



*Accreditation Review Commission on Education
for the Physician Assistant, Inc.*

September 20, 2010

John E. McCarty
Executive Director

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Daniel J. Bradley
President
Indiana State University
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Dear President Bradley:

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) is an independent accrediting body authorized to accredit qualified PA educational programs leading to the professional credential, Physician Assistant (PA). Accreditation is a process of quality assurance that determines whether the program meets established standards for function, structure and performance. ARC-PA does not accredit any academic degree awarded by the sponsoring institution of the PA program. The sponsoring institution is solely responsible for determining which specific academic degree (e.g., BA, BS, MS, etc.) to award.

At its most recent meeting, the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) reviewed the application and supporting materials submitted from the **Indiana State University Physician Assistant Program**.

The ARC-PA is pleased to notify you that the program has been awarded **Provisional Accreditation**. Please note that the program is approved for up to **90** students, (accounts for the program being 27 months in length) students, the maximum student capacity as specified in the program's application. The date for the next full review of the program by the ARC-PA will be scheduled to occur **no earlier than four months after students have entered the clinical phase of the professional program and no later than 6 months after graduation of the first class**. The program will be contacted by the ARC-PA in advance of that review regarding specific details of the application, reports, and site visit.

An accreditation letter often includes the word(s) "note" or "general/additional comments". The definitions for these words as used by the ARC-PA are as follows.

Note - An explanation that often will accompany a citation in the accreditation letter or other correspondence dealing with program compliance with the Standards. The purpose of the "note" is to

Collaborating Organizations: American Academy of Family Physicians • American Academy of Pediatrics • American Academy of Physician Assistants • American College of Physicians • American College of Surgeons • American Medical Association • Physician Assistant Education Association

Member: Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA)

Recognized by: Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)

clarify the issue of noncompliance with a specific Standard for the program and not to specify “how to” comply with the cited Standard.

General/Additional Comment(s) - Narrative that may be included in the accreditation letter or other correspondence with the program from the ARC-PA possibly linked with a specific Standard(s) that conveys a concern or expresses congratulatory comments. The purpose of the “Additional Comment(s)” is to clarify for the program a more global issue between the ARC-PA and the program but not to give advice or specify “how to” resolve the issue(s). Unless stated otherwise a response or corrective action to this type of commentary is not required.

During its review of the program the ARC-PA noted areas of noncompliance with the *Standards* (3rd Edition) which are presented as citations in the accompanying document. The citations listed are referenced to *Standards* under which the program was evaluated.

Please see the companion word document for the citations and for the program to use in submitting the required report. The program must submit a report by no later than July 1, 2011.

The ARC-PA policy regarding submission of required reports reads:

Failure to provide the required report/document by the specified deadline will be cause for:

- the program to be placed on Administrative Probation
- the required information to be resubmitted for a future ARC-PA meeting agenda

The ARC-PA reminds the program to review the *Standards* (4th Edition) effective September 1, 2010. Where cited 3rd Edition Standard if appears in a different location in the 4th Edition it is noted in parenthesis behind the Citation.

The ARC-PA web site (<http://www.arc-pa.org/>) houses copies of the Educational Standards (3rd Edition and 4th) with a Standards Comparison document, an accreditation manual, as well as other informational documents designed to be helpful to programs. The Accredited Program section includes a resource page with several resources for programs (analysis, objectives/competencies/syllabi). These resources updated periodically include materials from ARC-PA presentations at national meetings. This section also includes a link to program data related to the business before the ARC-PA. The Continuing and Provisional sections include applications and forms for use as programs prepare for accreditation.

The ARC-PA appreciates your commitment and dedication to quality PA education as demonstrated by your participation in the accreditation process. If you have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



John E. McCarty
Executive Director

- c. Heather Mata, PA-C, MPAS, Program Director
James B. Hammond, MA, PA-C, Chair, ARC-PA
Lynn D. Fleisher, PhD, Esq., ARC-PA Legal Counsel