

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

December 14, 2017

Cynthia S. Bambara, Ph.D. President Allegany College of Maryland 12401 Willowbrook Road S.E. Cumberland, MD 21502-2596

RE: Program #0385

Previous Accreditation Status: Probation
Most Recent Site Visit: 09/15

Dear Dr. Bambara:

After review of the requested additional progress report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Allegany College of Maryland was considered at the December 12, 2017 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:

## MAINTENANCE OF PROBATION.

The Committee based this decision on ongoing concerns with 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

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, the JRCERT Board of Directors has granted a four month good cause extension to the compliance timeframe to document compliance with **Standard Five - Objective 5.2.** This extension will provide the program the opportunity to attain additional outcome data in relation to credentialing examination pass rate. The program is advised that no further extensions will be granted.

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Therefore, an additional progress report is required by **July 9, 2018**. The progress report must be submitted via the JRCERT Accreditation Management Systems (AMS). Consideration of the progress report is projected for the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors following receipt and review of the submitted progress report. If the Committee finds this progress report acceptable, accreditation will be extended. If the progress report does not successfully document compliance with the objectives, the JRCERT will take the following action:

## INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL OF ACCREDITATION.

This withdrawal will be affirmed by the Committee at its **August 2018** meeting.

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 inspection. Also, consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, programs with a probationary accreditation standing cannot request a substantive change.

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,

Laura S. Aaron, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(M)(QM), FASRT Chair

LSA/BJL/jm

copy: Program Director: Cathy A. Kline, M.Ed., R.T.(R)

Senior Vice President: Kurt W. Hoffman, Ed.D. Middle States Commission on Higher Education

Maryland Higher Education Commission

USDE ARRT

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.