



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

January 23, 2024

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

RE: Program #0505

Previous Accreditation Status: Probation
Most Recent Site Visit: 11/2022

Dear Dr. Mahan:

After review of the requested progress report the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Aiken Technical College was considered at the January 16, 2024 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:

MAINTENANCE OF PROBATION.

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

The Committee based this decision on continuing concerns with the program's non-compliance with **Standard Six** and requests an additional progress report documenting compliance with the following objective:

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 2020-2024 credentialing examination data.)

The program's current five-year (2019-2023) average credentialing examination pass rate at first attempt within six months of graduation is 70% (39/56).

The additional progress report is required by **June 7, 2024**. 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.

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 36-month compliance timeframe. Therefore, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **July 20, 2024** or identify mitigating circumstances hindering the attainment of this outcome for consideration by the JRCERT Board of Directors.

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. Should the program's accreditation be withdrawn, pursuant to JRCERT Policy 10.700, the program is advised that graduates of the program after the effective date of withdrawal, would not be considered graduates of a JRCERT-accredited program. 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.

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 10.700 (enclosed), the program must notify currently enrolled and accepted students (this may be done via email), 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 **February 23, 2024**.

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 inspection.

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,



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

TH/JAM/jm
Enc.

copy: Program Director: Crystal Lynn Burke, M.B.A., R.T.(R)(CT)
 Dean: Brian Logan, D.C.
 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
 South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
 USDE
 ARRT