



*Accreditation Review Commission on Education
for the Physician Assistant, Inc.*

October 18, 2022

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Ann Cudd, PhD
Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor
University of Pittsburgh
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Dear Dr. Cudd:

The **University of Pittsburgh Physician Assistant Studies Hybrid Program** has been granted **Accreditation-Provisional** status by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. ("ARC-PA" or the "commission"). This decision is based on the program application and all appendices submitted to the ARC-PA, the report of the site visit team and the program's response to the site visit team's observations.

The ARC-PA noted **five (5)** areas of noncompliance with the *Accreditation Standards for Physician Assistant Education* (5th edition) (the "*Standards*"). Please see the companion Word document for the complete commission report and requested response. Failure to submit a response may result in reconsideration of the program's accreditation status.

Please note that the program is approved for a maximum entering class size of up to **100**. The program will be monitored as it progresses throughout the provisional process to be sure that program and institutional resources support the program.

The ARC-PA will not consider an increase in maximum entering class size until the program has held two years of Accreditation - Continued status after completing the provisional accreditation process.

The ARC-PA will not consider expansion to a distant campus until the program has held Accreditation - Continued status for five years after completing the provisional accreditation process.

The awarding of provisional accreditation acknowledges that the PA program has the plans and resources that, if fully implemented as proposed, can lead to compliance with the *Standards*. It does not assure that accreditation-provisional will continue at the next commission review, particularly if

Collaborating Organizations: American Academy of Family Physicians • American Academy of Pediatrics • American Academy of Physician Associates • American College of Physicians • American College of Surgeons • American Medical Association • Physician Assistant Education Association

Member: Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA)

Recognized by: Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)

conditions as they existed, or the plans as proposed at the time of the initial provisional visit have significantly changed.

The date for the **Provisional Monitoring** review of the program by the ARC-PA will be scheduled to occur within six months prior to the graduation of the first cohort of students ideally occurring within the final three months of the program. The program will be contacted by the ARC-PA in advance of that review regarding details of the application, reports and selecting site visit dates.

To communicate the program's accreditation status in all printed and electronic media, the program and institution must use the following statement **exactly** as it is written. Any accreditation statements used in the past must be replaced with this language.

The ARC-PA has granted **Accreditation-Provisional** status to the **University of Pittsburgh Physician Assistant Studies Hybrid Program** sponsored by **University of Pittsburgh**.

Accreditation-Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA *Standards* or when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the *Standards* as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students.

Accreditation-Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class.

The program's accreditation history can be viewed on the ARC-PA website at <http://www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-university-of-pittsburgh-hybrid/>.

The ARC-PA appreciates the commitment and dedication to quality PA education demonstrated by your participation in the accreditation process. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sharon Luke, EdD, PA-C
Executive Director

c: Anthony Delitto, PT, PhD, FAPTA, Dean, delitto@pitt.edu
David Beck, EdD, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA, Program Director, dbeck@pitt.edu
Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Heather Perfetti, President, president@msche.org
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