

LETTER FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

RIT's Physician Assistant (PA) Program remains an accredited program that continues to produce excellent outcomes. Below are some features that demonstrate signature strengths of the program:

- RIT was recently reaccredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education.
- RIT is among the top 100 universities in the nation per US News & World Report ranking.
- 97 percent pass rate on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) for the Class of 2016 (above the national average).
- Individualized student advisement, support and mentoring by principal program faculty.
- Committed to excellent teaching and state-of-the-art clinical facilities.
- Alliance with Rochester Regional Health (RRH) providing outstanding training for clinical students.
- Additional clinical sites such as the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC), private practices, and many others.
- Excellent program retention rate (94%)
- Dedicated principal program faculty in a committed local and regional medical community.

The primary reasons for the probationary status fall into the following areas: infrastructure and resources, development of a formalized summative evaluation, and a more robust and ongoing programmatic self-assessment process. This includes the refinement of measurable learning objectives and student assessment tools in the clinical year.

It is critical to recognize that their findings were primarily administrative in nature and did not question the overall quality of didactic education provided (reflected by both PA students and faculty), the preparation of our graduates for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) or entry into clinical practice.

The PA Program, the College of Health Sciences and Technology, and the university have immediately initiated an intensive plan for addressing the issues raised. We embrace this review process and it will make us better. We are fully confident that these corrective measures will meet the ARC-PA Standards with no adverse consequences to currently enrolled, admitted, or prospective students.

The PA Program is committed to providing excellent student outcomes, while enabling graduates to provide high-quality, cost-effective, and compassionate health care. A FAQ sheet, with additional information on the program's accreditation status, is also provided below.

Sincerely,

Heidi B. Miller, PA-C, MPH
Professor and Program Director
RIT Physician Assistant Program