



## **ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT Annual Report Review**

The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology has reviewed the program's accreditation annual report and took the accreditation action indicated below.

**Name of Program: Indiana State University**

**File #: 72**

**Professional Area:**

**Audiology**   
**Speech-Language Pathology**

**Residential Program**   
**Distance Education**   
**Satellite Campus**   
**Contractual Arrangement**

**Degree Designator(s): MS**

**Current Accreditation Cycle: 6/1/2009 - 5/31/2017**

**Action Taken: Approve to continue accreditation**

**Effective Date: February 11, 2016**

**Next Review: Annual Report - August 1, 2016**

**Notices:** The program is advised to adhere to the following notices that are appended to this report.

- PROGRAM COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS
- PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DECISION AND ACCREDITATION STATUS

*As a result of its review of the annual report, the CAA found the program to be in compliance with the Standards for Accreditation of Graduate Education Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, except as noted below.*

## **AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE**

The CAA found the program to be not in compliance with the following standards for accreditation. Non-compliance means that the program does not have in place the essential elements necessary to meet the standard. The program must demonstrate its compliance with these standards in the Prior Concerns section of the next annual report (or, if appropriate, within the context of the reaccreditation application) or by the time line specified below. The CAA will indicate in its review of that report whether the program has addressed these areas sufficiently to achieve compliance.

**There are no areas of non-compliance with accreditation standards.**

## **AREAS OF PARTIAL COMPLIANCE**

### **Standard: 1.7**

Element of the standard to be met: Student achievement measures are accurate, accessible and current

### **Evidence of Partial Compliance:**

Although the program reports it is rebuilding the website and appears to be in flux, a link to student achievement measures was difficult to locate given the non-active links reported for this purpose, and once found on a revised program information page, the link labeled student outcome data was not readily accessible or active.

### **Steps to be taken:**

It is necessary that the program arrange for publication of accurate program completion rates and other student outcome data as soon as possible using designated formulas and that updates are verified at the time of the next annual report.

### **Standard: 1.7**

### **Element: Program completion rate thresholds**

Program completion rates continue to be below the CAA's 80% threshold as presented by the program; suggesting a completion rate of 73% for 2014-2015; 100% for 2013-2014; and 67% for 2012-2013 and a three year average of 79%. The program further describes rationale for lower completion rates due to student personnel reasons and delays to the start of the final external practicum due to student preferences for sites that were not available at the time. The CAA recently released a [guidance statement](#) regarding program completion rates in its fall 2015 newsletter and is described below:

"The CAA interprets the published time frame as the number of terms an individual student was actually enrolled in the program. The terms do not have to be consecutive, but the total number of terms must meet the program's expected time frame for completion. University-approved withdrawals (e.g., leaves of absence for reasons of health, maternity/paternity, mission work, military assignment) do not count toward the number of terms a student was enrolled in the program. Students taking longer due to reasons other than university-approved withdrawals (e.g., course repeats, remediation plans) cannot be considered as meeting completion expectations."

### **Steps to be taken:**

At the time of the next annual report, consider the CAA's guidance for determining program completion rates and adjust data accordingly to reflect accurate program completion rates and to determine whether the program has met the CAA's 80% threshold. Also discuss strategies used by the program to improve program completion rates as needed.

## AREAS FOR FOLLOW-UP (clarification/verification)

The program should provide an update in the next annual report (or, if appropriate, in the context of the reaccreditation application) on the issues related to the following standards for accreditation. The CAA did not find the program to be out of compliance with these standards at this time, but requires that additional information be provided in the program's next report, in order to monitor the program's continued compliance in the stated areas.

### **Standard: 2.2**

Element of the standard to be met: Sufficient research doctoral faculty

Although the narrative report indicates positive outcomes resulting from the faculty searches to include 2 additional doctoral faculty joining the program in 2014 and 2015, it notes Ms. Julia Hess, one of these individuals has not finalized her doctoral degree.

### **Steps to be taken:**

In the next annual report, provide an update regarding the status of Ms. Julia Hess' completion of the doctoral degree and discuss how the additional faculty have positively impacted the changes in the curriculum to increase elective seminars and faculty workload.

### **Standard: 6.4**

Element of the standard to be met: Clerical and support services

The narrative report indicates that the resignation of departmental staff in June 2015 could significantly impact the department's function but that resources for a replacement are planned.

### **Steps to be taken:**

In the next annual report, provide an update about the status of clerical staff replacement and departmental program support services.

*The CAA has evaluated this program regarding its performance with respect to student achievement and provides the following report, required as an accrediting agency recognized by the US Secretary of Education [[34 CFR 602.17\(f\)\(2\)](#)].*

## PERFORMANCE WITH RESPECT TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

### **Findings:**

*The CAA assessed the program's performance with respect to student achievement and found the program to meet or exceed the established CAA expectations (as described in accreditation standard 5.0-Assessment) in the following checked areas. Details regarding any of these areas found to be not in compliance are described earlier in this report in the context of the relevant standard.*

	Program Completion Rates
X	Employment Rates
X	Praxis Examination Rates

## **PROGRAM COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS**

CAA's recognition by the United States Secretary of Education requires that, if an accrediting agency's review of a program under any standard indicates that the program is not in compliance with that standard, the agency must require the program to take appropriate action to bring itself into compliance with the agency's standards within a time period that must not exceed two years [[34 CFR 602.20\(a\) \(2\) \(iii\)](#)]. If, after review of a required report, the program remains out of compliance with any standard and sufficient progress toward compliance has not been demonstrated, CAA may act to place the program on probation in accordance with the policy and procedures outlined in the [Accreditation Manual](#) on the academic accreditation Web site. If the program does not bring itself into compliance within the specified period, the accrediting agency must take immediate adverse action. If the program continues to remain out of compliance with any standard at the end of the specified period, CAA will withdraw accreditation, unless the CAA judges the program to be making a good faith effort to come into compliance with the standards. In such case, the CAA may, for good cause, extend the period for achieving compliance for no longer than one additional year and may decide to continue the accreditation cycle and to monitor the program's progress. CAA defines a "good faith effort" as 1) an appropriate plan for achieving compliance within a reasonable time frame, 2) a detailed timeline for completion of the plan, 3) evidence that the plan has been implemented according to the established timeline, and 4) reasonable assurance that the program can and will achieve compliance as stated in the plan.

## **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THIS DECISION AND ACCREDITATION STATUS**

The CAA publishes a notice of final accreditation actions on its Web site after comprehensive reviews are completed in accordance with its published policies. In the event an adverse action is taken and becomes final (i.e., withdrawal or withholding of an accreditation status), the CAA is required to publish a brief statement summarizing the reasons for withholding or withdrawing the accreditation status of a program, together with the comments, if any, that the affected program may wish to make.

The US Department of Education (USDE) requires all recognized accrediting agencies to provide for the public correction of incorrect or misleading information an accredited or preaccredited program releases about accreditation or preaccreditation status, contents of site visit reports, and accrediting or preaccrediting actions with respect to the program. [[34 CFR 602.23\(d\) and 602.23\(e\)](#)] The program must make accurate public disclosure of the accreditation or preaccreditation status awarded to the program, using the suggested language provided in the [Accreditation Manual](#) on the academic accreditation Web site. If the program chooses to disclose any additional information within the scope of the USDE rule, such disclosure also must be accurate. Any public disclosure of information within the scope of the rule must include the CAA's name, address, and telephone number as described in the [Accreditation Manual](#). If a program misrepresents or distorts any action by the CAA with respect to any aspect of the accreditation process, its accreditation status, the contents of the site visit report, or final CAA accreditation actions or decisions, the CAA will notify the chief executive officer of the institution and the program director, informing them that corrective action must be taken. If corrective action is not taken, the CAA will release a public statement that provides correct information and may invoke other sanctions as may be appropriate. If the Accreditation unit discovers that a program has released incorrect or misleading information within the scope of the USDE rule, then it, acting on behalf of CAA, will make public correction, and it reserves the right to disclose this Accreditation Action Report in its entirety for that purpose.