

ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

Re-Accreditation Review

The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology took the following accreditation action at its July 6 – 8, 2022 meeting, as indicated below.

Name of Program: Marywood University

File #: 263

Professional Area:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Audiology
<input checked="" 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): M.S.

Current Accreditation Cycle: 8/1/2014 - 7/31/2022

Action Taken: Continue Accreditation

Effective Date: July 8, 2022

New Accreditation Cycle: 8/1/2022 - 7/31/2030

Next Review: Annual Report due August 1, 2023

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. A program will be placed on probation or accreditation withdrawn after the review of a second consecutive report reveals that issues continue for the same standard(s) and the program remains not in full compliance with all standards (effective January 1, 2021- see [CAA Accreditation Handbook, Chapter XVII](#)).**

Standard 2.2 The number, composition, and workload of all full-time faculty who have responsibility in the graduate program are sufficient to allow them to meet expectations with regard to teaching, research, and service of the sponsoring institution.

Requirement for Review:

The program must demonstrate that all faculty who have responsibility in the graduate program and have obligations to provide teaching, research, and service as part of their workload:

- Are accessible to students
- Have sufficient time for scholarly and creative activities
- Have sufficient time to advise students
- Have sufficient time to participate in faculty governance
- Have sufficient time to participate in other activities that are consistent with the expectations of the sponsoring institution

Evidence of Non-Compliance:

The CAA requires that programs demonstrate that all faculty who have responsibility in the graduate program and have obligations to provide teaching, research, and service as part of their workload are accessible to students, and have sufficient time for scholarly and creative activities, to advise students, to participate in faculty governance, and to participate in other activities that are consistent with the expectations of the sponsoring institution.

In its response to the Site Visit Report, the program states that the current number of faculty can provide adequate education for students to achieve the student learning outcomes, but only on an overload basis that is not sustainable for the long term. The program states that there are no plans at this time to initiate

a search for additional tenure-track faculty, and there is a concern about the ability for tenure-track faculty to assume leadership roles. The program stated that in the coming academic year, the dean and current chairperson will collaborate on mentorship initiatives to increase tenure-track faculty participation in leadership roles, fostering a growth mindset. In July 2023, a tenure-track faculty member will begin a three-year term as chair of the program.

Steps to Be Taken:

At the time of the next Annual Report, provide and update to current plans and the long-term plans to resolve the overload of the faculty member, the ability of faculty to meet promotion and tenure goals, including the consideration of opening a search and hiring a tenure track faculty member, and the impact of those initiatives on the program.

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.

- Standard 2.1** **2.1.1 allows students to acquire the knowledge and skills required in Standard 3,**
2.1.2 allows students to acquire the scientific and research fundamentals of the discipline,
2.1.3 allows students to meet the program's established goals and objectives,
2.1.4 meets the expectations set forth in the program's mission and goals,
2.1.5 is offered on a regular basis so that it will allow the students to complete the program within the published time frame.

Requirement for Review:

The program must document:

- the number of individuals in and composition of the group that delivers the program of study
- how the faculty composition is sufficient to allow students to acquire the knowledge and skills required in Standard 3
- how the faculty composition is sufficient to allow students to acquire the scientific and research fundamentals of the profession
- how the faculty composition is sufficient to allow students to meet the program's established learning goals and objectives
- how the faculty composition is sufficient to allow students to meet the expectations set forth in the program's mission and goals

Evidence of Concern:

The CAA requires that programs document overall program faculty sufficiency that will allow students to acquire the required knowledge and skills, acquire the scientific and research fundamentals of the discipline, meets the expectations set forth in the program's mission and goals, and will allow the program

to be offered on a regular basis so that it will allow the students to meet the expectations set forth in the program's mission and goals.

In response to the Site Visitor Report, the program states that the current number of faculty can provide adequate education for students to achieve the student learning outcomes, but only on an overload basis that is not sustainable for the long term. There are no immediate plans to initiate a search for additional tenure-track faculty. However, to address concerns that overloads are not sustainable, the program stated that additional academic and clinical adjunct faculty will be hired as available. The program stated that the University supports the use of adjuncts to eliminate the program's concerns of sustainability over time.

Steps to Be Taken:

At the time of the next Annual Report, describe the initiatives that have been put in place to relieve the overload of current faculty, and provide an update on the status of the workload of current faculty members.

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\(f\)](#)].

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](#)]. 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 provide a written timeline to the program to come into compliance that is reasonable, as determined by the CAA, based on the nature of the finding, the stated mission, and educational objectives of the program. The timeline may include intermediate checkpoints on the way to full compliance and must not exceed three years for programs, regardless of professional area. If the review of a second consecutive report reveals that issues continue for the same standard(s), regardless of which requirements for review were identified, and the program remains not in full compliance with all standards, 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.

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.