Program Accreditation and Health Care Initiatives
In the Loop Quarterly Newsletter

In the Loop

Volume 1, Issue 3 – January 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, health care initiatives, and institutional priorities, and to share success stories!

Accreditation Updates and Reminders

Accreditation

The second phase of the accreditation standards planning meetings will be held in February. Programs were given their charges in December and January to complete the accreditation worksheets by providing responses to the prompts and firming up their two goals for the Program Advisory Committees.

Thank you so much for your engagement in the process! I look forward to receiving the completed documents by the end of January and noting your planned goals for your advisory committee for the report due on June 1.

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

EMT: Ohio Board of Emergency Services | January 2026 (Date TBD) | Renewal application submitted December 2025

EMT Paramedic: CoAEMSP | April 20 – 21, 2026 | Mock Visit: March 30, 2026

Nursing: Ohio Board of Nursing (PN Program) | Sept. 22 – 23, 2026 | Mock Visit: July 20, 2026

Hospitality: ACFEF | April 7 – 9, 2026 | Mock Visit: March 2, 2026

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

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

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

Nursing: Ohio Board of Nursing (ADN Program) | Spring 2027 (TBD)

Site Visits Update!

We have had two site visits since our last newsletter!

NAACLS – MLT (Sept. 23 – 25, 2025)

Standards II. C.2 and VIII.C.2 – These standards relate to assessment and learning outcomes and engaging effective feedback loops for changes made in the assessment process.

The team recommends full continued accreditation. The accreditor will issue a decision by March 2026.

AVMA – Vet Tech (Oct. 8 – 9, 2025)

Standard 4e – The rabies mitigation plan will be enhanced to include language specific to cattle and small ruminants

Standard 5b, 5e – Current written memoranda of understanding (MOUs), which include exit strategies, must be in place for providers of all animal resources critical to the program with respect to the shelters for small animals.

These critical deficiencies were addressed, and evidence was sent to the accreditation team for its review in December by the deadline provided. These were the immediate areas to be addressed.

Accreditation Reporting Housekeeping Reminders

1) Please remember to report any staffing departures from the programs to the accrediting bodies in a timely manner (program directors, managers, deans, field supervisors, etc.) or any key personnel that are noted in the standards. Send all documents through the Program Accreditation office for review before submitting them to the accreditor.

2) Please send your **accreditation fee invoices** to Amy Cottle moving forward, as we are trying to track these expenses more efficiently to provide confirmation for their payment. ***Thank you for completing the survey to confirm these accreditation fee dates so we can build our tracking system.***

3) Remember **all** reports must be sent to the Program Accreditation office for review before they are sent to the accrediting body. Also, any documents needing Dr. Baston's signature must also be sent to the Program Accreditation office, which will ensure that his signature is captured.

Accreditation Report Updates

ACBSP: IT program – A letter was received confirming that all notes on the areas of standard compliance (3.2 and 4) have been removed, and the program continues full accreditation with no conditions through 2031.

Congratulations to all the faculty and staff in the program on this accomplishment!

Affiliation Agreements EXXAT launch in Spring 2026: Stay tuned for dates and times for this virtual event!

Advisory Committee Resource Guide: The Resource Guide is in the final phase of review and copy editing. Marketing and Communications will have this finalized the week of Jan. 12, 2026. Stay tuned!

Compliance Updates

Clinical Compliance Onboarding Updates — Live Training Sessions Discontinued

Effective **January 1, 2026**, live training sessions are on hold. Students should be directed in your onboarding process to complete training exclusively through self-paced Clinical Compliance training videos. As the department evaluates the use of the live training sessions (see statistics below), all Program staff will be engaging in a referral-based support process for students needing additional assistance.

This change follows a review of onboarding training that showed live sessions had an average no-show rate of 70%, with most students completing the requirements through the self-paced video. Based on these findings, we will pilot a **fully self-paced onboarding model** for the spring semester. This will also allow us to evaluate training

effectiveness and prepare for future updates as Complio implements the new student interface, anticipated in early 2026.

Student Referral Model

An email sent on **Dec. 19** to program staff who support Clinical Compliance included the *Clinical Compliance Training Assistance Referral Criteria*, outlining the updated process for referring students for individualized support. Prior to submitting a referral, programs must confirm that students have:

- Completed the onboarding videos
- Attempted onboarding independently
- Reviewed applicable self-service and program resources

The document also clarifies when to direct students to the Clinical Compliance phone line versus requesting a one-on-one virtual appointment. These materials, including a student-facing checklist, are available on KWeb under "Program Resources."

Self-Paced Onboarding Enhancements

The onboarding video has been divided into two parts for improved clarity:

- **Part 1 (23 minutes):** Account setup, ordering requirements and background checks
- **Part 2 (18 minutes):** Health and immunization requirements and support resources

Registration confirmation emails now include direct links to key compliance resources, including program-specific requirements, health guides, flowcharts, cost estimates and low-cost health care and insurance resources. A final update to the self-paced video will be completed this summer to align with the rollout of student portal updates. More information to come.

New Healthcare Partnership: Care Alliance at Metropolitan Campus

We are pleased to welcome **Care Alliance to the Metropolitan Campus** as our partner to provide low-cost medical care options for students at the college.

Please include this information in the resources that you provide to your students.

The link to the website can be found here: https://www.tri-c.edu/community/community-services/community-health/care-alliance-clinic.html

School of Nursing and Health Professions Spring Professional Development — COMING SOON!

As details are finalized, please tentatively keep **Fridays in May** open for the Spring Professional Development sessions. An official save-the-date with time and location details will be shared once a room is confirmed. Please note that attendance is **mandatory** for staff, as these sessions ensure you are up to date on clinical compliance requirements, program accreditation, clinical agreements and related updates.

Stay connected. Stay compliant.

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Voices That Inspire: John Gallagher

A program leader turning inspiration into action

Respiratory Care Processing Program Director

Professional Background: John graduated from Lakeland Community College's Respiratory Care program and began what became a 20-year career at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital in Cleveland. He started as a staff therapist, grew into a critical care coordinator, and eventually became a clinical educator. Along the way, he earned his bachelor's degree in Health Sciences from Cleveland State University and a master's in Public Health from The Ohio State University. He's currently working toward his Ed.D. at Youngstown State University.

Career at Tri-C: In 2022, John left Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital to build a respiratory care degree advancement program at Ursuline College. As the founding program director, he created the curriculum, achieved accreditation and marketed the program regionally. However, John missed helping students prepare for clinical practice. He sought that connection again by joining Tri-C as the program director in October 2024, eager to help shape the next generation of respiratory therapists.

Other achievements: In just one year, John has worked closely with faculty and staff to streamline the recruitment and retention process for students within the program. He has also collaborated with industry partners to secure two additional mechanical ventilators through donation. On campus, John obtained funding for additional state-of-the-art lab technology. Together, the team is nearing completion of two new lab spaces

to give respiratory care students a real-world critical care experience in a high-fidelity simulation environment on the Western Campus.

Proudest moment: Back in 2016, while still working in clinical practice, John received a huge honor — the American Association for Respiratory Care named him Practitioner of the Year for the Neonatal-Pediatrics Specialty Section. Being recognized by his peers was an unforgettable moment for John!

Did you know? John has spent several seasons coaching little league football in Rocky River, where he loves inspiring young athletes. When he's not on the field, you'll find John exploring Cleveland Metroparks, hiking, biking and camping with his family.

Closing remarks: John is proud to lead Tri-C's Respiratory Care program, now in its 54th year. For him, each student's success is a win for all — for the students, the College and the well-being of the entire community we serve. He is grateful for the part he plays in guiding Tri-C students toward meaningful health care futures.

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If your program has anything that you would like to add to the next issue of "In the Loop," please contact Amy Cottle.