



Joint Review Committee on Education
in Radiologic Technology
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October 29, 2019

Randall Esters, Ed.D.
President
North Arkansas College
1515 Pioneer Drive
Harrison, AR 72601

RE: Program #0434

Previous Accreditation Status: 8 Years

Most Recent Site Visit: 06/15

Dear Dr. Esters:

After review of the requested interim report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by North Arkansas College was considered at the October 25, 2019 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 (2014)**. The JRCERT took the following action:

PROBATION.

The Committee based this decision on the program's non-compliance with **Standard Five:**

Objective 5.2 - Lack of assurance that the program documents 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.

Objective 5.4 - Lack of assurance that the program analyzes and shares student learning outcome data and program effectiveness data to foster continuous program improvement.

As identified in JRCERT correspondence of November 29, 2018, the program is not in compliance with **Standard Five - Objective 5.2**. The current five-year (2015-2019) average credentialing examination pass rate is 72% (50/69). It is noted that the current program director has been in the position since July 1, 2017 and that the program has developed and implemented an action plan to address the credentialing examination pass rate.

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

The next site visit is tentatively scheduled for the Third Quarter of 2020. The continuing accreditation materials will be forwarded to the program at a future date and will include a submission timetable.

Based upon the decision of non-compliance, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **November 29, 2020**. 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 Web site 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 **November 29, 2019**.

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,



Bette A. Schans, Ph.D., R.T.(R), FASRT
Chair

BAS/TJE/jm
Enc.

copy: Program Director: Amy Suzanne Woods, M.S., R.T.(R)
Dean: Cindy Mayo, M.S.N., R.N.
The Higher Learning Commission
Arkansas Department of Higher Education
USDE
ARRT