



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
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September 22, 2021

Joseph Cassidy, M.S.
President
Southern Maine Community College
2 Fort Road
South Portland, ME 04106

RE: Program #0319

Previous Accreditation Status: 8 Years

Most Recent Site Visit: 04/2017

Dear President Cassidy:

After review of the requested interim report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Southern Maine Community College was considered at the September 21, 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 **Standards Five and Six:**

Objective 5.3 - The program assures that students employ proper safety practices.

Objective 5.4 - The program assures that medical imaging procedures are performed under the appropriate supervision of a qualified radiographer.

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

The program is advised that it must have a systematic assessment plan that, at a minimum, contains two assessment tools per student learning outcome.

The next site visit is tentatively scheduled for the Fourth Quarter of 2022. 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 **September 21, 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 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 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: Program Director: Louise C. Ouellette M.S., R.T.(R)
Vice President and Dean: Paul Charpentier, Ph.D.