



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
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www.jrcert.org

December 15, 2021

Thomas Leahy, J.D.
Interim President
Mercy College of Health Sciences
928 6th Ave
Des Moines, IA 50309

RE: Program #0444

Previous Accreditation Status: 8 Years
Most Recent Site Visit: 09/2017

Dear Mr. Leahy:

After review of the requested interim report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Mercy College of Health Sciences was considered at the December 14, 2021 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) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) 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:

REDUCTION OF ACCREDITATION TO 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:**

Objective 6.2 - The program analyzes and shares its program effectiveness data to facilitate ongoing program improvement.

Objective 6.4 - The program analyzes and shares student learning outcome data to facilitate ongoing program improvement.

The program is advised to provide students their radiation exposure data within 30 school days of receipt.

The program is also advised to provide students with the magnetic resonance safety orientation and screening prior to all clinical rotations.

The next site visit is tentatively scheduled for the First Quarter of 2023. The continuing accreditation materials will be forwarded to the program at a future date and will include a submission timetable.

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Based upon the decision of non-compliance, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **December 14, 2023**. 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.

The program is further advised to continue refinement of its assessment plan. Program officials are strongly encouraged to attend a JRCERT-sponsored Accreditation Seminar and/or Outcomes Assessment Workshop. A complete listing of dates and locations for all JRCERT-sponsored seminars and workshops are available at www.jrcert.org/Calendar.

The program is lastly 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 encourage you and the program faculty to continue your efforts in developing a quality educational program. If we can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to contact the office.

Sincerely,



Julia L. Lasley, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(T)
Chair

JLL/JEM/jm

copy: Program Director: Karen J. Norris, M.S., R.T.(R)
Associate Provost: Ryan Marr, Ph.D.