

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

July 27, 2023

Sidney E. Valentine, Ph.D. President Lamar Institute of Technology 855 East Lavaca Street Beaumont, TX 77710

## RE: Program #0156 Previous Accreditation Status: 8 Years Most Recent Site Visit: 02/2023

Dear Dr. Valentine:

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) appreciated the opportunity to evaluate the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Lamar Institute of Technology. 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 25, 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:

## ACCREDITATION FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

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

The maximum duration that may be awarded by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology in this category is eight years.

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 Four** and **Six**:

**Objective 4.4** - The program provides timely, equitable, and educationally valid clinical experiences for all students. (Provide assurance that the first-year computed tomography (CT) rotations are appropriate and educationally valid. Additionally, provide documentation that the sponsoring institution, Texas State University System, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board have approved the proposed curriculum changes.)

**Objective 6.4** - The program analyzes and shares student learning outcome data to facilitate ongoing program improvement. (Provide documentation that the program continues to document the full analysis of student learning outcome data, and that the data results are shared with the program's communities of interest.)

The JRCERT has concerns that the program's current clinical resources are insufficient to support the number of students enrolled; therefore, the program total capacity has been decreased to 60.

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Therefore, a progress report documenting compliance with these objectives is required by **June 21, 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. 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 noncompliance, 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 25**, **2025**.

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 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.

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.500, the JRCERT has determined that program officials would benefit from a JRCERTsponsored Outcomes Assessment Workshop. Documentation of the program director and/or clinical coordinator's attendance at an Outcomes Assessment Workshop must be submitted no later than **July 25, 2024**. A complete listing of dates and locations for all JRCERT-sponsored seminars and workshops is available at <u>www.jrcert.org/events</u>.

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.

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/TJE/jm

copy:	Program Director:	Brenda A. Barrow, M.Ed., R.T.(R)(CT)
	Department Chair:	Allen Welch, B.A.A.S.
	Site Visitors:	Tara W. Powell, M.B.A., R.T.(R)(M)(CT), R.D.M.S.
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The JRCERT promotes excellence in education and elevates the quality and safety of patient care through the accreditation of educational programs in radiography, radiation therapy, magnetic resonance, and medical dosimetry.