



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
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March 21, 2024

John R. Crooks, Ph.D.
Interim President
Eastern Gateway Community College
110 John Scott Highway
Steubenville, OH 43952

RE: Program #0274

Previous Accreditation Status: Probation
Most Recent Site Visit: 11/2021

Dear Dr. Crooks:

After review of the requested additional progress report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Eastern Gateway Community College was considered at the March 19, 2024 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) 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 took the following action:

MAINTENANCE OF PROBATION.

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

The Committee based this decision on the program's non-compliance with **Standards One** and **Six** as identified in the JRCERT award letter of September 19, 2023.

Objective 1.7 - Lack of assurance that the sponsoring institution and program comply with the requirements to achieve and maintain JRCERT accreditation.

It is noted that the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has requested the sponsoring institution submit a Focused Visit Report, after which the HLC will conduct a Focused Visit no later than May 2024. It is further noted that the HLC Board will take action at their November 2024 meeting; therefore, a progress report documenting the results of HLC's meeting must be submitted no later than **January 15, 2025**.

Objective 6.1 - Lack of assurance that 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.

The program's current five-year (2019-2023) average credentialing examination pass rate at first attempt within six months of graduation is 72% (39/54).

As previously identified, this progress report or a substantive change, transfer of sponsorship, is required by **July 1, 2024**.

The progress reports must be submitted via the JRCERT Accreditation Management Systems (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.

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Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, the maximum compliance timeframe is 36 months. Based on the areas of non-compliance, the Board of Directors are maintaining the previously identified 36-month compliance timeframe. Therefore, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **March 22, 2025** or identify mitigating circumstances hindering the attainment of this outcome for consideration by the JRCERT Board of Directors.

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 institutional and/or other accrediting agencies, and the public.

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 **April 22, 2024**.

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/LFW/jm

copy: Program Director: Anna Marie Welshans, M.S.Ed., R.T.(R)
Interim Dean: Hamid Nawaz, M.D., M.B.A.
The Higher Learning Commission
Ohio Department of Higher Education
USDE
ARRT