



*Joint Review Committee on Education
in Radiologic Technology
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February 20, 2019

John Estorge
Campus President
Fortis College - Baton Rouge
14111 Airline Hwy, Suite 101
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

RE: Program #0485
Previous Accreditation Status: Probation
Most Recent Site Visit: 10/14

Dear Mr. Estorge:

After review of the additional progress report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Fortis College - Baton Rouge was considered at the February 19, 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:

MAINTENANCE OF PROBATION.

The Committee based this decision on continuing concerns with the program's non-compliance with **Standard Five** and requests an additional progress report documenting compliance with the following objective:

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.

The program's current five-year (2014-2018) average credentialing examination pass rate at first attempt within six months of graduation is 67% (40/60).

Additionally, the Committee based this decision on the expiration of the maximum compliance timeframe allowed to document compliance with all accreditation standards. As required by the USDE and consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, the program was to have documented compliance with the **STANDARDS** by February 20, 2019. The Board recognizes the increased effort towards meeting the credentialing examination pass rate; therefore, consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, the JRCERT Board of Directors has granted an additional 12 month good cause extension to the program's compliance timeframe. The program must now be in compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **February 20, 2020**. No additional extension will be considered.

Therefore, an additional progress report is required by **January 20, 2020**. 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 objective, the JRCERT will take the following action:

INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL OF ACCREDITATION.

This withdrawal will be affirmed by the Committee at its March 2020 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.

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 **March 20, 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/TBL/jm
Enc.

copy: Program Director: Kacey A. Roberts, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R)
National Dean: Suzanne Peters, Esq.
Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools
Louisiana Board of Regents
USDE
ARRT