## TOPIC: authorization renewal for religious training institutions

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1. **SUMMARY**

This agenda item concerns renewal for several institutions currently authorized as Religious Training Institutions/Seminaries under the Degree Authorization Act.

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## BACKGROUND

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) has statutory responsibility for administration of Title 23, Article 2 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, commonly referred to as the Degree Authorization Act (DAA). The Act sets out the terms by which the Commission may authorize accredited private colleges and universities, out-of-state public colleges and universities, and seminaries and bible colleges to operate in Colorado.

Pursuant to statute and policy, all authorized institutions under the DAA must renew authorization periodically. The renewal period varies by the type of authorization that the institution holds from the CCHE. Seminaries and religious training institutions are required to apply for renewal of authorization every three years. To be considered for renewal of authorization, an institution must demonstrate that it continues to meet the minimum operating standards specified in statute and in CCHE policy, Section I, Part J, demonstrated through:

* An updated list of program offerings;
* Confirmation of non-profit status;
* Confirmation of property (real or personal) exemption pursuant to Colorado State Law;
* Updated contact information; and
* Submission of the required renewal fee.

**III Staff Analysis**

Based on review of required documentation submitted by institutions, staff recommends the following seminaries or religious training institutions for renewal of authorization until 2027:

* Central American Theological Seminary
* Manna University
* Patriot Bible University
* William Tennent School of Theology
* Yeshiva Torah Institute

1. **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Staff recommends approval of continued authorization of the Religious Training Institutions/Seminaries listed above.**

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

§23-2-103.3 C.R.S.

(II) A seminary or religious training institution that continues to meet the minimum operating standards specified in this section is presumed qualified for renewal of authorization, and the department shall recommend that the commission renew the institution's authorization for three additional years.