



Transmitted by electronic mail only:

February 16, 2023

ID#: I-427

██████████
CEO

Emergency Training Academy
10675 SW 190th Street, Suite 1207
Miami, FL 33157

Dear ██████████:

The Commission, at its January 2023 meeting, reviewed the record¹ of your institution's application for a continued grant of accreditation. Based on review and discussion, the Commission acted to **deny** the institution's application for continued accreditation and to **withdraw** the current grant of accreditation based on the standards from the *Accreditation Manual*. *This action* is subject to appeal in accordance with III.C.7. of the *Accreditation Manual*.

Procedural History

According to the accreditation record, the institution was placed on outcomes reporting in August 2021 because its only two offered programs, Emergency Medical Technician – Diploma and Paramedic – Diploma had outcome rates below 70%. In April 2022, the institution underwent a team visit for an application for continued institutional accreditation. At its July 2022 meeting, the Commission deferred action on the application, and directed the institution to show cause why its accreditation should be withdrawn. In the letter dated August 11, 2022, the institution was to respond to twelve accreditation standard violations, including student achievement indicators. The institution responded to the August 11, 2022, letter evidencing compliance with the noted standard violations, but the program outcome rates continue to be below 70%.

Reasons for Denial of the Application for Renewal and Withdrawal of Accreditation

- Failure to demonstrate at least a 70% placement rate. (III.A.10.d.). (All programs)

¹ The accreditation record includes the March 2022 Self-Evaluation Report, the April 2022 visitation reports, the institution's May 2022 response to the reports, the 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 Annual Reports, outcome reporting letters dated February 2021, August 2021, and February 2022, and the institution's response to such letters, the institution's response to the August 2022 Show Cause letter, the institution's financial history, and other relevant correspondence and documentation.

The Commission found that the institution has not demonstrated compliance because the placement rates for the Emergency Medical Technician – Diploma and Paramedic – Diploma programs are below the 70% threshold.

According to our records, the following placement rates for the **Emergency Medical Technician – Diploma** program have been reported to date:

- o December 2020 – The institution reported a placement rate of 9% on its 2019-2020 Annual Report.
- o May 2021 – The institution submitted an updated placement rate of 9% for the 2019-2020 reporting year.
- o October 2021 – The institution submitted an updated placement rate of 43% for the 2019-2020 reporting year, which was unverifiable because the institution did not include a narrative or a table of graduates whose placement categorization had changed. , An action plan was also not provided.
- o November 2021 – The institution submitted a placement rate of 17% on its 2020-2021 Annual Report.
- o May 2022 – The institution submitted an updated placement rate of 29% for the 2020-2021 reporting year, which was unverifiable because the institution’s narrative response indicated an updated rate of 29%; however, the submitted back-up documentation showed a rate of 25%. The list of graduates whose placement categorizations changed included 11 graduates, 6 of whom were unavailable due to continuing education; however, the institution did not provide additional documentation or rationale to support those categorizations.

Student ID#	First Name	Last Name	Previous Category	Current Category
100423	██████	██████████	Failed Testing	Tested/Continued Education
100427	██████	██████	Not Tested	Tested/Continued Education
100455	██████	████	Placed Out of Field	Unable to place Continued Education
100454	██████	████	Not Placed	Unable to place Continued Education
100463	████████	████████	Not Placed	Unable to place Continued Education
100540	██████	████████	Not Placed	Unable to place Continued Education

- o November 2022 – The institution submitted an updated placement rate of 53% for the 2020-2021 reporting year, which was unverifiable because the institution did not to provide a table, as directed, identifying any graduates whose placement categorization (placed, unavailable, or placed out of field/not placed) had changed since the last submission, rationale and additional documentation to justify graduates categorized with a job title that does not match the title of the program or who are unavailable for placement. An action plan was also not provided.
- o November 2022 – The institution reported a placement rate of 40% on its 2021-2022 Annual Report.

According to our records, the following placement rates for the **Paramedic – Diploma** program have been reported to date:

- o December 2020 – The institution reported a placement rate of 25% on its 2019-2020 Annual Report.

- May 2021 – The institution submitted an updated placement rate of 25% for the 2019-2020 reporting year.
- October 2021 – The institution submitted an updated placement rate of 38% for the 2019-2020 reporting year, which was unverifiable because the institution did not include a narrative, a table of graduates whose placement categorization has changed, or an action plan as part of its response.
- November 2021 – The institution submitted a placement rate of 14% on its 2020-2021 Annual Report.
- May 2022 – The institution submitted an updated placement rate of 40% for the 2020-2021 reporting year, which was unverifiable as the institution failed to provide additional documentation and rationale for [REDACTED], who was categorized as unavailable due to military obligations.
- November 2022 – The institution submitted an updated placement rate of 93% for the 2020-2021 reporting year, which was unverifiable because the institution failed to provide a table identifying any graduates whose placement categorization (placed, unavailable, or placed out of field/not placed) had changed since the last submission, rationale and additional documentation to justify graduates currently categorized with a job title that does not match the title of the program or who are unavailable for placement. An action plan was also not provided.
- November 2022 – The institution reported a placement rate of 27% on its 2021-2022 Annual Report.

Maximum Timeframe for Compliance

The maximum period of time the Commission may allow for a program to be brought into compliance with ABHES requirements is stated in III.C.1.b. of the *Accreditation Manual*. The institution was first notified of the findings of non-compliance by letter dated August 12, 2021, and was directed to demonstrate compliance within the maximum timeframe with a final response due on November 1, 2022, for review at the Commission’s January 2023 meeting.

Appeal of Action, Notice of Intent to Appeal and Required Fees

If the institution wishes to appeal the action of the Commission, it may do so by filing its intent to appeal the Commission action online via [DropBox Commission Responses](#) within 10 calendar days of the date of this letter and named “ABHES ID#_Intent_to_Appeal” for receipt by ABHES by **February 27, 2023. Upon receipt of the institution’s intent to appeal, the institution will be assessed a non-refundable \$5,000 appeal fee plus an Appeal Hearing expense deposit of \$10,000, which must be remitted electronically within five business days.** Failure to remit timely payment of the fees may hinder or delay scheduling of the appeal.

In accordance with III.E.3. of the *Accreditation Manual*, the institution retains its accreditation status during any pending appeal.

Should the institution elect not to appeal, the decision to deny the application and withdraw the institution’s accreditation will be effective as of February 27, 2023, and the institution may not reapply to ABHES for accreditation within one year from that date.

Written Statement of Grounds for Appeal

The appeal materials, consisting of a complete written statement of the grounds for its appeal based on the Commission's findings and reasons, is due within **45 calendar days** from the date of the Commission's written decision in this letter dated February 16, 2023. The institution should review carefully all procedures governing its appeal, in accordance with the procedures found in III.E.3. of the *Accreditation Manual*. Note that the appeal is based upon the information available to the Commission at the time of its action. Unless specifically provided for in III.E.3.g., the Appeals Panel has no authority to consider evidence outside of the record considered by the Commission at its January 2023 meeting. The institution has the burden of demonstrating that the action of the Commission was not supported by the record or was otherwise erroneous.

Appeal Submission Requirements

Should the institution wish to appeal, the appeal document, including a cover letter, narrative, and exhibits, must be submitted to ABHES online via [DropBox Commission Responses](#) within 45 calendar days of the Commission action, April 3, 2023, in accordance with the instructions in [Preparing Your Response](#).

It is imperative that the file name must include ABHES ID#, RSP to Feb 2023 Denial APPEAL Letter, and date of submission (ex: I-100_RSP to Feb 2023 Denial APPEAL Letter_42023).

Required Submissions

The institution is directed to submit the following:

- **Teach-Out Plan and student disclosure**

By **February 27, 2023**, the institution must submit, online via [DropBox Forms/Applications](#) its updated Teach-Out Plan and the corresponding *Teach-out Plan Form* (available for download from the ABHES website at <https://abhес.org/resources/#Forms>) for all active programs.

The institution must include in its submission evidence it has published a new student disclosure notice **within seven business days of the date of this letter** informing enrolled and prospective students of the Withdrawal/Denial action as the reason the updated Teach-Out Plan is being required.²

Disclosures

The U.S. Department of Education, the appropriate State licensing or authorizing agency, the appropriate accrediting agency, and the public have been notified of this action to withdraw the institution's accreditation and that the action is subject to appeal in compliance with 34 Code of Federal Regulations § 602.26 *et seq* and Chapter III of the *Accreditation Manual*.

² This disclosure is also required under 34 Code of Federal Regulations § 668.43(a) (19) which states: "If the institution is required to maintain a teach-out plan by its accrediting agency, notice that the institution is required to maintain such teach-out plan and the reason that the accrediting agency required such plan under § 602.24(c)(1). . ."

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact me at (301) 291-7550.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "India Y. Tips". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

India Y. Tips
Executive Director

c: DAPIP, U.S. Department of Education
 Joey Smith, Florida Commission for Independent Education
 Bill Seifarth, National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians