

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology 20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850 Chicago, IL 60606-3182 312.704.5300 www.jrcert.org

April 7, 2025

Cady Short-Thompson, Ph.D.
President
Northern Kentucky University
NKU Founders Hall Health Innovation Center Nunn Dr.
Highland Heights, KY 41099

RE: Program #0946

Previous Accreditation Status: Initial 3 Years
Most Recent Site Visit: 12/2024

Dear Dr. Short-Thompson:

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) appreciated the opportunity to evaluate the baccalaureate degree radiation therapy program sponsored by Northern Kentucky University. 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 continuing accreditation status of the program was considered at the March 28, 2025 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 Radiation Therapy (2021)**. The JRCERT awards:

## ACCREDITATION FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

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

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 determined that the program is in non-compliance with **Standard Six:** 

**Objective 6.1** - 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. (Provide the program's 2025 credentialing examination pass rate documentation.)

The program's current three-year (2022-2024) average credentialing examination pass rate at first attempt within six months of graduation is 83% (15/18). As identified in JRCERT Policy 11.500, Procedure 11.501F, the program is advised that programs that document less than five years of data may be limited to a continuing award of no more than five years, and a progress report will be required.

Therefore, a progress report documenting compliance with this objective is required by **July 31, 2025**. The progress report must be submitted via the JRCERT Accreditation Management System (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. An additional progress report may be required if the objective is not adequately addressed.

Cady Short-Thompson, Ph.D. April 7, 2025 Page 2

Consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.400, the maximum compliance timeframe is 24-months. Therefore, the program must document compliance with all accreditation standards no later than **March 28, 2027** or request a <u>good cause extension</u> identifying 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 probationary accreditation, any reduction in accreditation award that initiates a compliance timeframe, involuntary withdrawal, or withholding 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. 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.

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 onsite 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,

Mahsa Dehghanpour, Ed.D., CMD

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Chair

MD/TBL/jm

copy: Program Director: Julie L. Lasley, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(T)

Dean: Gannon Tagher, Ed.D.

Site Visitors: LeShell Palmer Jones, D.H.Sc., R.T.(T), CMD

Laurie Adams, Ed.D., R.T.(T)

Kentucky: Elizabeth Morgan, B.S., R.T.(R)