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November 12, 2019

Ms. Lisa Picht, MPH, LVT
Bergen Community College
Veterinary Technology Program
4000 Paramus Road
Paramus, NJ 07652

Dear Ms. Picht:

Following review of the interim report for the Bergen Community College veterinary technology program, the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) continued the program on Full accreditation.

After consideration of the documentation provided, the Committee has determined that continued reporting is required on the following deficiencies (see chart(s) below):

Critical deficiency(ies): None at this time
Major deficiency(ies): 2 (noted below)

The next biennial report is due fall 2020 (September 10, 2020). The report assessment will be sent out approximately 2 months prior to the due date. If there are any changes that impact critical or major deficiencies that the CVTEA previously determined do not require continued reporting, the program must report this change. The next accreditation site visit is scheduled for 2024.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of assistance in the preparation of your next report, please do not hesitate to contact us or Ms. Julie Horvath (jhorvath@avma.org; ext. 6624).

Sincerely,

Rachel Valentine, RVT

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AVMA Center for Veterinary Medical Accreditation

RAV/LLL/jah

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Bergen Community College ROE 2018 ***CRITICAL DEFICIENCY (IES)*** **Critical deficiencies apply to situations that clearly result in a program's inability to meet a Standard, and/or subject students, faculty, or others to unacceptable levels of risk. Documentation of significant progress toward compliance with each critical deficiency must be achieved by the time of the program's next report to CVTEA. Lack of compliance may be considered cause for reduction of the program's accreditation status.** It is critical that:		(Office use only) Is the Deficiency met with no further reporting required or unmet with continued reporting required? (comments); date
1.	Program facilities emulate contemporary veterinary facilities by removing extraneous material from surgery. (4b, 4e)	Met; 4/2019
2.	All facilities used in Program instruction be compliant with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations and other safety concerns with respect to: a) lack of eyewash station in proximity to the automatic processor b) food and drink storage in the laboratory area c) expired first aid kit contents d) lack of complete conversion to Hazard Communication System safety data sheets e) lack of documentation for vaporizer maintenance f) fire extinguisher maintenance and testing g) Surfaces that are not impervious to fluids h) lack of radiology exposure monitoring for all student activities (4e)	Met (a-f) 4/2019 Met (g, h); 11/2019
3.	Drugs, biologics, reagents and other materials used in conjunction with animal care be currently dated. Materials used for demonstration purposes, including those that are outdated, be appropriately identified and stored and a plan be developed to ensure inventories remain in date in the future. (4f)	Met; 4/2019
4.	Controlled substance storage and inventory practices be compliant with Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) regulations. (4f)	Met; 4/2019
5.	The Program have adequate space for storage (4h)	Met; 11/2019
6.	The Program have an appropriately functioning institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) in regards to: a) IACUC-approved protocols be in place for all animal activities b) Elimination of conflicts of interest in the protocol approval process c) Inadequate response when addressing facility deficiencies d) Insufficient reporting frequency to the Institutional Official (5a)	Met (b) 4/2019 Met (a,c,d); 11/2019
7.	Evidence exist that all required skills have been performed by all students and have been evaluated by Program personnel using standardized criteria and all skills are performed on live animals. (10b, 10e)	Met; 11/2019

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Bergen Community College ROE 2018 ***MAJOR DEFICIENCY (IES)*** **Major deficiencies apply to situations that jeopardize the ability of the program to meet a Standard. Progress toward meeting each major deficiency must be demonstrated on an annual or biennial basis. Documentation of steps taken toward compliance with major deficiencies is required. Lack of compliance within the assigned five- or six-year period, prior to the next scheduled complete evaluation, may be considered cause for reduction of the program's accreditation status.** It is required that:		(Office use only) Is the Deficiency met with no further reporting required or unmet with continued reporting required? (comments); date
1.	The institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) publicize the method for investigating complaints regarding animal care and use; a.k.a. whistle-blower policy. (5a)	Met; 4/2019
2.	Program personnel to student ratios not exceed 1:8 for laboratory courses with animals present. (8a) *Compliance with indicated ratios is required by September 1, 2020.	Unmet; future reporting will be requested

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