

**JOINT REVIEW COMMITTEE
ON EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY**

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November 6, 2023

Bill Pink, PhD
President
Ferris State University
1201 S. State St, CSS 301B
Big Rapids, MI 49307

Distributed by email with receipt confirmation

Dear Dr. Pink:

At its meeting on October 13-14, 2023, the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRCNMT) evaluated the Annual Report submitted by the nuclear medicine technology program at Ferris State University. Upon review of the Annual Report, the board determined that the program is not meeting Standards D.3.1b and D.3.4. Accordingly, the program was placed on probation for one year. Compliance issues resulting from the board's review are provided below. Feedback from the Annual Report reviewers is provided on the page attached to this letter.

Compliance Issues on Annual Report

D3.1b Assessment of program effectiveness must, at a minimum, document the regular collection and analysis of graduate performance on the national certification examinations.

Within the Annual Report, on Form L: Program Effectiveness, the JRCNMT sets a benchmark of 80% as a rolling three-year pass rate for first-time examinees on the national certification examinations. The program's pass rate for 2020-2022 is 53%. Though not requested yet, the program submitted board exam data for 2023 graduates, which results in a 2021-2023 pass rate of 72%. This is an improvement but still below the threshold. 2023 is the sixth consecutive year the three-year pass rate has been below the benchmark.

D3.4 The results of ongoing assessment must be appropriately reflected in the curriculum and other dimensions of the program. In particular, the program must systematically document the application of assessment results in the process of program improvement.

Form L in the Annual Report, and the program's previous Pass Rate Progress Report, have provided general plans to address the program's low certification exam pass rate that do appear to have been minimally effective. Because the low pass rates have been an on-going problem, it is imperative that the program continue analyzing all aspects of the program, from admissions to curriculum; implement significant changes; monitor carefully for results; make modifications if indicated; and provide detailed reports to the JRCNMT. Effective and urgent program changes are necessary to ensure graduates can obtain certification and enter the workforce as soon as possible upon program completion.

The program must undertake the following in the upcoming year:

- Submission of a satisfactory Pass Rate Progress Report, due no later than **March 1, 2024**. The report form is attached to the email that delivered this letter;
- Completion of a satisfactory Progress Report, due no later than and **March 1, 2024**. The report should consist of proposed new assessments for each SLO on Form J, utilizing the feedback provided on the final page of this letter; and
- Submission of a satisfactory Annual Report, due no later than **August 1, 2024**.

At the JRCNMT meeting following submission of each report, the board will consider the information provided, paying particular attention to the thoroughness of the program's assessment process and documented follow-through on its commitment to making program changes that result in improved graduate outcomes, including certification exam pass rates. At the fall 2024 meeting, after all reports have been evaluated, the board may remove probation if substantial compliance has been achieved, or, if it finds the program continues to be deficient in meeting the standards, the board may continue probation for an additional year.

Reconsideration of Probation

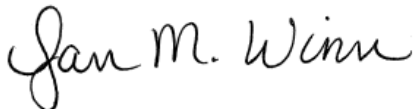
In accordance with JRCNMT policy 2.800 (email attachment), an institution may request reconsideration of probation if it believes the factual accuracy of a deficiency is in question. The request, due by **November 29, 2023**, must include evidence demonstrating that a deficiency was cited in error.

If reconsideration is not requested prior to the stated deadline, notification of this decision will be forwarded to the institution's accrediting agency. The information will also be made available to the public through the JRCNMT website and its publications.

A program on probation is required to advise current and prospective students of the probationary status on its website and in publications according to JRCNMT policy 2.150, page 16 (email attachment). In addition, a program on probation may not add clinical affiliates or expand its student capacity until the probationary status has been removed, except when addition of clinical affiliates is necessary to address a cited deficiency.

Please contact the JRCNMT office if there are questions regarding the content of this letter.

Sincerely,



Jan M. Winn, M.Ed., RT(N), CNMT
Executive Director

Att: Pass Rate Progress Report, JRCNMT Policy 2.800 and JRCMT Policy 2.150

Cc: Tim Vander Laan, MPA, CNMT
Nuclear Medicine Program Director

Emily L. Zyla, MS, RRT
Chair - Diagnostic, Laboratory & Therapy Sciences

JRCNMT Executive Officers