

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology 20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850 Chicago, IL 60606-3182 312.704.5300 www.jrcert.org

March 18, 2024

Rebecca Roloff, M.B.A. President St. Catherine University 2004 Randolph Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105

## RE: Program #0938 Previous Accreditation Status: 5 Years Most Recent Site Visit: 08/2023

Dear President Roloff:

After review of the requested progress report, the continuing accreditation status of the baccalaureate degree radiation therapy program, which includes a distance delivery option, sponsored by St. Catherine University was considered by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT). The JRCERT is the only agency recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE) for the accreditation of traditional and distance delivery educational programs in radiography, radiation therapy, magnetic resonance, and medical dosimetry. Specialized accreditation awarded by the JRCERT offers institutions significant value by providing peer evaluation and by assuring the public of quality professional education in the radiologic sciences. The program was evaluated according to the **Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Radiation Therapy (2021)**. The JRCERT took the following action:

## MAINTENANCE OF ACCREDITATION FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 10.100, this accreditation action is not subject to appeal.

The Committee based this decision on the program's non-compliance with **Standard Six** as identified in the JRCERT award letter of January 23, 2024.

**Objective 6.2** - The program analyzes and shares its program effectiveness data to facilitate ongoing program improvement. (Provide ongoing assurance that the program effectiveness data is shared with the communities of interest on an annual basis.)

**Objective 6.4** - The program analyzes and shares student learning outcome data to facilitate ongoing program improvement. (Provide ongoing assurance that the student learning outcomes contain detailed analysis and that the results are shared with communities of interest on an annual basis.)

**Objective 6.5** - The program periodically reevaluates its assessment process to assure continuous program improvement. (Provide assurance that the program's assessment plan, in its entirety, has been reevaluated.)

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As previously identified, this progress report is required by **January 17, 2025**. The progress report must be submitted via the JRCERT Accreditation Management Systems (AMS) and will be considered by the Board of Directors at the next available meeting after submission. Based on evaluation of the progress report, the Board of Directors will determine the appropriate accreditation action. An additional progress report may be required if the objectives are not adequately addressed.

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, the maximum compliance timeframe is 36 months. Based on the areas of non-compliance, the Board of Directors are maintaining the previously identified 24-month compliance timeframe. Therefore, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **January 16, 2026**.

As required by the USDE and consistent with the **maximum** compliance timeframes set forth in JRCERT Policy 11.400, when the JRCERT Board of Directors determines that a program has failed to document compliance with the **Standards** and has not satisfactorily addressed the identified deficiencies, the existing accreditation status will be withdrawn. Such involuntary withdrawal of accreditation is considered an adverse accreditation action. The JRCERT defines an adverse action as involuntary withdrawal of accreditation. Involuntary withdrawal of accreditation will generally, but not necessarily, occur after a Probationary Accreditation status has been awarded. The Board may take adverse action prior to the expiration of the maximum compliance timeframe. Probationary status, as well as an adverse accreditation action, requires written notification to the United States Secretary of Education, the appropriate State licensing or authorizing agency, appropriate institutional and/or other accrediting agencies, and the public.

As advised in the JRCERT award letter dated January 23, 2024, documentation of the program director and/or clinical coordinator's attendance at an Outcomes Assessment Workshop must be submitted no later than **January 16, 2025**. Program officials that have been mandated to attend JRCERT Seminars or Workshops can substitute workshop attendance by completing the corresponding approved JRCERT LINK courses; however, all required eLearning courses for substitution must be completed by the due date for seminar attendance.

The program is also advised that consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.600, the JRCERT reserves the right to conduct unannounced site visits of accredited programs. The sponsoring institution would be responsible for the expenses of any on-site evaluation.

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology Directors and staff wish you and the program faculty continued success in your efforts to provide a quality educational program. If we can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to contact the office.

Sincerely,

Tracy Herrmann, Ph.D., R.T.(R), FAEIRS Chair

TH/TBL/mc

copy: Program Director: Laura Jean Peterson, M.A.Ed., R.T.(R)(T) Dean: Sean Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., CMPC

The JRCERT promotes excellence in education and elevates the quality and safety of patient care through the accreditation of educational programs in radiography, radiation therapy, magnetic resonance, and medical dosimetry.