

## **JOINT STATEMENT**

### ***New England Commission of Higher Education and Ben Franklin Institute of Technology***

At its meeting September 25, 2020, the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) voted to issue a Notation with respect to Ben Franklin Institute of Technology because the Commission found that the institution's accreditation may be in jeopardy if current conditions continue or worsen with respect to the Commission's standards on Institutional Resources.

An institution issued a Notation will be closely monitored by the Commission, including a focused evaluation within two years to assess the institution's success in addressing the identified concerns.

If the Commission finds the institution has successfully addressed the concerns, it will remove the Notation and specify further monitoring. If the Commission has reason to believe that the institution may or may not meet one or more Standards for Accreditation, the Commission will ask the institution to show cause why it should not be on probation or why its accreditation should not be withdrawn. If the Commission finds that the concerns have not been sufficiently addressed, the Commission may issue a continued Notation.

"We appreciate and acknowledge NECHE's thoughtful evaluation of Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology with respect to the Commission's Standard on Institutional Resources," said Jed Nosal, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at BFIT. "The College's Board and Senior Leadership are committed to finding a financially stable pathway forward for the Institute to continue its mission of serving as an affordable, accredited urban college for Greater Boston that is committed to student success and career readiness in technology fields. We are currently considering multiple options to innovate our way to a sustainable operating model that addresses short-term challenges and strengthens our long-term position. This includes utilizing resources from the sale of our campus at 41 Berkeley Street in Boston, which is set to close mid-2020, in the best ways possible to enable BFIT to continue serving the students it traditionally has. We will continue to keep NECHE and all of our constituents apprised as we establish plans that will carry us forward."

The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a reliable authority as to the quality of education. The Commission accredits 220 degree-granting institutions in the six New England states and eleven American-style institutions in other Ben Franklin Institute of Technology was first accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (now NECHE) in 2006. It is an affordable, urban college serving the Boston region with a commitment to student success and career readiness in technology fields.

Further information may be found at:

- New England Commission of Higher Education: <https://www.neche.org>
- Ben Franklin Institute of Technology: <https://www.bfit.edu>

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