3.110 Procedure for Monitoring Certification Exam Pass Rate Deficiencies

JRCNMT standards for accreditation require programs to maintain a three-year average pass rate of 80% for first-time examinees on the national certification examinations. The computation and monitoring processes are described below.

1. Programs submit pass rate reports printed from the ARRT and NMTCB websites with each annual report to the JRCNMT. The particular three-year period for each report will be indicated by the JRCNMT in the notice distributed to programs.

2. JRCNMT staff will aggregate the data from each program's exam reports and compute the three-year pass rate for each program.

3. JRCNMT Directors will review program pass rates at each fall board meeting. Programs with an aggregated pass rate below 80% will be placed in the heightened monitoring cycle.

4. After the fall board meeting, programs placed in the monitoring cycle for the first time will be notified that they must submit a progress report prior to the next spring meeting, detailing what is being done to improve the pass rate average. If graduate pass rate data from the next class of students is available it should be submitted with the progress report so staff can compute the new average.

5. JRCNMT Directors will review the progress reports and determine whether each program's improvement plan is satisfactory. If a plan is unsatisfactory or incomplete the program will be asked to provide additional information and may be placed on probation.

   a. If newer exam data indicates the pass rate average is now above 80% the program will be removed from the monitoring cycle at the spring board meeting.

   b. If newer exam data indicates that the pass rate remains below 80% the program will remain in the monitoring cycle. If the pass rate decreases further a progress report may be requested.

   c. If the program's most recent group of graduates is less than six months post-graduation then newer exam data will not be available until after the spring meeting. In this situation the program's pass rate will be considered to remain below the 80% threshold.

6. After the first year in the monitoring cycle, programs remaining below the 80% pass rate will not be asked for subsequent progress reports. New information will be obtained through the existing annual report process through the use of additional narratives focusing on pass rate improvement.

7. Since multiple graduating classes may be necessary to impact the pass rate average, the monitoring process is a multi-year cycle. The cycle attempts to balance a prompt action to protect students with the necessary time for a program to address the issue and obtain the data to demonstrate the impact of improvements.

   a. A program in the monitoring cycle will be placed on probation if its ~~third~~ second consecutive three-year pass rate average remains below the 80% threshold. The program will be required to submit a progress report addressing the deficiency for the next JRCNMT meeting.

   b. A program in the monitoring cycle, having been placed on probation, will have its accreditation withdrawn if its ~~fifth~~ fourth consecutive three-year pass rate average remains below the 80% threshold.