



COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR  
RESPIRATORY CARE

April 4, 2012

Edward Berger, EdD, President  
Respiratory Care Program  
Hutchinson Community College  
Lockman Hall, Room 100  
1300 N Plum  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

4/30/12  
File  
✓ Dr. Hoss  
✓ Loretta Horton  
✓ Deb Hackler  
APR - 9 2012

RE: Program Number 200598

Dear Dr. Berger:

As you are aware, the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) approved revisions to its Accreditation Policies and Procedures Manual effective March 24, 2012. As a result, all programs holding the status of Letter of Review as of the effective date of the policy changes will have their status changed to Provisional Accreditation and those Provisional Accreditation programs that have not submitted their Initial Accreditation Self Study Report (ISSR) as of the effective date of the policy changes will be eligible for Initial Accreditation once their on-site evaluation has been completed and they achieve three (3) reporting years of outcomes on the Annual Report of Current Status (RCS).

Therefore, the accreditation status for the AAS Degree Respiratory Care Program sponsored by Hutchinson Community College has been changed from Letter of Review to Provisional Accreditation. However, according to our records, the program has not submitted the ISSR and has not achieved three (3) reporting years of outcomes. As of March 24, 2012, the ISSR is due no later than six (6) months following the deadline date of the RCS showing three (3) reporting years of outcomes. According to the Letter of Review Self Study (LSSR) submitted by Hutchinson Community College, the first reporting year will be 2014 and, therefore, **the ISSR will be due no later than January 15, 2017**. The ISSR template will be sent to the program approximately one (1) year prior to the submission due date. Once three (3) reporting years of outcomes has been received and the on-site evaluation has been completed, the program will be scheduled for review of its accreditation record at the next scheduled CoARC Board meeting. At that time, the Board will confer Initial Accreditation or Withhold Initial Accreditation. *[Please Note: The timeline above may be affected if the expected graduation date changes from what was submitted in the LSSR.]*

Please use the following modified disclosure statement for your program's Provisional Accreditation status:

The Respiratory Therapy program at Hutchinson Community College holds Provisional Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)). This status signifies that a program that has been granted an Approval of Intent has demonstrated sufficient compliance to initiate a program in accordance with the *Standards* through the completion and submission of an acceptable Self Study Report (SSR), and other documentation required by the CoARC Board. The conferral of Provisional Accreditation denotes a new program that has made significant progress towards meeting the Standards of Accreditation. The program will remain on Provisional Accreditation until achieving Initial Accreditation. It is recognized by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) toward eligibility to the Respiratory Care Credentialing Examination(s). Enrolled students completing the program under Provisional Accreditation are considered graduates of a CoARC accredited program.

President Berger  
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Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care  
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Bedford, Texas 76021-4244  
(817) 283-2835

CoARC will regularly monitor the program's compliance with the outcomes assessment thresholds through the Annual Report of Current Status submitted annually by the program as well as other documentation that may be requested. The next Annual Report of Current Status is due July 1, 2012.

Please keep in mind, programs with Provisional Accreditation may be placed on Probationary Accreditation or have accreditation withdrawn if the program does not provide continuing evidence of progress toward meeting all Standards.

Please contact the CoARC Executive Office (817-283-2835) with questions concerning the accreditation process.

The Commission commends you and your colleagues for your commitment to continuous quality improvement in education, as demonstrated by your participation in programmatic accreditation.

Sincerely,



Thomas R. Smalling, PhD, RRT, RPFT, RPSGT, FAARC  
Executive Director

cc: Cindy Hoss, EdD, Dean  
Teresa Pauls, BS, RRT, Program Director  
Diane Flatland, MS, RRT, RCP, Referee