

January 4, 2016

Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, President
Commission on Colleges
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

With this letter, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette seeks SACSCOC approval to suspend admission to the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) effective for the Spring 2016 semester.

Based on both external and internal reviews, suboptimal student pass rates on the RD Exam over the past five years, and thoughtful deliberation, UL Lafayette Provost James P. Henderson has recommended that admission to the DPD program be suspended effective at the start of Spring 2016 semester for a period of two years.

The Dean of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions submitted a letter to ACEND requesting inactive status approval of a substantive change, stop new transfer/admission into the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) effective January 4, 2016, through May 20, 2018. During this inactive admission period the University will hire a consultant to evaluate the curriculum, faculty resources, clinical rotation sites, assessment techniques and outcomes in an effort to determine the future direction of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Currently, 121 students are enrolled in the DPD Program. These students will be granted special accommodations and assistance to complete the current curriculum plan by the end of the Spring 2019 semester. The current DPD students will continue to have access to all the resources that are necessary to complete the program. This includes, but is not limited to, two doctoral prepared, one master's prepared and one DL dietetics faculty; advising personnel; classrooms; computers; food labs; and library. A DPD Curriculum Teach-Out Plan that shows required courses in the DPD program and the matriculation flow of freshmen through seniors from Spring 2016 - Spring 2019 is attached. Also attached is the Dietetic Faculty Workload by Credit Hours for Teach-Out Plan as well as other required information about that plan.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Ellen D. Cook
Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs
SACSCOC Liaison

University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Teach-Out Plan
Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)

1. **Date when new students will no longer be admitted:** Beginning of Spring 2016, if approved by SACSCOC
2. **Explanation of how affected parties (students, faculty, staff) will be informed of the impending closure:** The Dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions met with the Dietetics faculty in December 2015 to discuss the recommendation to suspend admission to the program and to review the proposed Teach-Out Plan. The Dean will meet with currently enrolled students to discuss the plan for the current DPD curriculum in January 2016.
3. **An explanation of how all affected students will be helped to complete their programs of study with minimal disruption:** The College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions academic advisors will work with students assisting them with graduation plans beginning in January 2016.
4. **An indication as to whether the teach-out plan will incur additional charges/expenses to the students and, if so, how the students will be notified:** Students will not be impacted financially by the teach-out.
5. **Signed copies of teach-out agreements with other institutions:** Not applicable.
6. **How faculty and staff will be redeployed or helped to find new employment:** The tenured faculty members will remain with the program. The untenured master's prepared faculty member will stay with the program through Spring 2017.
7. **If closing an institution, arrangement for the storing of student records, disposition of final financial resources and other assets:** Not applicable.