



MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501
www.msche.org

STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

UPR - RIO PIEDRAS CAMPUS

P. O. Box 23300

San Juan, PR 00931-3300

Phone: (787) 764-0000; Fax: (787) 764-8799

www.uprrp.edu

Chief Executive Officer:

Dr. Luis A. Ferrao Delgado, Interim Chancellor

System:

University of Puerto Rico Central Administration

Dr. Darrel Hillman-Barreras, Interim President

G.P.O. Box 4984-G

San Juan, PR 00936

Phone: (787) 759-6061; Fax: (787) 759-6917

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Enrollment (Headcount):

13472 Undergraduate ; 3400 Graduate

Control:

Public

Affiliation:

Government-State and Local - See notes at the end of the section.

2015 Carnegie Classification:

Doctoral Universities - Higher Research Activity

Approved Degree Levels:

Bachelor's, Postbaccalaureate Award/Cert/Diploma, Master's, Post-Master's Award/Cert/Diploma, Doctor's - Professional Practice, Doctor's - Research/Scholarship;

Distance Education Programs: Approved (School Library Certificate Program)

Accreditors Recognized by U.S. Secretary of Education:

Instructional Locations

Branch Campuses: None

Additional Locations: Abbott Laboratories, Barceloneta, PR; Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company, Barceloneta, PR; UPR Humacao, Humacao, PR.

Other Instructional Sites: None

ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

Status: Member since 1946

Last Reaffirmed: June 23, 2016

Most Recent Commission Action:

- June 21, 2018: To accept the supplemental information report addressing the action of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND).
- June 21, 2018: To accept the supplemental information report of March 2018 and the monitoring report of September 2017. To note the visit from the Commission representatives. To note that the institution is now in compliance with Requirement of Affiliation 2 (formerly Requirement of Affiliation 3). To postpone a decision on reaffirmation and remind the institution that it remains on probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11. To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To remind the institution that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in non-compliance to two years. To request a supplemental information report due September 1, 2018 documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11, including but not limited to (1) evidence that the institution has documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to ensure financial stability; (2) updated information on the impact of the Fiscal Oversight Management Board's plan and proposed restructuring on the institution's status and finances (Standard VI); and (3) evidence that the institution demonstrates a record of responsible fiscal management, has a prepared budget for the current year, and undergoes an external financial audit on an annual basis (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11). A small team visit will follow submission of the report. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the date of the next evaluation visit is 2024-2025.

Brief History Since Last Comprehensive Evaluation:

- June 23, 2016: To reaffirm accreditation. The date for the next accreditation review will be determined by the Commission when it revises the accreditation cycle.
- May 2, 2017: Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due May 5, 2017, addressing concerns regarding

recent developments at the institution which may have implications for current and future compliance with Requirements of Affiliation, Standards, or Commission Policies.

- May 18, 2017: To accept the Supplemental Information Report. To place the institution on probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Requirements of Affiliation 3 (institution is operational, with students actively pursuing its degree programs) and 8 (documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to assure financial stability), and with Standard 3 (Institutional Resources). To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To request a monitoring report, due September 1, 2017, documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain compliance with Requirements of Affiliation 3 and 8 and Standard 3, including but not limited to (1) the institution is operational, with students actively pursuing its degree programs (Requirement of Affiliation 3) and (2) the institution has documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to assure financial stability (Requirement of Affiliation 8 and Standard 3). A small team visit will follow submission of the report. To direct a prompt liaison guidance consultation to discuss the Commission's expectations. To remind the institution of its obligation to inform the Commission about any and all significant developments relevant to this action, including developments relevant to Title IV program responsibilities. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2024-2025.
- October 19, 2017: To request a supplemental information report due, December 1, 2017, regarding the status of the institution. To note the visit by the Commission's representatives and to note that the monitoring report has been received and will be acted on at the March Commission meeting.
- February 15, 2018: To accept the Supplemental Information report. To postpone a decision on reaffirmation. To remind the institution of the Commission's May 18, 2017 action placing the institution on probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Requirements of Affiliation 3 and 8 and Standard 3. To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To request a Supplemental Information report, due March 15, 2018, regarding the status of the institution. A small team visit will follow submission of the report. To note that the monitoring report submitted in September 2017 will be acted upon at the June Commission meeting. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2024-2025.
- March 16, 2018: Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due April 16, 2018, addressing the action of the

Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics
(ACEND).

Next Self-Study Evaluation: 2024 - 2025

Date Printed: June 25, 2018

DEFINITIONS

Branch Campus - A location of an institution that is geographically apart and independent of the main campus of the institution. The location is independent if the location: offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential; has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

Additional Location - A location, other than a branch campus, that is geographically apart from the main campus and at which the institution offers at least 50 percent of an educational program. ANYA ("Approved but Not Yet Active") indicates that the location is included within the scope of accreditation but has not yet begun to offer courses. This designation is removed after the Commission receives notification that courses have begun at this location.

Other Instructional Sites - A location, other than a branch campus or additional location, at which the institution offers one or more courses for credit.

Distance Education Programs - Fully Approved, Approved (one program approved) or Not Approved indicates whether or not the institution has been approved to offer diploma/certificate/degree programs via distance education (programs for which students could meet 50% or more of the requirements of the program by taking distance education courses). Per the Commission's Substantive Change policy, Commission approval of the first two Distance Education programs is required to be "Fully Approved." If only one program is approved by the Commission, the specific name of the program will be listed in parentheses after "Approved."

Commission actions are explained in the policy *Accreditation Actions*.



Middle States Commission on Higher Education

3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680

Phone: 267-284-5000 Fax: 215-662-5501 www.msche.org

Public Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of

UPR – Rio Piedras

Issued June 21, 2018

At its meeting on June 21, 2018, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) acted:

To accept the supplemental information report of March 2018 and the monitoring report of September 2017.

To note the visit from the Commission representatives.

To note that the institution is now in compliance with Requirement of Affiliation 2 (formerly Requirement of Affiliation 3).

To postpone a decision on reaffirmation and remind the institution that it remains on probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11.

To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation.

To remind the institution that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in non-compliance to two years.

To request a supplemental information report due September 1, 2018 documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11, including but not limited to (1) evidence that the institution has documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to ensure financial stability; (2) updated information on the impact of the Fiscal Oversight Management Board's plan and proposed restructuring on the institution's status and finances (Standard VI); and (3) evidence that the institution demonstrates a record of responsible fiscal management, has a prepared budget for the current year, and undergoes an external financial audit on an annual basis (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11). A small team visit will follow submission of the report.

Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the date of the next evaluation visit is 2024-2025.

This action was taken following the review of any and all pending reports and visits as detailed on the institution's Statement of Accreditation Status.

The action is taken in accordance with Commission policy, Accreditation Actions (<http://www.msche.org/documents/P2.3-AccreditationActions.pdf>).

For More Information

The following resources provide additional information that may be helpful to understanding the Commission's actions and the institution's accreditation status:

Accreditation Review Cycle and Monitoring

<http://www.msche.org/documents/AccredReviewCycle.pdf>

Communication in the Accreditation Process

http://www.msche.org/Documents/P4.1-Policy_Communication.pdf

Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation

<https://www.msche.org/publications/RevisedStandardsFINAL.pdf>

Statement of Accreditation Status for UPR – Rio Piedras:

(http://www.msche.org/institutions_directory.asp) provides factual information about UPR – Rio Piedras and the full text of the Commission's recent actions regarding the institution.

Questions about the accreditation status of UPR – Rio Piedras should be directed to Communications@msche.org.