



**STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS**

*The Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) is the official statement of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) about each institution's current accreditation status and scope of accreditation. The SAS also provides a brief history of the actions taken by the Commission.*

**Institution:** UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO-  
MEDICAL SCIENCES CAMPUS Rio Piedras, PR

**Address:** Terrenos Centro Medico de Puerto Rico, Edificio Principal  
Rio Piedras, PR 00936

**Phone:** (787) 758-2525

**URL:** [www.rcm.upr.edu](http://www.rcm.upr.edu)

**Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO):** Dr. Edgardo Ruiz Cora

**Commission Staff Liaison:** Dr. Melissa Hardin, Vice President

**Accreditation Summary**

*For more information, see the Commission's [Accreditation Actions Policy and Procedures](#).*

**Phase:** Accredited

**Status:** Accreditation Reaffirmed

**Accreditation Granted:** 1949

**Last Reaffirmation:** 2022

**Next Self-Study Evaluation:** 2028-2029

**Alternative Delivery Methods**

*The following represents approved alternative delivery methods included in the scope of the institution's accreditation:*

**Distance Education**

Approved to offer programs by this delivery method

**Correspondence Education**

Not approved for this delivery method

## Credential Levels

### ☑ Approved Credential Levels

*The following represents credential levels included in the scope of the institution's accreditation:*

- **Associate's Degree or Equivalent**  
Included within the scope
- **Bachelor's Degree or Equivalent**  
Included within the scope
- **Post-baccalaureate Certificate**  
Included within the scope
- **Master's Degree or Equivalent**  
Included within the scope
- **Post-Master's Certificate**  
Included within the scope
- **Doctor's Degree - Professional Practice**  
Included within the scope
- **Doctor's Degree- Research/Scholarship**  
Included within the scope

<b>Locations</b>
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*The following represents branch campuses, additional locations, and other instructional sites that are included within the scope of the institution's accreditation:*

<b>Location</b>	<b>Type</b>
<b>UPR - Medical Sciences Campus</b> Terrenos Centro Medico de Puerto Rico, Edificio Principal Rio Piedras, PR 00936	Main Campus

*Definitions: For definitions of branch campus, additional locations, or other instructional sites, see the [Commission's Substantive Change Policy and Procedures](#).*

## Accreditation Actions

*The following represents the MSCHE accreditation actions taken in the last ten (10) years. For more information, see the [Commission's Accreditation Actions Policy and Procedures](#) and [the Substantive Change Policy and Procedures](#).*

<b>November 16, 2023</b>	To acknowledge receipt of the monitoring report requested by the Commission action of November 17, 2022. To request a supplemental information report, due March 1, 2024, providing further evidence of a clearly articulated and transparent governance structure that outlines roles, responsibilities, and accountability for inclusive decision making by each constituency, including the institution's legally constituted governing body, administration, faculty, staff, and students, as well as any related entities (Standard VII, Related Entities Policy and Procedures, and Political Intervention in Education Policy) (Fourteenth Edition and Evidence Expectations by Standard Guidelines). To direct a follow-up team visit following submission of the supplemental information report. To remind the institution that it must communicate with the Commission in English, both orally and in writing, including all accreditation materials to support the multi-level accreditation decision-making process (Requirement of Affiliation 4). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2028-2029.
<b>October 31, 2023</b>	To note the verification visit took place on July 7, 2023 to the main campus at Terrenos Centro Medico de Puerto Rico, Edificio Principal, Rio Piedras, PR 00936.
<b>November 17, 2022</b>	To acknowledge receipt of the monitoring report. To note that the institution hosted a virtual site visit in lieu of an on-site visit in accordance with the United States Department of Education (USDE) guidelines published March 17, 2020. To reaffirm accreditation because the institution is now in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11. To request a monitoring report, due July 5, 2023, demonstrating sustainability of implemented corrective measures and further evidence of adequate fiscal and human resources, including physical and technical infrastructure, to support operations (Standard VI). A follow-up team visit may follow submission of the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2028-2029.
<b>November 17, 2022</b>	To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report.
<b>June 23, 2022</b>	To note that the Commission Liaison Guidance Visit occurred on May 11, 2022. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2028-2029.
<b>June 15, 2022</b>	Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due September 1, 2022, addressing the recent action by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) which may have implications for current and future compliance with Requirement of Affiliation 6; Standard III (Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience); Standard IV (Support of the Student Experience); and Standard V (Educational Effectiveness Assessment). Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2028-2029.
<b>March 10, 2022</b>	To acknowledge receipt of the self-study report. To note that the institution hosted a virtual site visit in lieu of an on-site visit in accordance with the United States Department of Education (USDE) guidelines published March 17, 2020. To warn the institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy 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 warning. To note further that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in non-compliance. To request a monitoring report due September 1, 2022, demonstrating evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with Standard VI including but not limited to the sufficiency of resources to fulfill its mission and goals and to support its educational purposes and programs (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11). To direct a follow-up team visit following submission of the monitoring report. To note the visit will also fulfill the verification requirements of the USDE guidelines. To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2028-2029.
<b>March 10, 2022</b>	To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report.
<b>December 2, 2021</b>	To note the commission liaison guidance visit occurred virtually on August 24, 2021. To note that the evaluation visit has occurred and will be acted upon by the Commission at the March meeting.
<b>July 8, 2021</b>	Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request that the supplemental information report, due October 1, 2021, also address the recent action by the Joint Review Committee on Education of Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) which may have

implications for current and future compliance with Requirement of Affiliation 6; Standard III (Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience); Standard IV (Support of the Student Experience); and Standard V (Educational Effectiveness Assessment). The report will be reviewed by the Evaluation team during its visit in 2021.

- June 24, 2021** To acknowledge receipt of the monitoring report. To note that the institution hosted a virtual site visit in lieu of an on-site visit in accordance with United States Department of Education (USDE) guidelines published March 17, 2020. To request that the next self-study, in preparation for a visit in 2021-2022, provide further evidence of the sufficiency of planning and budgeting processes to fulfill its mission and goals, and to support its educational purposes and programs (Standard VI). To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations.
- June 24, 2021** To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To request a supplemental information report due October 1, 2021 addressing any and all significant developments related to the action of April 26, 2021 and documenting evidence of (1) sufficient learning opportunities and resources to support students' academic progress (Standard III); (2) processes designed to enhance the successful achievement of students' educational goals (Standard IV); and (3) demonstrated and documented use of assessment results to improve educational effectiveness (Standard V).
- April 26, 2021** Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due May 10, 2021, addressing the recent action by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) which may have implications for current and future compliance with Requirement of Affiliation 6; Standard III (Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience); Standard IV (Support of the Student Experience); and Standard V (Educational Effectiveness Assessment).
- November 19, 2020** To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report requested by the Commission action of May 14, 2020. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.
- November 19, 2020** To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report requested by the Commission action of November 21, 2019. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.
- May 14, 2020** Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due October 1, 2020 addressing the recent action by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) which may have implications for current and future compliance with Standard III: Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience; Standard IV: Support of the Student Experience; Standard V: Educational Effectiveness Assessment; and Requirement of Affiliation 6. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.
- April 30, 2020** To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request. To include the first alternative delivery method-distance education program (Certificate of Professional Studies of Maternal and Child Health) within the institution's scope of accreditation. To note that the Commission may rescind this action if the requested substantive change is not implemented within one calendar year from the date of this action.
- April 30, 2020** To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request. To include the second alternative delivery method-distance education program (Certificate of Professional Studies in Data Science) within the institution's scope of accreditation. To note that the Commission may rescind this action if the requested substantive change is not implemented within one calendar year from the date of this action. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.
- April 30, 2020** To grant a delay of the supplemental information report requested by the Commission action of November 21, 2019 and due September 1, 2020, because of extraordinary circumstances related to coronavirus (COVID-19) interruptions. The report is now due December 1, 2020. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.
- April 16, 2020** To acknowledge receipt of the monitoring report. To delay the On-Site Follow-up visit scheduled for Spring 2020 due to extraordinary circumstances related to coronavirus (COVID-19) interruptions and to continue accreditation. To note the institution remains accredited during a delay granted by the Commission. The Follow-Up visit will be scheduled in accordance with Commission policy and procedures.
- April 16, 2020** To acknowledge receipt of formal written notice from the institution in response to the Commission's request of March 9, 2020. To temporarily waive Substantive Change Policy and Procedures and allow the use of distance education to accommodate students impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19) interruptions, in accordance with United States Department of Education (USDE) guidelines published March 5, 2020. Continued use of distance education beyond the limitations of USDE guidelines will require substantive change approval in accordance with Substantive Change Policy and Procedures. This

flexibility is not available for clock-hour courses that lead to licensure if the licensing body will not accept distance learning courses or hours or give credit for them toward the number of hours a student must complete. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.

- November 21, 2019** To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To request a supplemental information report, due September 1, 2020, addressing the institution's status with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.
- October 8, 2019** To note that the Commission acted on June 27, 2019 and the Teach-Out Plan that was due September 1, 2019 is no longer required.
- October 8, 2019** To note that the Commission acted on June 27, 2019 and the Show Cause Report that was due September 1, 2019 is no longer required.
- June 27, 2019** To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To reaffirm accreditation because the institution is now in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11. To request a monitoring report due, March 16, 2020, in lieu of the show cause report due September 1, 2019, demonstrating further evidence of sustainability of implemented corrective measures, including but not limited to: (1) improvements in the institution's annual closing processes and implementation of effective monitoring controls over financial information (Standard VI); (2) the development of multi-year financial plans for the institution that produce balanced budgets, including appropriate revenue assumptions (Standard VI); (3) management of financial reporting that provides for reliable financial data at the institutional level (Standard VI); (4) submission of the 2019 annual audits (Standard VI); and (5) the planning and implementation of restructuring for sustainability (Standard VI). To note that a teach-out plan will no longer be required. To direct a follow-up team visit following submission of the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is now scheduled for 2021-2022.
- June 27, 2019** To note the visit by the Commission's representatives.
- June 12, 2019** Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due September 1, 2019, addressing the action by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) which may have implications for current and future compliance with Standard III: Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience; Standard IV: Support of the Student Experience; and Requirement of Affiliation 6.
- March 14, 2019** To acknowledge receipt of the show cause report. To note the visit by the Commission's representatives. To require the institution to continue to show cause by September 1, 2019, to demonstrate why its accreditation should not be withdrawn because of insufficient evidence that the institution is in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11. To note the institution is now in compliance with Requirement of Affiliation 14 and the Related Entities Policy. To require a show cause report due September 1, 2019, documenting evidence of the submission of timely and accurate financial audits (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11). The show cause report must also include evidence of: (1) how the institution has improved its annual closing processes and implemented effective monitoring controls over financial information, (2) the development of multi-year financial plans that produce balanced budgets, including appropriate revenue assumptions; (3) management of financial reporting that provides for the timely completion of annual audits, and (4) the planning and implementation of restructuring for sustainability (Standard VI and Related Entities Policy). To direct an on-site show cause visit following submission of the report. The purpose of the on-site show cause visit is to verify the information provided in the show cause report and the institution's ongoing and sustainable compliance with the Commission's standards, requirements, policies and procedures, and federal compliance requirements. To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. To note that the institution will be invited to appear before the Commission when it meets to consider the institution's show cause report. To require a supplemental information report due May 1, 2019, documenting evidence of (1) the single audit and audited financial statements for fiscal year 2018, and (2) submission of the 2018 single audit and audited financial statements to the Commission, United States Department of Education, and other parties as required by regulation and/or law (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11). To remind the institution and the related entity of its obligation to provide timely and accurate financial audits. The date of the next evaluation will be determined upon reaffirmation of accreditation.
- March 14, 2019** To acknowledge receipt of the teach-out plan. To require that the institution complete and submit for approval due September 1, 2019, an updated comprehensive, implementable teach-out plan (Requirement of Affiliation 6: Teach-Out Plans and Agreements Policy and Procedures). In accordance with Commission policy and federal regulations, the teach-out plan must provide for the equitable treatment of students to complete their education, if the Commission were to withdraw accreditation,



and include any signed, teach-out agreements that the institution has entered into or intends to enter into with another institution.

**January 7, 2019**

To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To note that the report did not provide the requested evidence and was not conducive to Commission review. To require the institution to show cause, by January 25, 2019, to demonstrate why its accreditation should not be withdrawn because of insufficient evidence that the institution is in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement), Requirements of Affiliation 11 and 14, and the Related Entities Policy. To note that the institution remains accredited while on show cause. To note further that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in non-compliance to two years. To require a show cause report, due January 25, 2019, documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with the Commission's standards, requirements, policies and procedures, and federal compliance requirements. The show cause report must include evidence of (1) documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to ensure financial stability (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11); (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); (3) an annual independent audit confirming financial viability with evidence of follow-up on any concerns cited in the audit's accompanying management letter (Standard VI); (4) 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); and (5) certification by the related entity that it recognizes the Commission's compliance requirements and will ensure that responsibilities of the related entity are fulfilled, including making freely available to the Commission accurate, fair, and complete information through disclosure of information required by the Commission to carry out its accrediting responsibilities (Related Entities Policy; Requirement of Affiliation 14). To require that the institution complete and submit for approval, by January 25, 2019, a comprehensive, implementable teach-out plan (Teach-Out Plans and Agreements Policy and Procedures). In accordance with Commission policy and federal regulations, the teach-out plan must provide for the equitable treatment of students to complete their education, if the Commission were to withdraw accreditation, and include any signed, teach-out agreements that the institution has entered into or intends to enter into with another institution. To direct an on-site show cause visit following submission of the report. The purpose of the on-site show cause visit is to verify the information provided in the show cause report and the institution's ongoing and sustainable compliance with the Commission's standards, requirements, policies and procedures, and federal compliance requirements. To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. To note that the institution will be invited to appear before the Commission when it meets to consider the institution's show cause report. The date of the next evaluation will be determined upon reaffirmation of accreditation.

**November 15, 2018**

To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To note the visit by the Commission representatives. To request a supplemental information report due January 2, 2019, providing the audited financial statement and single audit for June 30th, 2017. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2020-2021.

**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 request a supplemental information report, due September 1, 2018, providing (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 (Standard V), (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. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2020-2021.

**February 15, 2018**

To accept the supplemental information report. To request a supplemental information report, due March 15, 2018, regarding the status of the institution. In lieu of the April 2018 progress report, to request that the supplemental information report also address the topics of the progress report: (1) development of a long-term financial plan that aligns with the institution's mission, goals, and strategic plan and improves the institution's sustainability (formerly Standard 3, now Standard VI) and (2) implementation of a comprehensive enrollment plan (formerly Standard 8, now Standards IV and VI). 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 2020-2021.

**October 19, 2017**

To request a supplemental information report due, December 1, 2017, regarding the status of the institution. To note that the monitoring report has been received and will be acted on at the March Commission meeting. To note that a small team visit will not be conducted at this time.

**May 18, 2017**

To accept the Supplemental Information Report. To request a monitoring report, due September 1, 2017, documenting 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 assure financial stability (Requirement of Affiliation 8 and Standard 3). A small team visit may follow submission of the report. 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. To remind the institution of the Commission's request of November 17, 2016, for a progress report due April 1, 2018. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2020-2021.

- 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.
- November 17, 2016** To accept the Periodic Review Report, reaffirm accreditation, and commend the institution for the quality of the Periodic Review Report process. To request a progress report due April 1, 2018, further documenting (1) development of a long-term financial plan that aligns with the institution's mission, goals, and strategic plan and improves the institution's sustainability (Standard 3) and (2) implementation of a comprehensive enrollment plan (Standard 8). The next self-study evaluation is scheduled for 2020-2021.
- June 26, 2014** To accept the monitoring report. To remind the institution of its obligation to ensure timely production of audited financial statements. The Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2016.
- April 28, 2014** To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request. To note that the institution has closed its additional location at UPR Mayaguez Campus, Call Box 9000, Mayaguez, PR 00681. To remove this additional location from the institution's accreditation. To note that the monitoring report, due April 1, 2014, has been received and will be acted on at the June Commission meeting. The Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2016.
- November 21, 2013** To accept the supplemental information report. To request a monitoring report, due April 1, 2014, documenting evidence of an independent audit for FY2013, with evidence of follow-up on any concerns cited in the audit's accompanying management letter for both FY2012 and FY2013 (Standard 3). To remind the institution of its obligation to ensure timely production of audited financial statements. The Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2016.
- June 25, 2013** To note that an extension has been granted for the submission of a supplemental information report that addresses the impact on institutional leadership of the recent changes in governance and administration, and actions planned or taken by the University to ensure ongoing compliance with Standards 4, 5 and 6. The supplemental information report is now due August 1, 2013. The Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2016.
- June 13, 2013** To request, in accordance with the Commission's policy on Public Communication in the Accrediting Process, a supplemental information report, due July 10, 2013, that addresses the impact on institutional leadership of the recent changes in governance and administration, and actions planned or taken by the University to ensure ongoing compliance with Standards 4, 5 and 6. The Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2016.
- June 28, 2012** To accept the monitoring report. The Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2016.
- June 23, 2011** To reaffirm accreditation. To request a monitoring report due March 1, 2012 documenting (1) steps taken to ensure timely production of audited financial statements for FY 2011 and subsequent years (Standard 3); (2) evidence of further implementation of the UPR Action Plan, including evidence that the action plan is being assessed and data are used for improvements; and (3) evidence of further progress in implementing a procedure for the periodic objective assessment of the Board of Trustees (Standard 4). The Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2016.

**Information about the Middle States Commission on Higher Education**

*The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) is a global institutional accreditor recognized by the United States Secretary of Education since 1952. As an accreditor and member of the regulatory triad, MSCHE assures students and the public of the educational quality for its over 500 institutions of higher education.*

*MSCHE accreditation applies to an institution as a whole rather than the specific programs within an institution. MSCHE does not approve or accredit individual programs. Each institution is regularly and consistently evaluated and monitored in accordance with the Commission's policies and procedures.*

*An institution maintains its accreditation unless it is voluntarily surrendered, whether through institutional closure or otherwise, or it is denied or withdrawn by the Commission.*