GLOBAL COMMISSION FOR THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION & QUALITY ASSURANCE, INC.

*Diverse Traditions. Shared Standards. Global Excellence.*

# ACCREDITATION STATUS

Accurate status, clear communication, and public trust

**An institution may publicly represent only the exact GCTEQA status that has been formally granted in writing and is currently in effect.**

## Core Rule

Application, eligibility screening, payment of fees, self-study, evaluation, or a pending review does not constitute accreditation. Public statements must be truthful, current, and consistent with the institution's official GCTEQA record.

## Official Status Categories

| Status | Public Meaning |
|---|---|
| Applicant | A formal application has been accepted for processing. Applicant status is not accreditation. |
| Under Review | The institution is participating in formal evaluation. Under-review status is not accreditation. |
| Accredited | GCTEQA has issued a formal decision granting accreditation for a defined scope and term. |
| Accredited with Monitoring | Accreditation is active, with specified monitoring, reporting, conditions, or corrective actions. |
| Probation / Show Cause | The institution remains under GCTEQA oversight but has significant compliance concerns requiring corrective action. |
| Suspended | Accreditation is temporarily restricted or inactive under policy. |
| Withdrawn | Accreditation has ended. The institution may not represent itself as currently accredited. |
| Expired | The accreditation term ended without renewal or authorized continuation. |
| Denied | GCTEQA did not grant accreditation. The institution may not imply accredited, approved, or equivalent status. |

## Accurate Public Statements

- Applicants should clearly state that applicant status is not accreditation.
- Institutions under review should state that review status does not guarantee accreditation.
- Accredited institutions should identify GCTEQA, current status, approved scope, and verification information when practical.
- An institution may not use terms such as candidate, candidacy, pre-accredited, or conditionally accredited unless GCTEQA has formally created and granted that status in writing.
- Accreditation may not be backdated or extended beyond the written term without formal authorization.

## Scope Matters

Accreditation applies only to the institution, locations, delivery methods, credential levels, divisions, or other scope identified in the written decision. Affiliates, branches, partners, franchises, or separate legal entities do not automatically receive coverage.

## Use of the GCTEQA Name, Seal, and Badge

- Only institutions with current written authorization may use accreditation marks.
- Applicant or under-review institutions may not display marks in a way that implies accreditation.
- Marks must be reproduced accurately and used only within the approved scope and active status.
- GCTEQA may require immediate removal of marks when status changes, expires, is suspended, or is withdrawn.

## Public Verification Controls

An accreditation certificate reflects the status stated on the certificate for the stated scope and term, but it does not override GCTEQA's current public record. If status changes after a certificate is issued, the current public record and most recent written decision control.

> **Accreditation status should always be verified against the current GCTEQA public record.**

**Required Clarification:** GCTEQA is an independent private accreditation and quality-assurance organization. GCTEQA accreditation does not itself establish governmental authorization, U.S. federal student financial-aid eligibility, professional licensure eligibility, guaranteed transfer of credit, or guaranteed acceptance of a credential.