**Guidelines on Decisions**

For the Review of a Program that had never gone through the national review process, the reviewers have one of three decisions they can make.

**A.  Decision Choices for a Program not Previously Recognized:**

Those programs that are going through review for the first time will have several opportunities to submit reports before a final recognition decision is applied. This will allow new programs the opportunity to receive feedback and make changes in their programs without being penalized with a “not recognized” decision. It will also allow the program review process to be more collaborative between the SPAs and the program faculty. The following decision choices would also apply to programs at continuing institutions that may have been recognized in the past but are not currently recognized one year prior to the site visit. A program that is being evaluated for the first time will receive one of the following three results:

*1.      National Recognition contingent upon unit accreditation*

* The program substantially meets standards.
* No further submission required; program will receive full *national recognition* when the unit receives accreditation.
* Program will be listed on the NCATE web site as Nationally Recognized if the unit is already accredited. If the unit is not accredited the program will be listed as Nationally Recognized pending unit accreditation.

*2.      National Recognition with Conditions contingent upon unit accreditation*

* The program generally meets standards; however a “Response to Conditions” report must be submitted within 18 months to remove the conditions. Conditions could include one or more of the following:
  + Insufficient data to determine if standards are met.
  + Insufficient alignment among standards or scoring assessments or scoring guides.
  + Lack of quality in some assessments or scoring guides
  + An insufficient number of CEC Preparation Standards was met.
  + The NCATE requirement for an 80% pass rate on state licensure tests is not met.
* The program has two opportunities within 18-months after the decision to remove the conditions. If the program is unsuccessful after two attempts, the program status will be changed to *Not Nationally Recognized*.
* The program is listed on the NCATE website as *Nationally Recognized* until it achieves *National Recognition* or its status is changed to *Not Nationally Recognized*, in which case the program will be removed from the list on the website.

3.      *Further Development Required*:

* The standards that are not met are critical to a quality program and more than a few in number OR are few in number but so fundamentally important that recognition is not appropriate.
* The program will have two opportunities within the 12 to 14 months after the first decision to attain *National Recognition* or *National Recognition with Conditions*. If the program is unsuccessful after two attempts, the program status will be changed to *Not Nationally Recognized*

A program could receive a decision of *Not Nationally Recognized* only after two submissions within the 12 to 14 month period (from the first decision) were unsuccessful in achieving *National Recognition* or *National Recognition with Conditions*.

**B. Proposal for Review of a Program that is Recognized Currently:**

Program reports that were approved by a SPA during the previous review cycle will not be in jeopardy of losing their recognition status immediately after their first review in a cycle. These programs will receive one of the following three decisions:

*1.      Continued National Recognition*

* The program substantially meets standards.
* No further submission required.
* Program is listed on the NCATE web site as Nationally Recognized.

*2.      Continued National Recognition with Conditions*

* The program generally meets standards; however, a “Response to Conditions” report must be submitted within 18 months to remove the conditions. Conditions could include one or more of the following:
  + Insufficient data to determine if standards are met
  + Insufficient alignment among standards or scoring assessments or scoring guides
  + Lack of quality in some assessments or scoring guides
  + An insufficient number of CEC Preparation Standards was met.
  + The NCATE requirement for an 80% pass rate on state licensure tests is not met
* The program will have two opportunities within the 18 months after the first decision to attain *National Recognition*. If the program is unsuccessful after two attempts, the program status will be changed to *Not Nationally Recognized*
* The program is listed on the NCATE website as *Nationally Recognized* (based on its prior review) until the UAB makes an accreditation decision for the unit. At that point, if the program is still *Nationally Recognized* with Conditions the designation on the website will be changed to *National Recognition with Conditions*. This designation will stand until the program achieves *National Recognition* or its status is changed to *Not Nationally Recognized*, in which case the program will be removed from the list on the website.

*3.      Continued National Recognition with Probation*

* The standards that are not met are critical to a quality program and more than a few OR are few in number but so fundamentally important that recognition is not appropriate. To remove probation, the unit may submit a revised program report addressing unmet standards within 12 to 14 months, or the unit may submit a new program report for national recognition within 12 to 14 months.
* The program will have two opportunities within the 12 to 14 months after the first decision to attain *National Recognition* or *National Recognition with Conditions*. If the program is unsuccessful after two attempts, the program status will be changed to *Not Nationally Recognized*.
* The program is listed on the NCATE web site as *Nationally Recognized* (based on its prior review) until the end of the semester in which the UAB makes an accreditation decision for the Unit. At that point, the decision will be changed to *Not Nationally Recognized* and the program will be removed from the website.

A program could receive a decision of *Not Nationally Recognized* only after two submissions within the 12 to 14 month period (from the first decision) were unsuccessful in reaching either *National Recognition* or *Continued National Recognition with Conditions*.