

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology 20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850 Chicago, IL 60606-3182 312.704.5300 ● (Fax) 312.704.5304 www.jrcert.org

July 27, 2022

Don King, M.S.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside
1 Shircliff Way
Jacksonville, FL 32204

RE: Program #2262

Previous Accreditation Status: 8 Years Most Recent Site Visit: 04/2022

Dear Mr. King:

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) conducted an unannounced site visit of the certificate radiography program sponsored by Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside. 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 July 22, 2022 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.

The Committee based this decision on areas of non-compliance with Standards One, Three, Four, and Six:

Objective 1.1 - Lack of assurance that the sponsoring institution and program provide students, faculty, and the public with policies, procedures, and relevant information. Policies and procedures must be fair, equitably applied, and readily available.

Objective 3.1 - Lack of assurance that the sponsoring institution provides an adequate number of faculty to meet all educational, accreditation, and administrative requirements.

Objective 3.2 - Lack of assurance that the sponsoring institution and program assure that all faculty and staff possess the academic and professional qualifications appropriate for their assignments.

Objective 3.3 - Lack of assurance that the sponsoring institution and program assure the responsibilities of faculty and clinical staff are delineated and performed.

The program is advised that after further review of the interim program director's curriculum vitae, the JRCERT Board of Directors has concerns that the Imaging Director is unable to fulfill the responsibilities of the radiography program director position. Therefore, a current curriculum vitae documenting compliance with **Standard Three - Objective 3.2**, documentation of current ARRT registration or an unrestricted state license, and documentation of a master's degree must be submitted in support of the appointment of a qualified individual as full-time program director no later than **September 1, 2022**.

Objective 4.2 - Lack of assurance that the program provides a well-structured curriculum that prepares students to practice in the professional discipline.

Objective 4.4 - Lack of assurance that the program provides timely, equitable, and educationally valid clinical experiences for all students.

Objective 4.7 - Lack of assurance that the program measures didactic, laboratory, and clinical courses in clock hours and/or credit hours through the use of a consistent formula.

The program is also advised to re-evaluate the formula utilized for credit hour calculations.

Objective 6.2 - Lack of assurance that the program analyzes and shares its program effectiveness data to facilitate ongoing program improvement.

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

Objective 6.5 - Lack of assurance that the program periodically reevaluates its assessment process to assure continuous program improvement.

Based on the unannounced site visit, the site visit scheduled for November 14-15, 2022 is no longer required. The program will be required to submit a new self-study report due **January 13, 2023**, with a tentative site visit the Second Quarter of 2023.

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 awarding a 24-month compliance timeframe. Therefore, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **July 22, 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.

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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 **August 26, 2022**.

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.500, the JRCERT has determined that the newly appointed program director and program faculty would benefit from a JRCERT-sponsored Accreditation Seminar and Outcomes Assessment Workshop. Documentation of the program director and program faculty's attendance at an Accreditation Seminar and Outcomes Assessment Workshop must be submitted no later than **September 1, 2023.** A complete listing of dates and locations for all JRCERT-sponsored seminars and workshops is available at www.jrcert.org/events.

The program is further 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,

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

JLL/LFW/jm Enc.

copy: Interim Program Director:

Jill H. Nelson, M.S., R.T.(R) Amer Beharic, M.B.A.

Vice President:

USDE ARRT