

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE NOTICE ON
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DOCTOR OF CHIROPRACTIC DEGREE PROGRAM
Lombard, Illinois/Pinellas Park, Florida
Effective: May 21, 2018

The doctor of chiropractic degree program (“the Program”) at National University of Health Sciences in Lombard, Illinois (main campus) and Pinellas Park, Florida (additional educational site) is accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE). As of the above date, the Program has been placed on Probation. The Council took this action due to noncompliance concerns related to program effectiveness, meta-competency assessment and student performance success rates.

Recent Council Action

On February 2, 2018, the Council placed the Program on Probation. At the same time, the Council notified the Program that the decision would not become final until after 20 days following receipt of a notification letter, during which time the Program could exercise its right to appeal, since the Council’s procedures define probation as an appealable decision. In accordance with CCE Policy 8, on February 23, 2018 NUHS provided a notice of intent to appeal letter to the Council and subsequently an appeal hearing was conducted on May 11, 2018. The appeals panel issued a report to the program and the Council Chair on May 21, 2018 affirming the action of the Council.

The Council determined that the Program is in significant noncompliance with the following *Standards* and *Policy* requirements:

- CCE Accreditation Standards, Section 2.A, “...The plan is structured, implemented, and reviewed in a manner that enables the DCP to assess the effectiveness of its goals and objectives, and permits the DCP to implement those changes necessary to maintain and improve program quality.”
- CCE Accreditation Standards, Section 2.H, “...The didactic and clinical education components of the curriculum are structured and integrated in a manner that enables the graduate to demonstrate attainment of all required competencies...”
- CCE Policy 56, “The overall weighted average of the four (4) most recent years’ NBCE Parts I, II, III, and IV Exam success rates must not be less than 80%.”

Probation

Probation is an action reflecting the conclusion of the Council that a program is in significant noncompliance with accreditation standards or policy requirements. The Council may require the DCP to submit a report, host a site visit and/or make an appearance before the Council to provide evidence of compliance. Probation is a sanction, subject to appeal, and shall not exceed twenty-four (24) months. The Council will make public notice of a final decision to impose Probation by notifying the U.S. Department of Education, regional (institutional) accrediting agency, jurisdictional licensing boards, and the public that a program has been placed on Probation in accordance with CCE policy and procedures.

During the Probation period, the Program remains accredited and has the opportunity to remedy the noncompliance concerns that led to the sanction.

Next Steps

The Program is required to submit a Progress Report no later than August 1, 2018, specifically addressing the noncompliance concerns listed above and providing evidence that the Program is in compliance with the respective standards/policies.

The Program is required to host a Focused Site Visit in the Fall of 2018 for verification/validation of the August 2018 Progress Report.

At its meeting in January 2019, the Council will review the August 2018 Progress Report, Fall 2018 Final Site Team Report and the Program response to the Final Site Team Report. The Council will then determine whether the Program has demonstrated compliance with the standards/policies identified in the action and whether Probation can be removed, or the Program has not demonstrated compliance and other action may be appropriate.

Comment from the Program

NUHS disagrees with the CCE's sanction of Probation and is seeking judicial review of the CCE's determination and whether CCE denied NUHS its common law due process rights, failed to follow its own policies, procedures, and manuals, and failed to follow a fair procedure. NUHS respects and supports the institution of accreditation as it has done since its first opportunity in the early 1970's. While we strongly disagree that the areas of concern raised by CCE rise to the level of a public sanction and in the case of CCE Policy 56 misinforms the public and misrepresents the actual board pass rates of our graduates, we will continue the work already in progress and consequently recognized by the CCE. We are confident in the quality of our programs, our graduates and our institution and remain committed to continued excellence in chiropractic education.

Contact Information

You may contact the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) by email at cce@cce-usa.org or by phone at 480-443-8877, if you have any questions regarding this notice.

Distribution:

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