific outcome to an assignment and assessment mechanism (AABI Criteria 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 and 5.0).

Provide evidence of assessment of student learning outcomes.

8. Provide evidence that the programs have achieved their program goals (AABI Criteria 5.4.2 and 5.5.2).

Provide evidence that the programs have achieved their program educational goals.

10. Provide a description of the committee and meeting structure specifying regular interchange of curricular requirements and suggestions between Vaughn and Heritage Flight Academy (AABI Criterion 5.5.3.E.2).

Provide a description of the committee and meeting structure specifying regular interchange of curricular requirements and suggestions between Vaughn College and Heritage Flight Academy.

12. Implement a verifiable formal aviation safety program that incorporates ALL SMS key components and incorporates students to be part of the Safety program. This must include a verifiable single approach to safety between all parties (AABI Criterion 3.8.1 and AABI Criterion 5.5.3.2).

Provide evidence that the institution has implemented a verifiable formal aviation safety program that incorporates ALL SMS key components and incorporates students to be part of the safety program. This MUST include evidence of the utilization of a verifiable single approach to safety between all parties.

13. Provide evidence that industry advice/input was used to develop and evaluate each program (AABI Criterion 3.9.1).

Provide evidence that industry advice/input was used to develop and evaluate each program.

14. A comprehensive assessment plan and process that includes all required areas including Students, Program Mission and Educational goals, Student Learning Outcomes, Curriculum, Faculty and Staff, Facilities Equipment and Services, Institutional Structure and Support, Aviation Safety Culture and Program, and Relations with Industry (AABI Criteria 3.10.1).

The institution must provide evidence of a comprehensive assessment plan and process that includes all required areas including Students; Program Mission and Educational Goals; Student Learning Outcomes; Curriculum; Faculty and Staff; Facilities, Equipment and Services; Institutional Structure and Support; Aviation Safety Culture and Program; and Relations with Industry.

15. The assessment plan must include Measurable goals for each of the areas in Criterion 3.10.1. Timelines, metrics and responsibilities for assessing the goals. Evidence, and how it is collected, archived, and analyzed to assess the goals. How the assessment results are used to improve program effectiveness (AABI Criterion 3.10.2).

Provide evidence that the assessment plan includes measurable goals for each of the areas in Criterion 3.10.1, including:

- Timelines, metrics, and responsibilities for assessing the goals;
- Evidence and how it is collected, archived, and analyzed to assess the goals; and
- How the assessment results are used to improve program effectiveness.

The Board also requires a special visit to be conducted in late October or early November, with the Visiting Team Report and Institutional Response due by January 5, 2026. The Board will take final action on Vaughn College's reaffirmation on February 19, 2026, in Jacksonville, Florida.