

**ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT**  
**Candidacy Application**

The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology took the following accreditation action at its March 15-17, 2023 meeting, as indicated below.

**Name of Program: Bob Jones University**

**File #: 366**

**Professional Area:**

- |                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <b>Audiology</b>                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <b>Speech-Language Pathology</b> |

**Modality:**

- |                                     |                                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <b>Residential</b>             |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <b>Distance Education</b>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <b>Satellite Campus</b>        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <b>Contractual Arrangement</b> |

**Degree Designator(s): MS**

**Action Taken: Award Candidacy**

**Effective Date: March 17, 2023**

**Candidacy Accreditation Cycle: 3/1/2023 – 2/29/2028**

**Next Review: First Annual Progress Report due February 1, 2024**

**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, unless noted below.

**Standard 2.1 – Faculty Sufficiency - Overall Program**

The number and composition of the program faculty (academic doctoral, clinical doctoral, other) are sufficient to deliver a program of study that:

- 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 of the Standard to be met:*

The program must document:

- The distribution of faculty in terms of the number of full-time and part-time individuals who hold academic doctoral degrees, clinical doctoral degrees, and master degrees

Compliance Expectation Determined: **Initiated**

Compliance Expectation for Award of Candidacy Status: **Initiated**

**CAA Concern:**

The CAA requires programs to document the number of individuals in and the composition of the group that delivers the program of study. The site visit report noted that the program’s hiring plan includes two faculty with Ph.D. or Ed.D. credentials. The Council is unclear on the distribution of full-time terminal degree faculty members and their course assignments and would like clarification on the credentials of the faculty members and their course loads.

**Steps to Be Taken:**

At the time of the first annual progress report, the program must provide documentation that outlines the faculty makeup with regard to credentials and course assignments to demonstrate that the faculty composition is sufficient to deliver the program.

**Standard 2.3 – Faculty Qualifications**

All faculty members (full-time, part-time, adjuncts), including all individuals providing clinical education, are qualified and competent by virtue of their education, experience, and professional credentials to provide academic and clinical education as assigned by the program leadership.

*Requirement of the Standard to be met:*

- The program must demonstrate that the majority of academic content is taught by doctoral faculty who hold the appropriate terminal academic degree (PhD, EdD).

Compliance Expectation Determined: **Planned**

Compliance Expectation for Award of Candidacy Status: **Initiated**

**CAA Concern:**

The CAA requires programs to demonstrate that the majority of academic content is taught by

doctoral faculty who hold the appropriate terminal academic degree. The site visit team noted that the program has 50% of its academic content taught by faculty members who hold a terminal degree, right below the threshold of 51%. The program's plan to offload undergraduate courses from PhD holding faculty members to adjust the distribution of courses would not meet the threshold of 51%.

**Steps to Be Taken:**

At the time of the first annual progress report, the program must provide documentation that updates the Council on the hiring process for terminal degree faculty members and provide documentation which shows that 51% or more of the academic content, as measured by credit hours, is taught by faculty members that hold either a PhD or EdD.

## **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\(f\)](#)]. 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 Candidacy 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.