

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT

August 14, 2018

Dr. Shaheen N Awan
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
College of Science and Technology
Audiology & Speech Pathology
400 E 2nd St 338 Centennial Hall
Bloomsburg, PA 17815-1301

CAA File #169 – Clinical Doctoral program in audiology

Dear Dr. Awan,

I am pleased to inform you that during its meeting on July 18 – 21, 2018 the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) voted to remove the probationary status from the graduate education program in audiology at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, and continue accreditation. The program's current accreditation cycle is 10/1/2012 through 9/30/2020.

Although sufficient progress was made to remove probation, the issues provided in the attached *Accreditation Action Report* should be addressed in the program's next annual report. The CAA expects that the program will demonstrate full compliance with the standards cited by the time of the next CAA report. If there is not sufficient evidence of full compliance by that date, the program's accreditation may be in jeopardy, in keeping with the US Department of Education's criteria for CAA's recognition:

(b) if the institution or program does not bring itself into compliance within the specified period, the agency must take immediate adverse action unless the agency, for good cause, extends the period for achieving compliance.

The program's next CAA report will be submitted using an on-line format via the Higher Education System on August 1, 2019. Four months prior to the due date of the program's next CAA report, the program director will be sent an email notification indicating the timeline for completing this report.

The CAA considers timely submission of all accreditation reports and fees a critical condition for continued accredited status. Thus, a program will be placed on administrative probation as described in the [Accreditation Handbook](#) (Chapter XI Expectations of Programs, D. Administrative Probation) when it has not met its reporting and/or financial expectations to the CAA. Administrative Probation is an action taken by the CAA as a result of failure, by established deadlines, to complete and file any accreditation report, including all special requests for information or pay annual accreditation fees.

Public Notice of Accreditation Status:

The CAA requires programs to disclose *accurate* information about their accreditation status, to include the specific degree program awarded candidacy or accreditation, along with the full name, address, and phone number of the accrediting agency:

Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology
American Speech-Language Hearing Association
2200 Research Boulevard #310
Rockville, MD 20850
800-498-2071

Effective January 1, 2017, a program must publish on its website the applicable accreditation statement in its entirety as articulated in the Public Notice of Accreditation Status policy; refer to the CAA [Accreditation Handbook](#) (Chapter XII Informing the Public) for the appropriate language to use in publicizing your program's accreditation status.

Notification of Changes:

When the CAA awards an accreditation status, it does so based on the expectation that the program will continue to comply with all accreditation standards over the term of accreditation. On occasion, changes occur prior to the next regularly scheduled CAA report and require immediate notification to the CAA. These include:

1. Changes in institutional accreditation status
2. Program director changes
3. Administrative structure changes
4. Program closure

Should any of these changes occur prior to your next CAA report, please refer to the detailed information about the CAA's policies and procedures which may be found in the [Accreditation Handbook](#) Chapter XI - Expectations of Programs.

Congratulations to you, the faculty and staff in the program, as well as the administration, on making sufficient progress to meet the Standards for Accreditation to remove the probationary status. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Jennifer C. Friberg, Ed.D, Chair
Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

cc: Bashar W. Hanna, PhD - President
Betsy DeVos, U.S. Secretary of Education
Susan Flesher, Associate Director, Accreditation Services
CAA Members

ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

End of Probation Review

The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology took the following accreditation action at its July 18 - 21, 2018 meeting, as indicated below.

Name of Program: Bloomsburg University

File #: 169

Professional Area:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Audiology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Speech-Language Pathology |

Modality:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Residential |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Distance Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Satellite Campus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Contractual Arrangement |

Degree Designator(s): AuD

Current Accreditation Cycle: 10/01/2012 – 9/30/2020

Action Taken: Remove Probation, Continue Accreditation

Effective Date: July 21, 2018

New Accreditation Cycle: N/A

Next Review: Re-accreditation Application due August 1, 2019

Notices: The program is advised to adhere to the following notices that are appended to this report.

- PROGRAM COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS
- PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DECISION AND ACCREDITATION STATUS

In the context of the institutional and program mission statements and in consideration of the credentials for which the program is preparing students, the CAA conducted its comprehensive review and found the program to be in compliance with the Standards for Accreditation of Graduate Education Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, except as noted below.

AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE

The CAA found the program to be not in compliance with the following Standards for Accreditation. Non-compliance means that the program does not have in place the essential elements necessary to meet the standard. The program must demonstrate its compliance with these standards when responding to prior concerns in the next annual report or reaccreditation application or by the time line specified below. The CAA will indicate in its review of that report whether the program has addressed these areas sufficiently to achieve compliance. **Failure to demonstrate compliance with the standards may jeopardize the program's accreditation status or require the CAA to place the program on probation.**

- There are no areas of non-compliance with accreditation standards.

AREAS OF PARTIAL COMPLIANCE

The CAA found the program to be in partial compliance with the following Standards for Accreditation. Partial compliance means that the program has in place some, but not all, of the essential elements necessary to meet all aspects of the standard. The program must demonstrate its compliance with these standards when responding to prior concerns in the next annual report or reaccreditation application or by the time line specified below. The CAA will indicate in its review of that report whether the program has addressed these areas sufficiently to achieve compliance. **Failure to demonstrate compliance with the standards may jeopardize the program's accreditation status or require the CAA to place the program on probation.**

- There are no areas of partial compliance with accreditation standards.

AREAS FOR FOLLOW-UP (clarification/verification)

The CAA did not find the program to be out of compliance with the following Standards for Accreditation at this time. However, the program must provide additional information or an update in the program's next annual report or reaccreditation application for clarification or verification of these issues, in order to monitor the program's continued compliance in the stated areas.

- There are no areas for follow-up with accreditation standards.

PERFORMANCE WITH RESPECT TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The CAA has evaluated this program regarding its performance with respect to student achievement and provides the following report, required as an accrediting agency recognized by the US Secretary of Education [[34 CFR 602.17\(f\)\(2\)](#)].

Comments/Observations:

<i>The CAA assessed the program’s performance with respect to student achievement and found the program to meet or exceed the established CAA expectations (as described in accreditation standard 5.0-Assessment) in the following checked areas. Details regarding any of these areas found to be <u>not</u> in compliance are described earlier in this report in the context of the relevant standard.</i>	
x	Program Completion Rates
x	Employment Rates
x	Praxis Examination Rates

PROGRAM COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS

As an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, the CAA must comply with Criterion §602.20 [[34 CFR 602.20\(a\)\(2\)\(iii\)](#)]. This criterion requires that if an accrediting agency’s review of a program indicates that the program is not in compliance with any standard, the CAA must establish timelines for programs that are not in full compliance “to take appropriate action to bring itself into compliance with the agency’s standards”. As the programs that the CAA accredits are at least two years in length, the maximum time allowed under this criterion is two years. If, after review of a required report, the program remains out of full compliance with any standard and sufficient progress toward compliance has not been demonstrated, the CAA may act to place the program on probation or withdraw its accreditation status in accordance with the policy and procedures outlined in the [Accreditation Handbook](#). The CAA may place a program on probation or withdraw accreditation from a program prior to this time when there is clear evidence of circumstances that jeopardize the capability of the program to provide acceptable educational experiences for the students, as noted above. However, a program will be placed on probation or accreditation withdrawn after the review of a third consecutive report reveals that issues continue for the same standard(s) and the program remains not in full compliance with all standards.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THIS DECISION AND ACCREDITATION STATUS

The CAA publishes a notice of final accreditation actions on its website after comprehensive reviews are completed in accordance with its published policies. In the event an adverse action is taken and becomes final (i.e., withdrawal or withholding of an accreditation status), the CAA is required to publish a brief statement summarizing the reasons for withholding or withdrawing the accreditation status of a program, together with the comments, if any, that the affected program may wish to make.

The Criteria for Recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education requires all recognized accrediting agencies to provide for the public correction of incorrect or misleading information an accredited or preaccredited program releases about accreditation or preaccreditation status, contents of site visit reports, and accrediting or preaccrediting actions with respect to the program. [[34 CFR 602.23\(d\) and 602.23\(e\)](#)] The program must make accurate public disclosure of the accreditation or preaccreditation status awarded to the program, using the language provided in the [Accreditation Handbook](#) (see Chapter XII Informing the Public) on the academic accreditation website. If the program chooses to disclose any additional information within the scope of the ED rule, such disclosure also must be accurate. Any public disclosure of information within the scope of the rule must include the CAA's name, address, and telephone number as described in the [Accreditation Handbook](#). If an institution or program misrepresents or distorts any action by the CAA with respect to any aspect of the accreditation process, its accreditation status, the contents of the site visit report, or final CAA accreditation actions or decisions, the CAA will inform the chief executive officer of the institution and the program director that corrective action must be taken. If corrective action is not taken, the CAA will release a public statement that provides correct information and may invoke other sanctions as may be appropriate.