



Official Statement

The Santa Fe University of Art & Design Board of Directors, along with the university's ownership, is conducting a review and consideration of viable options for the future of SFUAD, with input from students, faculty, community and state leaders, and others. We have been and will continue to work alongside the City of Santa Fe to explore those suggestions and ideas, specifically new and innovative public-private partnerships to further the educational and arts mission of the campus.

While we continue this process, we also recognize that this is a critical time during the academic year. Our students need clarity and options to make the best informed decision about their future. Therefore, at this time, the Board has determined that due to the significant ongoing financial challenges, similar to the challenges that many small institutions are also facing both nationally and in the state, the university cannot continue to operate after the end of the 2017-2018 academic year. This was a very difficult decision.

As always, the steadfast commitment to our students' academic success remains our top priority. As such, the university will engage in a thoughtful, phased teach-out and transfer process leading up to the graduation of students who are eligible to complete their degrees by May 2018. To assist our students, we will have formal transfer arrangements with several accredited institutions. As we formalize transfer agreements with institutions, information will be posted at www.santafeuniversity.edu/transfer. Our on-site teach-out plan will be executed in strict compliance with accreditation and regulatory requirements, and subject to final approval by the Higher Learning Commission.¹

The SFUAD ownership, its Board and leadership recognize the importance of this institution, our employees, students and alumni, its mission and the campus facilities to the City of Santa Fe. For these reasons, over the course of the next several months, we will continue to seek solutions that focus in particular on the continuation of its mission and the campus facilities for the arts and educational purposes. We have received significant input from our own SFUAD community, elected officials, and other institutions in this regard and we are hopeful that many of the rich SFUAD traditions will continue in the future.

For more information, visit www.santafeuniversity.edu/transfer.

¹ This on-site teach-out plan has not yet been approved by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), and is not final until formal approval from HLC has been obtained. We are in close contact with HLC and will continue to provide updated information regarding approvals as available.