Alabama Commission on Higher Education

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September 28, 2026

Lesley Reid, Ph.D.
Provost
The University of Alabama
PO Box 870114
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Dear Dr. Reid:

At its meeting on September 11, 2026, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education approved the following academic items for The University of Alabama:

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Organizational Leadership (CIP 52.0213)

NEW INSTRUCTIONAL UNIT:

- Establishment of a New Major Unit of Instruction: School of Data Science

SUBSTANTIVE MODIFICATIONS TO EXISTING PROGRAMS:

- Substantive Modification to establish the Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration (CIP 52.0101)
- Substantive Modification to establish the Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Statistics and Operations Management (CIP 52.1399)

In addition, the following information items were accepted by the Commission:

IMPLEMENTATION OF FOR-CREDIT NON-DEGREE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS:

- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Computation and Society (CIP 30.5202, Level 6)
- Post- Baccalaureate Certificate in Population Health Policy and Advocacy (CIP 51.2299, Level 6)

A record of these items is available on the Commission website for your reference: https://www.ache.edu/index.php/archived-agendas/ . For your convenience, we have enclosed the post-implementation conditions for the program that was approved at this meeting.

We look forward to working with you and your staff on matters related to Alabama higher education.

Sincerely,



Robin E. McGill, Ph.D.
Deputy Director for Academic Affairs

Enclosure

CC: Dr. Tonjanita Johnson
Dr. Chris Coleman
Dr. Chelsea Fancher
Ms. Shirrell Perryman
Ms. Kristan White

ALABAMA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Friday, September 11, 2026

DECISION ITEM: The University of Alabama, Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership (CIP 52.0213)

Staff Presenter: Dr. Robin McGill
Deputy Director for Academic Affairs

Staff Recommendation: That the Commission approve the proposed Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Organizational Leadership.

The program will have the implementation date and post-implementation conditions listed below:

Implementation Date: The proposed program will be implemented in Fall 2027. Based on Commission policy, the proposed program must be implemented by September 1, 2029, or Commission approval will expire. The institution must notify the Commission in writing when the program is implemented or if there is any delay in implementation.

The program will have the implementation date and post-implementation conditions listed below:

Post-Implementation Conditions:

1. That the annual average new enrollment headcount beginning 2028-29 will be at least 9.4, based on the Commission's "Operational Policy on the Approval of New Programs of Instruction and Requirements for Post-Implementation Monitoring" (Administrative Code §300-2-1-.04).

2. That the annual average number of graduates for the period 2028-29 through 2033-34 (six-year average) will be 7.5, based on the adopted graduation requirements as stated in the Code of Alabama 16-5-8(a)(2).

3. That information regarding an overall assessment of the program be provided, particularly as related to objectives stated in the proposal, also including data on related employment and/or pursuit of graduate study.

The University of Alabama (UA) will be required to phase out the program if any of the post-implementation conditions are not met. The institution must present documentation regarding the post-implementation conditions, as well as a general assessment of the program, in a report submitted to the Commission no later than September 1, 2034.

Background: The Code of Alabama, 16-5-8 (c) states that the governing boards of public institutions of higher education in this state and the campuses under their governance or supervision shall not undertake the establishment of a new unit or program of instruction for academic credit with state funds before submitting plans for the new unit or program to the Commission for its review, evaluation, and approval.