



*Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology*  
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[www.jrcert.org](http://www.jrcert.org)

September 27, 2022

Benjamin Arriola, B.S.  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Southwest University at El Paso  
1414 Geronimo Drive  
El Paso, TX 79925

**RE: Program #0628**

**Previous Accreditation Status: Probation**  
**Most Recent Site Visit: 12/2017**

Dear Mr. Arriola:

After review of the requested additional progress report the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Southwest University at El Paso was considered at the September 20, 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 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 continuing concerns as identified in JRCERT award letters dated November 18, 2020 and November 29, 2021 for continued non-compliance with **Standard Six**:

**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 (2018-2022) average credentialing examination pass rate at first attempt within six months of graduation is 71% (47/66).

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 October 10, 2021. Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400 and the progress made toward improving the program's credentialing examination pass rate, the JRCERT Board of Directors has granted an additional 12-months to the good cause extension. The program must now be in compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **October 10, 2023**. The program is advised that no further extensions will be granted. The program is also advised that the Board may consider involuntary withdrawal of accreditation prior to expiration of the good cause extension.

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Therefore, an additional progress report documenting compliance with this objective is required by **September 1, 2023**. Based on the evaluation of the progress report, the Board of Directors will extend accreditation and initiate the continuing accreditation cycle or withdraw accreditation. The progress report 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.

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 (this may be done via email), 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 **October 27, 2022**.

The program is further 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/BJL/jm  
Enc.

copy: Acting Program Director: Matthew G. Casale, M.B.A., R.T.(R)(CT)(MR)  
Dean: Laura Lazarin, M.B.A.  
Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools  
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
USDE  
ARRT