



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 12, 2017

TO: Prospective and Enrolled Students in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at New River Community and Technical College

FROM: Dr. Richard Pagan, Vice President of Academic Affairs;  
Stephanie Dotson, PTA Program Director

SUBJECT: Probationary Accreditation Status

On April 26, 2017 the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) continued the Probationary Accreditation status of the physical therapist assistant education program at New River Community and Technical College. Probationary Accreditation is an accredited status, but it does signal compliance issues in the program that are significant enough to jeopardize the quality of the program and that, if not addressed, may result in accreditation being withdrawn. CAPTE has reached this decision after a thorough review of materials provided by the program. The compliance issues have been clearly identified in CAPTE's Summary of Action and a time line for addressing the issues has been established. Normally, Probationary Accreditation does not extend beyond two years; CAPTE can, however, withdraw accreditation at any time a program is on probation if the situation warrants such an action.

Because Probationary Accreditation is an accredited status, students currently enrolled in the program who graduate in a timely manner will graduate from an accredited program. Similarly, prospective students who are admitted to the program are admitted to an accredited program. However, if in the future CAPTE withdraws accreditation, only students enrolled in the final twelve months of the program at the time of the final decision to withdraw accreditation will be considered by CAPTE to be graduates of an accredited program.

In the interest of the public trust that the accreditation process serves, all enrolled and prospective students are hereby notified that the accreditation status of the physical therapist assistant education program at New River Community and Technical College is in jeopardy if the identified compliance issues are not adequately addressed in the time provided.

A copy of this letter and a list of all individuals to whom it has been distributed are being sent to CAPTE at its request. CAPTE expects that the program will provide students with accurate information about the program's status of Probationary Accreditation and reasonable information about the identified deficiencies.

Questions about the compliance issues resulting in probation should be directed to the program faculty. Questions regarding the accreditation process may be directed to the Department of Accreditation, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, American Physical Therapy Association, 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

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