

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



ACCREDITING BUREAU OF HEALTH EDUCATION SCHOOLS | ABHES

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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 medial 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 (703) 917-9503 or FTate@abhes.org if additional information is required.

Sincerely,

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Florence Tate
Executive Director