



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
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September 19, 2023

John R. Crooks, Ph.D.
Interim President
Eastern Gateway Community College
110 John Scott Highway
Steubenville, OH 43952

RE: Program #0274

Previous Accreditation Status: 3 Years
Most Recent Site Visit: 11/2021

Dear Dr. Crooks:

After review of the requested additional progress report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Eastern Gateway Community College was considered at the September 12, 2023 meeting of 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 Radiography (2021)**. The JRCERT took the following action:

PROBATION.

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 **Standards One and Six**:

Objective 1.7 - Lack of assurance that the sponsoring institution and program comply with the requirements to achieve and maintain JRCERT accreditation.

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, sponsors of radiologic sciences educational programs must be accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or equivalent. It is noted that the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) was to have conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the sponsoring institution no later than April 2023 and that the HLC Board is scheduled to take action at the November 2023 Commission meeting.

As previously identified in JRCERT award letter dated March 24, 2022, this progress report is required by **January 2, 2024**.

Objective 6.1 - Lack of assurance that the program maintains the following program effectiveness data: Five-year average credentialing examination pass rate of not less than 75 percent at first attempt within six months of graduation.

The program's current five-year (2019-2023) average credentialing examination pass rate at first attempt within six months of graduation is 72% (39/54).

Therefore, a progress report documenting compliance with **Objective 6.1** is required by **July 1, 2024**.

The program is advised that the progress report due January 2, 2024 outlining the action taken by the HLC may negatively affect the program's current accreditation award.

The progress reports 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 program's current 36-month compliance timeframe. Therefore, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **March 22, 2025**.

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 regional and/or other accrediting agencies, and the public.

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 10.700 (enclosed), the program must notify currently enrolled and accepted students, as well as the public via a website posting, of this status within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The program is required to submit a representative sample of such notification and list of recipients to the JRCERT no later than **October 19, 2023**.

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/JEM/LFW/jm
Enc.

copy: Program Director: Anna Marie Welshans, M.S.Ed., R.T.(R)
Interim Dean: Hamid Nawaz, M.D., M.B.A.
The Higher Learning Commission
Ohio Department of Higher Education
USDE
ARRT