Case Name: *In the Matter of* Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

Docket No.: 16-44-O

Filing Party: Respondent, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

Exhibit No.: B-O-41
December 20, 2017

Herman Bounds Jr., Ed.S., Director
Accreditation Group
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Postsecondary Education
Accreditation Group
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Director Bounds:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association. ACOTE is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as the accrediting agency for occupational therapy education. ACOTE currently accredits over 400 occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant educational programs in the United States and its territories, including programs offered by institutions accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS).

ACICS is recognized by CHEA, and is accepted by ACOTE as an institutional accrediting agency. Specifically, ACOTE requires an institution sponsoring an occupational therapy or occupational therapy assistant program to be institutionally accredited by a regional and/or national accrediting agency recognized by the USDE and/or CHEA to accredit postsecondary educational institutions. See ACOTE Manual, Section II., at pp. 2 & 42.

I can be reached at [contact information] in connection with this letter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Ostrove, MA, OTR/L, FAOTA
Assistant Director of Accreditation
Case Name: *In the Matter of* Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

**Docket No.:** 16-44-O

**Filing Party:** Respondent, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

**Exhibit No.:** B-O-42
December 22, 2017

Herman Bounds Jr., Ed.S., Director
Accreditation Group
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Postsecondary Education
Accreditation Group
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202

Re: Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS)

Dear Director Bounds:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (Commission or CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association. The Commission is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE) to accredit entry-level physical therapist and physical therapist assistant education programs. The Commission accredits programs on the basis of the program's compliance with the Standards and Required Elements for Accreditation of Physical Therapist Assistant Education Programs, which provide, “3B The sponsoring institution(s) is (are) accredited by an agency or association recognized by the US Department of Education (USDE) or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).”

The Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) is recognized by CHEA. Institutional accreditation by ACICS meets the CAPTE institutional accreditation requirement. Please accept this letter as acknowledgement by CAPTE that programs sponsored by ACICS-accredited institutions satisfy the CAPTE’s requirements for physical therapist assistant programs.

I can be reached at [blank] in connection with this letter.

Sincerely,

Sandra Wise

Sandra Wise, Senior Director
Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education

cc: Michelle Edwards, President and Chief Executive Officer, ACICS
Case Name: *In the Matter of* Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

Docket No.: 16-44-O

Filing Party: Respondent, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

Exhibit No.: B-O-43
Herman Bounds Jr., Ed.S., Director
Accreditation Group
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Postsecondary Education
Accreditation Group
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Dr. Bounds:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES). As you know, ABHES is recognized by the Department of Education to accredit post-secondary institutions offering predominantly health education programs through the master’s degree level. ABHES is also recognized to accredit medical assistant, medical laboratory technician and surgical technology programs.

As a programmatic accreditor, ABHES accredits programs at colleges that are accredited institutionally by accrediting organizations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and/or the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). While institutional accreditation broadly assesses the soundness of a college’s education and student services, because of its specific review of curriculum and the achievement of competencies, programmatic accreditation by ABHES permits graduates to be eligible to take credentialing examinations required for professional practice.

ABHES acknowledges the important role institutional accreditation, including by ACICS, plays in the continuous review of institutions that are also programmatically accredited by ABHES for Medical Assistant, Medical Laboratory Technology and Surgical Technology programs. ABHES is aware of new initiatives ACICS has undertaken to strengthen its review process as described in its Memoranda to the Field.

I can be reached at [b](6) if additional information is required.

Sincerely,

[b](6)

Florence Tate
Executive Director
**Case Name:** In the Matter of Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

**Docket No.:** 16-44-O

**Filing Party:** Respondent, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

**Exhibit No.:** B-O-44
December 20, 2017

Herman Bounds Jr., E.Ds.
Director, Accreditation Group
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Postsecondary Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Director Bounds:

This letter of support is on behalf of the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS).

ACEN is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). As you know, the purpose of ACEN is to provide specialized accreditation for all types of nursing education programs, including clinical doctorate/DNP specialist certificate programs, master's/post-master's certificate programs, baccalaureate programs, associate programs, diploma programs, and practical programs. ACEN accredits nursing education programs in secondary, postsecondary, and hospital-based governing organizations that offer certificates, diplomas, or degrees, including nursing education programs offered by governing organizations accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS).

ACICS is CHEA recognized and accepted by ACEN as an institutional accrediting agency. ACEN historical records date the acceptance of ACICS by the ACEN to at least 2008 and this acceptance continues to the present.

One specific ACEN eligibility requirement is a governing organization sponsoring a nursing education program accredited by ACEN must be institutionally accredited by an ACEN recognized institutional accrediting agency.
As a CHEA recognized accreditor, ACICS currently meets the institutional accrediting agency criteria for ACEN specialized accreditation. In turn, ACEN or CCNE specialized accreditation is a requirement for nursing education programs in Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, Illinois, Washington, and the District of Columbia. While specialized accreditation is not required by other states, many nursing education programs in those states hold specialized accreditation.

I can be reached at (b)(6) if you have any questions.

(b)(6)

Marsal P. Stoll, EdD, MSN
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Michelle Edwards
    President, ACICS
Case Name: *In the Matter of* Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

**Docket No.:** 16-44-O

**Filing Party:** Respondent, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

**Exhibit No.:** B-O-45
February 2, 2015

Albert C. Gray, Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools
Suite 980
750 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20002-4223

Dear Dr. Gray:

The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT®) appreciated the opportunity to evaluate the accrediting agency application for recognition as an acceptable accreditation mechanism submitted by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS). The recognition status of ACICS was considered by the ARRT at the January 2015 Board of Trustee meeting. The accrediting agency was evaluated according to the ARRT Standards for Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, effective January 1, 2013. The Board of Trustees voted that:

ACICS be recognized by ARRT as an institutional accrediting agency effective January 27, 2015.

The ARRT reviews and revises its ARRT Standards for Recognition of Accrediting Agencies every five years. The then current standards of ARRT-recognized accrediting agencies are automatically reviewed at that time to assure continued compliance with the revised ARRT standards. If a recognized accrediting agency meets the revised standards, no further action is needed, and ARRT will notify the agency of the continued recognition. The next ARRT standards review is scheduled for July 2015.

The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists would like to thank ACICS for submitting an application for recognition as an ARRT-recognized institutional accreditor. If we can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to contact me at (b)(6)

Sincerely,

Director of Educational Eligibility Requirements

copy: Anthony S. Bieda, M.B.A., Vice-President of External Affairs
Michelle Edwards

From: Jerilyn Powell <Jerilyn.Powell@arrt.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 2:51 PM
To: Michelle Edwards
Subject: RE: ACICS Recognition by ARRT January 27 2015.pdf

Michelle,

Sorry I have not responded sooner. I have been through the files of two previous directors and I do not believe a letter providing an update was sent in the fall of 2015. I was able to find a copy of the letter from February 2015.

As you know ARRT still lists ACICS on our website as an approved accreditation mechanism for programs at this time. Do you need something additional from me at this time beyond our website?

Regards,

J.J. Powell, M.S.A.S., R.T.(R)(S)(ARRT), RDMS, RVT
DIRECTOR, EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS
THE AMERICAN REGISTRY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS
DIRECT PHONE 651.681.2100 | FAX 651.681.3239 | ARRt PHONE 651.681.0010
1255 NORTHLAND DRIVE, ST. PAUL, MN 55120
WWW.ARRT.ORG

CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION: Emails from this firm normally contain confidential and privileged material and are for the sole use of the intended recipient. Use or distribution by an unauthorized recipient is prohibited and may be a violation of law. If you believe that you received this in error please do not read the body of this email and please inform the sender that you have deleted the email and any copies.

From: Michelle Edwards [mailto:medwards@acics.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:50 AM
To: Jerilyn Powell <Jerilyn.Powell@arrt.org>
Subject: Fwd: ACICS Recognition by ARRT January 27 2015.pdf

Good Afternoon JJ:

I hope you had a wonderful holiday!

Were you able to provide an updated letter confirming our recognition by ARRT?

I look forward to your response.

Michelle

------------------------
Michelle Edwards

Begin forwarded message:
EARN ARRT CREDENTIALS

Types of Credentials

Requirements Overview

Education Requirements

- Ethics Requirements
- Examination Requirement

How to Apply

Maintaining Your Credentials

ARRT-RECOGNIZED ACCREDITATION AGENCIES

At ARRT, education is part of our equation for excellence. We rely on accreditation agencies (sometimes called mechanisms) to determine the quality of educational institutions, their programs, and their courses. Below is a list of ARRT-approved accreditation mechanisms.

As part of the requirements for ARRT certification and registration, you’ll need to complete an ARRT-approved educational program and an academic degree (associate's or higher) that is accredited by one of the mechanisms listed on this page. You must complete your program and degree on or after the dates specified in the chart. (Those are the dates on which ARRT recognized the accrediting mechanisms.) You only need to earn an academic degree if you...
complete your professional education on or after Jan.1, 2015.

Once you’ve earned an ARRT credential, you have the option of taking an academic course as a part of your Continuing Education Requirements. If you do, the academic institution offering the course must be accredited by one of the agencies on this page.
### ARRT - Recognized Accreditation Mechanisms

#### PROGRAMMATIC (SPECIALIZED) ACCREDITING AGENCIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Academic Degree</th>
<th>Professional Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCE)</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRCE)</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRCE-DMS)</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### REGIONAL ACCREDITING AGENCIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSACS): Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands</td>
<td>June 1, 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission on Elementary and Secondary Schools of the Middle States Association of College and Schools (MSEA-CS): Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania</td>
<td>June 1, 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC): Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont</td>
<td>June 1, 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Learning Commission (HLC): Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming</td>
<td>June 1, 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU): Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington</td>
<td>June 1, 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS): Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia</td>
<td>June 1, 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACJC) and Senior College Commission (SCC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges: California, Hawaii</td>
<td>June 1, 1995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NATIONAL FAITH-RELATED ACCREDITING AGENCIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Association for Biblical Higher Education Commission on Accreditation</td>
<td>1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools Accreditation Commission</td>
<td>1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools</td>
<td>1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NATIONAL ACCREDITING AGENCIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)</td>
<td>1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC)</td>
<td>1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET)</td>
<td>1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS)</strong></td>
<td>1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council on Occupational Education (COE)</td>
<td>1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC)</td>
<td>1959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Accrediting Commission of Career Arts and Sciences (NACCAS)</td>
<td>1966</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### ARRT-RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR ACCREDITATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conjoint Accreditation Services of the Canadian Medical Association</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (MRPBA)</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*International academic degrees from Australia, Canada and Great Britain are recognized as meeting the requirement for academic degrees as outlined in the ARRT Standards for Recognition of Educational Accrediting Agencies.

International degrees awarded by institutions outside of the U.S. (and not otherwise recognized by ARRT) must be evaluated by a credential evaluation service that is a member of the Association of International Credential Evaluators, Inc. (AICE) and/or the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES).

If you're a Program Director looking to gain accreditation for your program, contact any of the organizations above for more information.

If your organization is interested in becoming an ARRT-approved accreditation mechanism,
ARRT - Recognized Accreditation Mechanisms

contact us at 651.687.0048.

ARRT
Mailing Address Only
1255 Northland Drive
St. Paul, MN 55120-1155
651.687.0048

QUICK LINKS
FAQs | Handbooks | Discipline Documents | Forms | Videos | Terms of Use | Privacy Policy | Jobs at ARRT | Contact

SOCIAL MEDIA