



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
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www.jrcert.org

March 28, 2017

Craig Wentworth, Ed.D.
President
Southern Regional Technical College
15689 US Highway 19 North
Thomasville, GA 31792

RE: Program #0435
Previous Accreditation Status: 8 Years
Most Recent Site Visit: 09/12

Dear Dr. Wentworth:

After review of the requested interim report, the continuing accreditation status of the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Southern Regional Technical College - Moultrie was considered at the March 21, 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:

REDUCTION OF ACCREDITATION TO A PERIOD OF SIX YEARS.

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

The Committee based this decision on the program's non-compliance with **Standards Four and Five:**

Objective 4.2 - Has a published pregnancy policy that is consistent with applicable federal regulations and state laws, made known to accepted and enrolled female students, and contains the following elements:

- Written notice of voluntary declaration,
- Option for student continuance in the program without modification, and
- Option for written withdrawal of declaration.

Objective 5.2 - 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,
- Five-year average job placement rate of not less than 75 percent within twelve months of graduation,
- Program completion rate,
- Graduate satisfaction, and
- Employer satisfaction.

Objective 5.4 - Analyzes and shares student learning outcome data and program effectiveness data to foster continuous program improvement.

Objective 5.5 - Periodically evaluates its assessment plan to assure continuous program improvement.

It is noted the program publishes its effectiveness data (i.e., credentialing examination pass rate, job placement rate, and program completion rate) on its Web site. Under the credentialing examination rate data, the program states it “average(s) the pass rates over a period of five year [*sic*].” The program has identified a five-year average of 87% calculated on percentages passed for each year from 2012-2016. The program is advised this calculation method is erroneous and artificially inflates its data. The JRCERT has recalculated the most recent five-year average credentialing examination rate based on raw numbers (2012: 7/7; 2013: 7/8; 2014: 3/4; 2015: 6/6; 2016: 12/17) and determined the correct five-year average credentialing examination pass rate is 35/42 or 83%.

Also, the program has incorrectly applied the exemptions offered under the definition of *job placement rate*. For example, the May 2016 cohort graduated 10 students, five reported employment, and five failed to communicate with the program, thus the program reported its average as 50%. Consistent with the job placement rate definition, the five students who failed to communicate with the program would not be included in the dominator; therefore, the actual job placement rate for this example would be 100% or 5/5.

The program is advised to update its program effectiveness data. The program is recommended to contact Accreditation Specialist Brian J. Leonard, M.B.A., R.T.(R) for further clarification if needed.

The next site visit is tentatively scheduled for the Second Quarter of 2018. The program will be required to complete a new application and Self-Study Report based on the **Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Radiography (2014)**. The continuing accreditation materials will be forwarded to the program at a future date and will include a submission timetable.

Based upon the decision of non-compliance, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **March 21, 2019**. 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. 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.


Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.500, the JRCERT has determined that program officials would benefit from a JRCERT-sponsored Accreditation Seminar or Outcomes Assessment Conference. Therefore, a progress report documenting the program director and/or clinical coordinator’s attendance at an Accreditation Seminar or Outcomes Assessment Conference must be submitted no later than **March 21, 2018**. A complete listing of dates and locations for all JRCERT-sponsored seminars and conferences are available at www.jrcert.org/Calendar.

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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 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,



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

LSA/BJL/jm

copy: Program Director: Alfred L. Jones, M.S.Ed., R.T.(R)
Dean: Carla Barrow, M.Ed.