



ONE DUPONT CIRCLE NW
SUITE 530
WASHINGTON DC 20036-1120

202-887-6791

WWW.AACN.NCHE.EDU/
CCNE-ACCREDITATION

May 27, 2016

Linda McKay, MS, RN
Chairperson
Department of Nursing
Fitchburg State University
160 Pearl Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420-2697

Dear Ms. McKay:

On behalf of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), I am pleased to advise you that the CCNE Board of Commissioners acted at its meeting on May 3-5, 2016, to grant accreditation to the **baccalaureate degree program in nursing** at Fitchburg State University for 10 years, extending to June 30, 2026. The accreditation action is effective as of October 7, 2015, which is the first day of the program's recent CCNE on-site evaluation. You should plan for the next on-site evaluation to take place in the fall of 2025.

At its meeting, the Board determined that the program met all four accreditation standards. The Board additionally determined that there are no compliance concerns with respect to the key elements.

A copy of the accreditation team report that was sent to you earlier, along with the program's response to it, is being transmitted to the institution's chief executive officer as the Commission's official report to Fitchburg State University. We hope that both the results of the self-study process and the team report will be useful to the continued growth and development of the nursing program. A certificate of accreditation is enclosed.

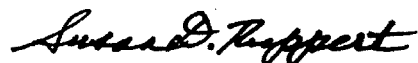
In accordance with CCNE policy, if a program or institution elects to make a public disclosure of a program's accreditation status with CCNE, the program or institution must disclose that status accurately. The program or institution disclosing the information must identify the nursing program and its affiliation with CCNE. This statement must include *either* the accrediting agency's full name, address, and telephone number *or* the accrediting agency's full name and address of the website home page, which identifies CCNE's address and telephone number. For more information on CCNE's disclosure policy and to access the statements that CCNE has approved for use, as well as information on use of the CCNE accreditation seal, please visit <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accrreditation/seal-policy/baccalaureate-graduate>. Please ensure that the institution's website and other materials are updated to reflect this language, as appropriate.

As is required for all accredited programs, a Continuous Improvement Progress Report (CIPR) must be submitted at the mid-point of the accreditation term. Please note that the CIPR needs to address and demonstrate the program's compliance with the CCNE standards and key elements that are in effect at the time of its submission. As a courtesy, CCNE will send a reminder letter to the chief nurse administrator approximately five months prior to the CIPR submission deadline, informing the program of the specific standards to be used and providing guidance for the preparation of the report. The deadline for submitting the CIPR to CCNE is June 1, 2021. The Report Review Committee, and then the Board of Commissioners, will review the CIPR. For more information about CIPRs and the report review process, please refer to the CCNE procedures.

As a reminder, programs are expected to continue to comply with the current CCNE standards and procedures throughout the period of accreditation. These documents are available at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation/standards-procedures-resources/baccalaureate-graduate>. This includes advising CCNE in the event of a substantive change affecting the nursing program. For more information about reporting requirements please refer to the CCNE procedures.

Thank you for your participation in the CCNE accreditation process. The Commissioners join me in expressing our very best wishes as you continue to promote excellence in nursing education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan D. Ruppert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'S' at the beginning.

Susan D. Ruppert, PhD, FNP-C, FAANP, FAAN
Chair, Board of Commissioners

cc: President Richard S. Lapidus
CCNE Board of Commissioners
CCNE Accreditation Review Committee
CCNE Evaluation Team