

Program Accreditation and Health Care Initiatives

In the Loop Quarterly Newsletter

In the Loop

Volume 2, Issue 1 – July 2026

In the Loop is the official quarterly newsletter of the Program Accreditation and Health Care Initiatives department. Its purpose is to keep all specialized accredited programs across the College informed, engaged and aligned with accreditation standards, clinical compliance guidelines, healthcare initiatives and institutional priorities, and to share success stories!

Accreditation Updates and Reminders

Accreditation Standards Planning Meetings Update

Accreditation Planning Meetings will resume in July, so be on the lookout for your meeting notice. If you have not already, please send me your updated form from our conversation. Areas of focus will include clinical agreement planning, advisory committee annual reports, retention and recruitment metrics, website messaging, best practices to share and alignment to Vision 2030 and its pillars.

The accreditation section of the department website has been updated with forms and cycle documents. [Visit the website to become familiar with these resources.](#)

Additionally, to support the ever-evolving mock visit process, a document of frequently asked site visit questions is being compiled to share with stakeholders as we prepare for future site visits.

Site Visits Update: *No site visits during this newsletter cycle.*

The following programs have upcoming site visits (Calendar Year 2026–2027):

Plant Science: NALP | Sept. 27 – 29, 2026 | Mock Visit: July 17, 2026

PTAT: CAPTE | Nov. 1 – 4, 2026 | Mock Visit: Oct. 2, 2026

Automotive Tech: Site Visit: December 2026 | Mock Visit: Oct. 16, 2026

Nursing: Ohio Board of Nursing (PN/ADN Program) | Site visit rescheduled for Feb. 23 – 26, 2027 | Mock Visit: Oct. 27, 2026

Nuclear Medicine: Self-Study due February 2027 | Site Visit: Between June and August 2027 | Mock Site Visit: May 2027 (Date TBD)

Dental Hygiene: CODA | Oct. 19 – 20, 2027 | Mock Visit Date: TBD

Accreditation Status Update

Hospitality Management: The Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals (ANFP) sent a letter confirming all evidence submitted has passed its approval. The agency will continue to recognize the Dietary Manager Certification program until Sept. 30, 2029.

Congratulations to the Hospitality Management faculty, staff and leadership on this outcome!

Affiliation Agreements EXXAT Updates

The Spring 2026 cycle has gone well! Thank you for your participation in this process and engagement as we all navigated this new tool.

We are currently in our moratorium and administrative review cycle, which runs through September. During this time, please remember to go through the EXXAT system and update contact information (names, addresses, email addresses, etc.) so all future reports for the agreement execution process contain accurate information. The goal is to maintain active agreements with clinical and practicum sites, even when students are not currently scheduled to attend, so the College has "just-in-time" placement options available. Program teams know best when students need clinical or practicum experiences, so be sure to get these updated within the active cycles, which occur twice per year (spring and fall).

Clinical sites should provide the following:

1. Accessible options for students (realistic travel distances and access to public transportation if needed)

2. Varied experiences to ensure students have options (such as our private and smaller practices to keep these partnerships viable)
3. The needed licensed supervision to ensure we meet the requirements for licensure and accreditation standards (rigor, practical skills, etc.)
4. Safe and supportive environments to foster learning, build confidence and develop skills (report any locations that do not reflect these expectations to the PAHCI office)

Advisory Committee Resource Guide Updates

The **Advisory Committee Resource Guide** has had a long journey to completion. Shortly after this newsletter reaches you, we plan to have the link for the “internal use” document on the department’s website. A separate email will be sent to let you know when it is “live.”

The department website already has the PPT presentation, which is to be shared with committee members, as it provides an overview of the most essential information as they engage in this work with your programs.

Below is a list of important, marketing-approved fillable forms that are a part of this document:

- 1) An interest form for potential and existing members
- 2) Templates for thank-you and welcome letters
- 3) Template for the Certificate of Recognition

The Celebration Breakfast for all community partners, including Advisory Committee members and alumni, is set for July 30, 2026.

Compliance Updates

Spring School of Nursing and Health Professions Professional Development Recap

Thank you to everyone who attended the Spring Staff Professional Development event, along with our partners from the DISA Healthcare Technology division!

We reviewed regulatory compliance updates, clinical onboarding processes, risk management initiatives and strategies to enhance the student experience. Discussions

focused on improving communication, streamlining workflows, reducing onboarding barriers and increasing consistency across programs. The event concluded with a partnership discussion with DISA on Complio enhancements, process improvements and continued collaboration to support student success and operational excellence.

As a reminder, the Professional Development resource folder remains available on KWeb for anyone who would like to revisit the materials used throughout the day or who was unable to attend the event.

SAVE THE DATE: Fall School of Nursing and Health Professions Professional Development

We are excited to announce the Fall School of Nursing and Health Professions Staff Professional Development event on Friday, Nov. 20, 8:30 a.m. – noon, in MCC 201.

Join us for another engaging morning of collaboration, connection and professional growth as we continue working together to support student success and strengthen our programs and processes. We eagerly anticipate another valuable and interactive session this fall, even though we are still finalizing the full agenda.



Clinical Placement Compliance Update: Cleveland Clinic Background Checks (Allied Health Only)

Friendly Reminder: The Center for Health Professions Education (CHPE) has updated its background check review process. Students with a positive background check result (flagged in Complio) are now required to sign an authorization form permitting the

school to release their background check information to the Cleveland Clinic for clinical eligibility review.

The updated process:

1. The program identifies a positive background check result and informs the student that an authorization form must be completed to allow the Cleveland Clinic review for clinical placement consideration.
2. The student completes and signs the authorization form, then uploads the document into their Unassigned Documents library in Complo.
3. Program staff verify that the document has been uploaded, ensure appropriate naming conventions are used for easy identification, and enter the student information into the Discrepancy Database for processing.
4. The clinical compliance specialist initiates the profile share for review through the Complo portal.
5. CHPE forwards the documentation to Protective Services for review.
6. Protective Services assigns an inspector and returns a PASS/FAIL determination.
7. CHPE communicates the outcome to the clinical compliance specialist, and the Discrepancy Database is updated accordingly.

Note: The profile sharing process will not begin until confirmation has been received that the signed authorization form has been uploaded into Complo.

Any questions? Please email [Brittany Pearsall](#).

Cleveland Clinic Hepatitis B Waiver and Audit Reminder

As a reminder, the Cleveland Clinic conducts audits after each semester, requiring the College to respond within 48 hours with requested student health and background documentation. Keeping accurate, complete and organized compliance records is essential for ensuring student placement eligibility and audit readiness.

The Cleveland Clinic requires students to either provide proof of a positive Hepatitis B antibody titer or complete the Cleveland Clinic Hepatitis B Waiver. This is a Cleveland Clinic-specific requirement and does not replace Complo compliance requirements. Students must still complete all Hepatitis B requirements in Complo to remain eligible for clinical placement.

Per CHPE guidance, a waiver is required in the following situations:

- No Hepatitis B vaccination completed
- No Hepatitis B titer completed
- Partial vaccination series completed
- Completed vaccination series with a negative titer

Students with a positive titer should submit results and do not require a waiver.

This process is outlined in the May Professional Development PowerPoint and the Hepatitis B procedure document located in the Program Resources folder in KWeb.

Any questions? Please email [Brittany Pearsall](#).

Student Resource Spotlight: Supporting Student Accommodations Through SAS

To best support students who may require accommodations in the classroom, clinical, lab or lecture setting, students should be directed to Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at their respective campuses. SAS is responsible for reviewing accommodation requests, determining appropriate support, and coordinating implementation with faculty and program partners.

At the start of each semester, students must initiate the process by requesting that their accommodation letters be sent to faculty through the SAS Portal using the "Request an Accommodation Letter" feature. Accommodation letters are not automatically sent and must be requested each semester by the student.

To modify or update their accommodations, students must schedule an appointment with an SAS student advisor to review the request and provide any additional supporting documentation. In some cases, and with the student's permission, SAS may also provide advance notice to instructors when special arrangements are required, such as interpreter services or an attendant.

Encouraging students to engage directly with SAS ensures appropriate coordination, timely communication and the consistent implementation of approved accommodations through the correct institutional processes.

For additional information or to connect with your campus SAS advisor, please visit the [SAS webpage](#).

Voices That Inspire: Christopher Headrick

A program leader turning inspiration into action

Physical Therapist Assisting Technology Program Director



Professional Background: Born and raised in the Medina area, Chris has long been drawn to the medical field. He began his physical therapy studies in southeastern Idaho, earning an associate degree at Ricks College (now Brigham Young University-Idaho). He went on to complete his Bachelor of Science at BYU in Utah. After marrying, he and his wife moved to Pennsylvania, where he completed his Doctor of Physical Therapy at Slippery Rock University. His PT career took him to Sacramento before he returned home to Ohio in 2008.

Career at Tri-C: Chris shifted from clinical practice in 2018 to serve as program director at South University in Warrensville Heights. After the university's closure, he found the ideal next step at Tri-C, joining the College in 2019 as a preceptor. His leadership and commitment to student success led to his appointment as program director in Spring 2025. To stay connected to patient care and keep his clinical skills sharp, Chris continues to work one weekend each month at Summa's Barberton Campus.

First-Year Achievement: Chris has found that working with students feels a lot like patient care — rewarding, relational and rooted in helping people succeed. Soon after becoming program director, he identified an opportunity to boost retention by rethinking how exams were weighted throughout the semester. Under the previous system, a poor score on the first exam often left students discouraged and struggling to recover.

To foster a more supportive, growth-focused learning environment, Chris and his team redesigned the grading structure so early exams carry less weight and the final — where students demonstrate full PTA competency — counts more. The results speak for themselves: this year, all 17 students in the cohort are on track to graduate.

Fun Fact: Chris started wearing bow ties back in middle school as a joke — which never really ended. He grew to like them, and they've since become part of his signature look. When he's not in the office, though, he trades the bow tie for running gear and heads to the trails to run in the Metroparks.

Proudest Moment at Tri-C: For Chris, pride comes every time a student reaches their goals — whether that's mastering a tough skill, gaining confidence or stepping into their first clinical role. This year brings an especially meaningful milestone, as two recent Tri-

C PTAT graduates will serve as clinical instructors for current students during the upcoming rotation cycle. Seeing alumni guide the next generation is a full-circle moment, and Chris couldn't be prouder of their growth and leadership.

The Program Accreditation and Health Care Initiatives Team

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If your program has anything you would like to add to the next issue of "In the Loop," please contact [Amy Cottle](#).