



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
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April 28, 2022

Ilka Rios, DMS, M.S.
Chancellor
University of Puerto Rico
P.O. Box-365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067

RE: Program #0333

Previous Accreditation Status: Probation
Most Recent Site Visit: 10/2018

Dear Dr. Rios:

After review of the requested progress report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by the University of Puerto Rico was considered at the April 21, 2022 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 awards:

MAINTENANCE OF PROBATION.

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

Objective 6.1 - Lack of assurance 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 2018-2022 examination pass rate.)
- five-year average job placement rate of not less than 75 percent within twelve months of graduation. (Provide the program's 2017-2021 job placement rate data.)

The program's current five-year (2017-2021) average credentialing examination pass rate is 56% (9/16) and the program's current five-year (2016-2020) average job placement rate is 70% (7/10).

As identified in the JRCERT award letter dated August 31, 2021, the program identified mitigating circumstances and now must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **February 22, 2024**. The program is advised that no further extensions will be granted.

Therefore, a progress report documenting compliance with this objective is due **June 23, 2023**. 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.

Based on the evaluation of the progress report, the Board of Directors may determine that there is no possibility of documenting compliance with **Objective 6.1** by February 22, 2024. Consequently, the Board may take adverse action prior to the expiration of the compliance timeframe and involuntarily withdraw accreditation at the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

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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 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 **May 27, 2022**.

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 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/TJE/jm

Enc.

copy: Program Director: Juan Melendez-Sostre, Ed.D., L.R.T.
Acting Dean: Lourdes E. Soto-de Laurido, Ed.D., MPHE
Middle States Commission on Higher Education
USDE
ARRT