



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
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August 24, 2012

Dr. Louis Albert
President
Pima County Community College
2202 West Anklam Road
Tucson, AZ 85709-0080

RE: Program #0178

Previous Accreditation Status: 8 Years

Most Recent Site Visit: 09/11

Agenda: R-D

Dear Dr. Albert:

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) appreciated the opportunity to evaluate the associate degree radiography program sponsored by Pima County Community College. 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 continuing accreditation status of the program was considered at the August 21, 2012 meeting of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The program was evaluated according to the **Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Radiography (2011)**. The JRCERT awards:

ACCREDITATION FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

The maximum duration that may be awarded by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology in this category is eight years.

The JRCERT, after reviewing the findings of the site visit team and the program's response to the report of findings, has concerns with the program's compliance with **Standard Four**:

Objective 4.3 - Assures that students employ proper radiation safety practices.

According to the 2010-2011 Radiologic Technology Student Handbook and November 12, 2009 Advisory Committee Meeting minutes, the program has a policy that allows students to assist in holding a patient or cassette when absolutely necessary. The program is advised that the Board of Directors does not find this practice appropriate to promote proper radiation safety practices for involved students.

Dr. Louis Albert
August 24, 2012
Page 2

Therefore, a progress report documenting compliance with this objective is required by **November 1, 2012**. Consideration of the progress report is projected for the next scheduled Committee meeting after receipt and review of the submitted progress report. Following receipt and evaluation of this progress report, the JRCERT will maintain or extend accreditation to eight years. An additional progress report may be required if any objectives are not adequately addressed.

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

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 may be withdrawn. Such involuntary withdrawal of accreditation is considered an adverse accreditation action. 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 of 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 evaluation.

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology Directors and staff wish you and the program faculty continued success in your efforts to provide a quality educational program. If we can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Deborah Gay Utz, M.Ed., R.T.(R)
Chair

DGU/TAB/jm

copy: Program Director: Catherine M. O'Brien, M.Ed., R.T.(R)(M)(CV)
Dean: Marty Mayhew
Site Visitors: Rudy L. Garza, M.S., R.T.(R)
Phyllis S. Hooi, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R)(M)
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