



## Accreditation Status Legend

**(100):** CRT-Certified Respiratory Therapist program. [Please note: As of July 1, 2010, no new students shall be admitted into 100-level programs. Students enrolled in a 100-level program must graduate by December 31, 2012, to be recognized as graduates of a CoARC-accredited program. All 100-level programs must voluntarily withdraw effective December 31, 2012. Failure to do so by this date will result in a CoARC action to withdraw accreditation.]

**(200):** RRT-Registered Respiratory Therapist program.

**(300):** CoARC programs for additional offerings by a base program. Options include Satellite (U.S. and International) and Scheduling (Evening, weekends, etc).

**(400):** Polysomnography Specialty Options

**Admin Pro:** Administrative Probation will be automatic when a program (i.e. any program option with a separate CoARC ID number) does not comply with any of the administrative requirements. The placement of a program on Administrative Probation will not affect the eligibility for the NBRC Examinations of those students in the program.

**Continuing Accreditation:** Continuing Accreditation is conferred when 1) an established, currently accredited program demonstrates continued compliance with the *Standards* following submission of a continuing self-study report and completion of an on-site visit, or 2) a program holding Initial Accreditation has demonstrated continued compliance with the *Standards* during the Initial Accreditation period. Continuing Accreditation remains in effect until the program withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the *Standards*.

**Initial Accreditation:** This status is conferred for a limited defined period of time (five years) to a developing program that, at the time of the initial site visit, has demonstrated compliance with the *Standards*. During this time, the program may be subject to Probationary Accreditation or Withdrawal of Accreditation (see CoARC Policies 1.054 and 1.058). At the end of the allotted time, the CoARC may confer either Continuing Accreditation or Withhold of Accreditation.

**Inactive Accreditation:** Programs with continuing accreditation may request an inactive status for up to two years. During this time the program is required to pay full CoARC fees. No students may be enrolled or be matriculated in the program during the time period in which the program is inactive. Those programs offering additional options may request voluntary inactive status for these options without affecting the accreditation status of the base program. The date of the next scheduled site visit is not changed due to inactive status. During inactive status, programs must continue to submit documents (e.g., annual reports, progress reports) and pay fees that are due during that time, unless otherwise directed by the CoARC Board.

**Letter of Review (LOR) (Date upon which the program can admit students):** This status signifies that a program seeking Initial Accreditation has demonstrated sufficient compliance with the *Standards* through the Letter of Review Self Study Report (LSSR) and other documentation. The conferral of Letter of Review status denotes a developmental program, in which assurances are expected to be provided that the program may become accredited as programmatic experiences are gained, generally, by the time the first class has graduated. The conferral of a Letter of Review also authorizes the sponsor to admit its first class of students. It is recognized by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) toward eligibility to the Respiratory Care Credentialing Examination(s). Graduates of a program designated as having Letter of Review status have the same rights and privileges as graduates of an accredited program. Following the completion of the first on-site evaluation, the Board will confer Initial Accreditation or Withhold Initial Accreditation.

**Probation:** Probationary Accreditation is a temporary status of accreditation conferred when an accredited program is not in compliance with one or more *Standards* and/or Policies following submission of one or more progress reports, and has not corrected deficiencies identified earlier by the CoARC Board. The program must file a Probation Report as directed by the CoARC Executive Office. However, if at any time during the year, the program is able to rectify all the deficiencies that resulted in Probationary Accreditation and achieve compliance with the *Standards*, the CoARC Board will consider removing the probationary status when review of the Probation Report so warrants. If compliance with the *Standards* is not demonstrated within 1 year, accreditation will be withdrawn. A program may remain on probation for no longer than one year without demonstrable and remarkable extenuating circumstances, in which case probation may be extended for an additional year. In no case will probation status exceed 2 years. A program on probation maintains its current accreditation status and is required to submit an Annual Report of Current Status (RCS) on the original due date. However, review and approval of the Annual RCS does not affect the probationary status. Because probation is not a decision to reaccredit, the original accreditation cycle remains in effect until the CoARC makes a decision, based on the Probation Report, to withdraw accreditation. If the decision is to reaccredit, the original accreditation cycle is continued. A probation decision can be subject to reconsideration but cannot be appealed (See CoARC Policy 1.07). Enrolled students completing the program under Probationary Accreditation are considered graduates of a CoARC accredited program.

**Revocation of Letter of Review:** If, during the period between conferral of the Letter of Review and the completion of the first on-site evaluation, the CoARC has reason to believe that a program is no longer in compliance with one or more *Standards* and/or these Policies, the sponsor(s) will be notified in writing of such reason(s) and will be required to provide a response to the CoARC and will be given the opportunity to correct any deficiencies in a timely manner. If the program fails to provide sufficient evidence that the deficiencies have been corrected, the CoARC may confer a Revocation of Letter of Review. The Revocation of Letter of Review begins with the notification to the sponsor(s) as to the reason(s) why the *Revocation of Letter of Review* is being conferred. A focused on-site evaluation may be scheduled to verify the evidence of non-compliance with the *Standard(s)* in question. If the program's response is not adequate or if the results of a focused on-site evaluation confirm non-compliance with *Standards*, the Letter of Review Status will be revoked. (See CoARC Policy 1.07 for Reconsideration and Appeal Policy)

**Withdrawal of Accreditation - Voluntary:** Programs may notify CoARC of Voluntary Withdrawal of Accreditation or Letter of Review at any time for all activities of the program or for any program options.

**Withdrawal of Accreditation - Involuntary:** A program that has had its accreditation status withdrawn shall no longer be allowed to admit students. Enrolled students completing the program that has been conferred a Withdraw of Accreditation are considered graduates of a CoARC accredited program (See CoARC Policy 1.07 for Reconsideration and Appeal Policy).

**Withhold of Accreditation:** A program seeking Initial Accreditation or Continuing Accreditation may have such accreditation status withheld if, following submission of a self-study and completion of a on-site evaluation, the accreditation review process confirms that the program is not in compliance with the Standards. A program that has had its accreditation status withheld shall no longer be allowed to admit students. Enrolled students completing the program that has been conferred a Withhold of Accreditation are considered graduates of a CoARC accredited program. (See CoARC Policy 1.07 for Reconsideration and Appeal Policy)