

ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

Candidacy Application

The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology took the following accreditation action at its February 19-22, 2020 meeting, as indicated below.

Name of Program: Lewis University

File #: 340

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.

Action Taken: Award Candidacy

Effective Date: February 22, 2020

Candidacy Accreditation Cycle: February 1, 2020 – January 31, 2025

Next Review: Annual Progress Report due February 1, 2021

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

The CAA conducted its comprehensive review in the context of the institutional and program mission statements and in consideration of the credentials for which the program is preparing students, and determined that the program demonstrated sufficient compliance with the Standards for Accreditation of Graduate Education Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, except as noted below.

Standard 1.9 The program provides information about the program and the institution to students and to the public that is current, accurate, and readily available

Requirement(s) of the Standard to be met:

- At a minimum, the following results of student outcome measures for the most recently completed 3 academic years must be provided:
 - number and percentage of students completing the program within the program's published time frame for each of the 3 most recently completed academic years,
 - number and percentage of program test-takers who pass the Praxis® Subject Assessment examination for each of the 3 most recently completed academic years (programs need report only the results once for test-takers who take the test more than one time in the reporting period),
 - number and percentage of program graduates employed in the profession or pursuing further education in the profession within 1 year of graduation for each of the 3 most recently completed academic years.

Compliance Expectation Determined: *Initiated*

Compliance Expectation for Award of Candidacy Status: *Initiated*

Concern: The structure for the Student Outcome Data table on the program's website (<https://www.lewisu.edu/academics/slp/outcomes.htm>) notes a year, but not the academic year as required by this standard.

Steps to be taken: In the first annual progress report, the program must document that the Student Outcome Data table has been updated to meet the expectations of this standard. See guidance on presenting student achievement data on the CAA's website (<https://caa.asha.org/reporting/student-achievement-measures/presenting-student-achievement-data/>) for assistance/examples.

Standard 6.3 The program has adequate physical facilities (classrooms, offices, clinical space, research laboratories) that are accessible, appropriate, safe, and sufficient to achieve the program's mission and goals.

Requirement(s) of the Standard to be met:

- The program must demonstrate that its facilities are adequate to deliver a program that is consistent with its mission and goals.

Compliance Expectation Determined: *Initiated*

Compliance Expectation for Award of Candidacy Status: *Initiated*

Concern: It was noted the facilities that will house the department are undergoing renovations, with an expected completion date of Spring 2020. Given that the program anticipates a Summer 2020 start date, the program must demonstrate that the facilities are adequate and ready to have faculty and students using the classroom and clinical space. If the renovation is not complete by Summer 2020, the program needs to report its plans for alternate space or delaying the start of the program.

Steps to be taken: At the time of the first annual progress report, provide an update on the renovations for the program's facilities and what alternative solutions were employed by the program, if needed.

PERFORMANCE WITH RESPECT TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The CAA 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\(f\)\(2\)](#)].

Upon award of candidacy status, no students are enrolled in the program; thus student achievement data has not been collected. However, the CAA assessed the program's process for collecting and reporting student achievement data and found the program to meet or exceed the established CAA expectations as described in the Standards Compliance Continuum for Accreditation Standard 5.0 – Assessment.

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.