



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
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April 27, 2023

Forest E. Mahan, Ph.D.
President
Aiken Technical College
P.O. Drawer 696
Aiken, SC 29802

RE: Program #0505

Previous Accreditation Status: 5 Years

Most Recent Site Visit: 11/2022

Dear Dr. Mahan:

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) appreciated the opportunity to evaluate the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Aiken Technical College. 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 continuing accreditation status of the program was considered at the April 21, 2023 meeting of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The program was evaluated according to the **Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Radiography (2021)**. The JRCERT awards:

PROBATION.

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

The JRCERT, after reviewing the findings of the site visit team and the program's response to the report of findings, has determined that the program is in non-compliance with **Standards Five** and **Six**:

Objective 5.2 - Lack of assurance that the program assures each energized laboratory is in compliance with applicable state and/or federal radiation safety laws. (Provide recent certificates and/or documentation for each energized laboratory documenting compliance with state and/or federal radiation safety laws.)

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. (Provide the program's 2019-2023 credentialing examination data.)

The program's current five-year (2018-2022) average credentialing examination pass rate at first attempt within six months of graduation is 70% (39/56).

Objective 6.2 - Lack of assurance that the program analyzes and shares its program effectiveness data to facilitate ongoing program improvement. (Provide assurance the program fully analyzes and shares its program effectiveness data to facilitate ongoing program improvement, including but not limited to action plans for unmet benchmarks.)

Objective 6.4 - Lack of assurance that the program analyzes and shares student learning outcome data to facilitate ongoing program improvement. (Provide assurance the program fully analyzes and shares its student learning outcome data to facilitate ongoing program improvement.)

Therefore, a progress report documenting compliance with these objectives is required by **December 8, 2023**. The progress report must be submitted via the JRCERT Accreditation Management System (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 extending the program's current 24-month compliance timeframe to a 36-month compliance timeframe. Therefore, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **July 20, 2024**.

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.

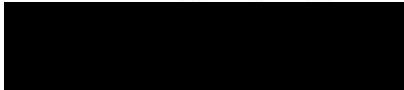
Probationary Accreditation is an accreditation category and, consistent with JRCERT Policy 10.100, this action is not subject to appeal. Consistent with JRCERT Policy 10.700 (enclosed), the program must notify currently enrolled and accepted students, as well as the public via a website posting, of this 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 **May 26, 2023**.

The program is 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.

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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/JAM/jm

copy: Acting Program Director: Crystal Lynn Burke, M.B.A., R.T.(R)(CT)
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