

May 24, 2010



Commission on
Collegiate Nursing
Education

Serving the
Public Interest
Through Quality
Accreditation

Margaret Hourigan, EdD, RN, CNA, BC
Chairperson
Department of Nursing
Saint Joseph's College of Maine
278 Whites Bridge Road
Standish, ME 04084-5263

Dear Dr. Hourigan:

On behalf of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), I am pleased to advise you that the CCNE Board of Commissioners acted at its meeting on April 22-24, 2010, to grant accreditation of the baccalaureate degree program in nursing and master's degree program in nursing at Saint Joseph's College of Maine for the term of 10 years, extending to June 30, 2020. These accreditation actions are effective as of November 9, 2009, which is the first day of the programs' recent CCNE on-site evaluation. You should plan for the next on-site evaluation to take place in the fall of 2019.

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At its meeting, the Board determined that the programs met all four accreditation standards. The Board additionally determined that there are no compliance concerns with respect to the key elements.

As is required for all accredited programs, the Board requested that the programs submit a Continuous Improvement Progress Report (CIPR) at the mid-point of the accreditation term. The CIPR should address the nursing programs' continued compliance with all accreditation standards. The deadline for submitting the progress report to CCNE is June 1, 2015. The Report Review Committee, and then the Board of Commissioners, will review the progress report in the fall of 2015. For more information about CIPRs, please refer to the *CCNE Procedures for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Degree Nursing Programs*, available at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Accreditation/pdf/Procedures.pdf>.

Beginning January 1, 2010, all programs are required to comply with the *CCNE Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Degree Nursing Programs*, amended April 2009. The aforementioned CIPR will need to address the standards that are in effect at the time of submission. In the reminder letter sent approximately 5 months prior to the CIPR due date, CCNE will inform the program of the specific standards to be used and will provide guidance for the preparation of the report.

A copy of the accreditation report that was sent to you earlier, along with your response to it, is being transmitted to the institution's chief executive officer as the Commission's official report to Saint Joseph's College of Maine. We hope that both the results of your self-study process and the accreditation report will be useful to the continued growth and development of the nursing programs. Certificates of accreditation are enclosed.

As a reminder, programs are expected to continue to comply with the CCNE standards and procedures throughout the period of accreditation. This includes advising CCNE in the event of any substantive change in your nursing programs or of any major organizational changes that may affect the programs' administration,

scope, or quality. Substantive change notifications must be submitted to CCNE no earlier than 90 days prior to implementation or occurrence of the change, but no later than 90 days after implementation or occurrence of the change. These reporting requirements are discussed further in the CCNE *Procedures*.

We appreciate the many courtesies and the helpfulness extended to the CCNE evaluation team in the fall of 2009. The Commissioners join me in expressing our best wishes as you proceed with tasks important to the future of your nursing programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Ledbetter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Carol Ledbetter, PhD, FNP, BC, FAAN
Chair, Board of Commissioners

cc: President Joseph Lee
CCNE Board of Commissioners
CCNE Accreditation Review Committee
CCNE Evaluation Team