

Accreditation **Frequently Asked Questions**

Is EBC accredited?

No, Eternity Bible College is not currently accredited, but EBC is currently pursuing accreditation. EBC is currently at a “pre-accredited” status known as Candidate status.

Which accreditation agency is EBC using?

EBC is pursuing accreditation through the Association for Biblical Higher Education (5850 T. G. Lee Blvd., Orlando, FL 32822; 407.207.0808). ABHE is a North American agency that is an officially recognized “national accrediting association” by the U.S. Department of Education and is an officially recognized “faith-based” accrediting agency by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.* For more information about ABHE visit their website at www.abhe.org. We chose ABHE because we believe they provide the best option for helping us to maintain high academic standards while also sharing our Christian faith.

*This information is taken from www.abhe.org.

Where is EBC in the accreditation process?

As of February, 2011, Eternity Bible College holds Candidate status with the Association for Biblical Higher Education. Candidate status is a pre-accredited status that shows that the school has made sufficient progress in the process where the commission on accreditation believes that they will meet the standards within another four years.

EBC was at Applicant status for four years – from February 2007 to 2011. This was a normal period of time to move through that stage of the process.

What are the biggest concerns to overcome as a student attending an unaccredited college?

The four biggest concerns to overcome are admission into Graduate School, transferring units, receiving state or Federal financial aid, and international student admission. See the following questions below for detailed information on each of these four concerns.

Will I be able to go to Graduate School if I have a Bachelor degree from EBC?

When it comes to decisions made by other schools (such as admission), it is important to recognize that these types of decisions are completely up to the staff of the other school, so no school can promise anything (including admission and transfer of units). To this point we have had graduates accepted to Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, Talbot School of Theology, The Master's Seminary, The Bethlehem Seminary, Azusa Pacific University, and A.W. Tozer Seminary.

We also work to build relationships with any graduate school that a student is interested in, and provide any information that a Graduate School may need to be able to accurately assess a graduate of EBC.

If I come to EBC and take some classes then decide to transfer to another college, would the units transfer?

In most cases, schools are more reluctant to accept transfer units from an unaccredited institution than they are to accept a graduate of an unaccredited institution into a graduate program. This is understandable because they are actually exempting students from part of their program (that is not the case if they are coming into a graduate program). To this point we know that credits earned at EBC have been accepted at Northwestern College (MN), Emmaus Bible College, and Prairie Bible College (Canada). We have a credit transfer agreement with both Northwestern College (MN) and Prairie Bible College.

Does EBC accept financial aid through FAFSA, student loans or a GI Bill?

Since we have recently been granted Candidate status, EBC is eligible to apply for Title IV funding (which includes Federal loans and grants) and for VA funding (GI Bill). We are carefully considering the pros and cons of this decision and will make that decision known when it is finalized. In the meantime, EBC's tuition is already very affordable without financial aid due to our many donors that subsidize it. For the tuition and fees of EBC go to: <http://www.eternitybiblecollege.com/future/tuition.html>.

Can EBC take International Students?

Currently EBC is unable to grant student visas to attend EBC on-site. International students have two options: they can either 1) get a visa / residence card for another reason to be here and study as part of that reason or 2) they can apply for our Distance Education program. The Distance Education program was designed in part to allow international students to stay in their home country and study through EBC without having to relocate to California. We believe this is a better option because it keeps students in their own churches and own context. Once we reach accreditation we may begin the process of applying for the ability to grant student visas.

Will my degree be "grandfathered" after EBC is accredited?

The concept of "grandfathering" a degree does not apply since accreditation applies to the school and not to a degree. If a student graduates from EBC prior to accreditation, they will graduate from an unaccredited institution. If they graduate after accreditation they will graduate from an accredited institution.

What happens if EBC gets accredited while I am still in school?

If a student is applying for another school, the registrar will ask or look to see if the school is accredited. If it is accredited at that time, then the conversation will usually end there. Sometimes they may look further to see the actual date of accreditation and compare that date to when the student was taking classes. However, since accreditation is a long process that requires continual improvement rather than just meeting a set of requirements, they should realize that the education offered in the years prior to receiving accredited status was comparable to that received after.

When will EBC be accredited?

We are unable to make any predictions or guarantees regarding future accreditation because that is up to ABHE to grant. We entered in **Applicant** status in February, 2007. A normal timeline with ABHE is to be granted **Candidate** status in 4 years and **Accredited** status in 8 years from Applicant status. In February, 2011 we were granted **Candidate** status. If we follow the 'typical' timeframe, we will be granted Accredited status in 2015.