



8941 Aztec Drive | Eden Prairie, Minnesota 55347 | p: 952-212-2434 f: 952-657-7068

8 September 2017

Dr. D. Kandy Simmons, CEO
University of East West Medicine
595 Lawrence Expressway
Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Dear CEO Simmons,

At its 10-12 August 2017 meeting, the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (“ACAOM” or “Commission”) reviewed the University of East West Medicine (UEWM) *Accreditation Record* pertaining to continuing accreditation of its Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM) program, under applicable *Standards*.

As previously communicated in the Commission’s 27 March 2017 action letter, UEWM’s DAOM program in English and Chinese languages was granted **Initial Accreditation** status, effective 25 February 2017 through 12 August 2017. Continuing accreditation status was dependent on the results of the site visit scheduled for 21-23 April 2017, and the Commission’s review of the *Accreditation Record* including the corresponding Site Visit Report and the institution’s Formal Institutional Response to that report.

COMMISSION FINDINGS – Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

Based on the Commission review of UEWM’s *Accreditation Record* the Commission found the following fifteen (15) areas of non-compliance:

- Criterion 3.1 – Off-Campus Activities
- Criterion 4.1 – Organization of staff
- STANDARD 5 – RECORDS
- Criterion 5.2 - Clinical records
- Criterion 5.3 – Data
- Criterion 6.9 - Retention and Graduation Rates
- STANDARD 7 – ASSESSMENT
- Criterion 7.1 - Programmatic Review
- Criterion 7.2 - Measurement of Student Achievement
- Criterion 7.3 - Assessment of Graduates Success
- Criterion 7.4 - Standard Measurement
- Criterion 8.2 – Clinical Training/Specialties
- Criterion 8.5 – Program Length/Maximum Training
- Criterion 8.7 – Clock to Credit Hour Conversion
- Criterion 8.9 – Syllabi

Important: In accordance with US Department of Education (34 CFR § 602.20) policies, if a program fails to correct its compliance with any standard cited as a non-compliance within a 2-year period, the Commission is required to withdraw candidacy or accreditation status from the institution or program unless the Commission has provision for, and grants a “good cause” extension. **The 2-year timeline for Non-Compliance findings noted by this Action Letter ends on the last day of the August 2019 Commission Meeting.**

Based on the Commission review of UEWM's *Accreditation Record* the Commission found the following fifteen (15) areas compliant with further development:

Criterion 1.1 – Relationship
Criterion 1.2 – Review
STANDARD 2 -- LEGAL ORGANIZATION
STANDARD 3 – GOVERNANCE
STANDARD 4 – ADMINISTRATION
Criterion 4.2 – Academic Leadership
Criterion 5.1 - Permanent records
STANDARD 6 – ADMISSIONS
Criterion 6.5 – Policy Planning
STANDARD 8 – PROGRAM OF STUDY
Criterion 8.3 – Clinical Research Projects
Criterion 9.1 - Faculty Credentials
Criterion 10.2 - Published, fair student policies
Criterion 10.3 – Student Input
STANDARD 13 - FINANCIAL RESOURCES

COMMISSION ACTION

1. Consistent with ACAOM's *Commission Actions Policy*, UEWM and all of its programs, including the DAOM, were placed on an **Order to Show Cause** effective 12 August 2017, or at the conclusion of reconsideration/appeal, if applicable. The institution will be reviewed at the August 2018 Commission meeting, and accreditation status will be terminated consistent with ACAOM policies unless UEWM can **Show Cause** why such action should not be taken. Programs and Institutions placed on **Show Cause** may request reconsideration of this decision. The reconsideration procedures are designed as a continuation of the accreditation peer review process and are therefore considered to be non-adversarial. (See page 8 of ACAOM's *Commission Actions Policy* for reconsideration procedures.)
2. UEWM is required to submit to ACAOM a **Show Cause Progress Report** no later than 1 Feb 2018 fully addressing all findings of non-compliance listed above and detailed in the final site visit report.
3. UEWM is required to host a comprehensive site visit in the spring of 2018 to verify the contents of the **Show Cause Progress Report**.
4. UEWM is required to host a virtual meeting with ACAOM's Executive Director (ED) and Director of Regulatory Affairs (DRA) no later than November 2, 2017 to discuss the reasons



for the Commission's Sanction, and to discuss the program's plans for addressing the issues that gave rise to the sanction.

FINAL SITE VISIT REPORT

The final Site Visit Report has been appended to this document. This final report is a compilation of the Site Visit Report previously provided to the institution, inclusive of changes made, if applicable, based on:

- FIR responses to verification of factual accuracy (spelling, credentials etc.),
- Commission findings,
- Commission actions,
- and suggested documentation for any non-compliance findings.

For ease of review all areas of note have been highlighted in yellow in the appended final report.

PROGRESS REPORT INSTRUCTIONS

Each Area of Non-Compliance is identified in the final Site Visit Report. We have included suggested documentation for the required Progress Report that must address each of the noncompliance citations. The suggested documentation is only a suggestion. It is the sole responsibility of the institution to determine what documentation to submit to demonstrate remediation of the noncompliance finding.

DISCLOSURES TO THE PUBLIC

All disclosures about accreditation must truthfully and accurately represent the status. At this time, consistent with ACAOM Policies and Standards, UEWM must publish the following public disclosure notifications in its catalogue, on its website, and/or in any other public announcements that include accreditation information:

Effective 12 August 2017, the University of East West Medicine (UEWM) and all of its programs were placed on *Show Cause* until August 2018 at which time their accreditation status will be terminated by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM or Commission) unless the institution is able to demonstrate why such action should not be taken. This order to *Show Cause* is subject to reconsideration and, where applicable, appeal if timely requested by UEWM.

ACAOM is the recognized accrediting agency for programs preparing acupuncture and Oriental medicine practitioners and is located at 8941 Aztec Drive, Eden Prairie, Minnesota 55347; phone 952/212-2434; fax 952/657-7068.

In the event that UEWM publishes any official documents in any language other than English, the public disclosure must also be included in the additional languages. Use of language other than that so designated is not permitted without prior written permission from Commission staff. The Commission must receive a copy of, or a link to, the public announcement of its accredited status with ACAOM within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of this *Action Letter*



8 September 2017

IMPORTANT DATES*

23 September 2017 – UEWM's accreditation status public disclosures due to ACAOM.

3 November 2017 – Virtual meeting with ACAOM

1 February 2018 – Show Cause Progress Report due

Spring 2018 – Comprehensive Site Visit

August 2018 – Next Commission Review

***Please note the Commission is not bound by a rigid sequence of actions nor precluded from taking actions at any time as warranted by evolving circumstances and that these dates, provided for planning purposes, may change.**

Programs and institutions are responsible for understanding and following ACAOM's current policies and procedures found at <http://acaom.org/policies/> and you and your staff are encouraged to contact ACAOM with any questions or need for further clarification.

Sincerely,



Mark S McKenzie, PhD (China), MSOM, L.Ac
Executive Director
Mark.McKenzie@acaom.org

Cc: Kathy Taromina, DACM, L.Ac, Chair

See ACAOM's website for current versions of all policies.

