

ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW
INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT FORM

This form is composed of three parts: the Program Section, the Dean Section, and the Provost Section. Guidance for submission is provided in each section.

Using the Form: The form is pre-loaded with information specific to each program and posted on the [Academic Program Review website](#). The program should download and save their form to begin using it. The form is locked, so instructions are viewable and the only sections of the document that can be edited are the form fields.

The form uses narrative, text, and drop-down boxes. Narrative boxes have a character limit, which includes spaces. When using text and drop-down boxes, if you want to undo an answer, press “Control-Z” or “Command-Z.”

Responses are to be narrative only, and must be ADA and FERPA compliant. Do not embed any tables or links, including to webpages or other documents. To be FERPA compliant, do not include the names of any current or former students. Rather, use statements such as, “In AY21 four program graduates were accepted to graduate programs in the field.” Programs with specialized accreditation or other external recognitions must comply with restrictions regarding what can be published, as per the accreditor or external organization. Do not include appendices. Appendices to this form will not be accepted.

Assistance: For technical assistance with this form, email Academic Affairs (uaa.oaa@alaska.edu).

Submission date: 3/1/2022

Name and title of person(s) submitting the report: Bridgett Mayorga, Program Director DMS

Program(s) in the report: AAS Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Specialized Accrediting Agency (if applicable): N/A

Campuses where program is delivered: Anchorage KOD KPC MSC PWSC

Year of last review: AY2021

Final decision from last review: Interim Progress Report and Follow-up Program Review

PROGRAM SECTION (Due on March 1)

After completing the Program Section, the program should email this form to the dean. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.

For each current recommendation listed below, provide a timeline for addressing the recommendation, an indication of how you will know when the recommendation has been successfully achieved, a brief description of actions taken to date, and any evidence that the actions have been successful. Address any guidance in the provost’s response to the AY21 Interim Progress Report, posted on the [Academic](#)

[Program Review website.](#)

Recommendation 1: *Decrease the credits of the AAS to be closer to 60, or move to a BS. The revision should be completed in AY21 for implementation in fall 2021. Address any guidance in the provost's response to the AY21 Interim Progress Report, posted on the [Academic Program Review website.](#)*

Timeline (2000 characters or less)

The DMS program began the revision process with a review of the new 2021 Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRCDMS) and Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) standards and curriculum to ensure any changes were in alignment with current accreditation standards. In addition, the program reviewed multiple JRCDMS accredited programs to evaluate program credits and prerequisite courses to ensure UAA's curriculum was in alignment with industry standards and other accredited programs throughout the country. UAA's identified institutional peers were reviewed as part of the process. The only peer institution with a DMS program was a BS completion program.

During the process of reviewing other JRCDMS accredited programs, the programs reviewed ranged from 69 to 119 credits including 20-30 prerequisite credits. The JRCDMS requires that students meet the following curriculum prerequisites prior to beginning the core DMS curriculum: Algebra/Statistics, Radiation Physics/General Physics, Communication Skills, Anatomy and Physiology. The afore mentioned courses make up the prerequisite requirements for not only UAA's revised curriculum but all DMS AAS degree programs that were reviewed. The program noted that the prerequisite credits were not included in the DMS program credits in other programs. The DMS standards require substantial clinical practicum hours, significantly impacting the total credits required. The program was able to revise the curriculum to 56 program credits in addition to 19 prerequisite credits for a total of 75 credits for the full AAS which is in alignment with programs reviewed.

The program submitted the revised DMS-AAS curriculum for approval and currently the curriculum has progressed through COH Curriculum Committee, UAB and Faculty Senate and is awaiting OAA curriculum approval for implementation for academic year 2022-2023.

How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)

The success of the curricular revision will be demonstrated in the reduced credits per degree for DMS AAS graduates and successful implementation for AY22-23. Additionally, a successful accreditation application will be an indicator that the curriculum meets the industry standards and requirements.

Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)

* Review of accreditation standards for DMS degree programs

*Review of other regional and nationwide DMS program curricula

*Discussions with the Director of the SAH and Associate Dean of Clinical Health Sciences regarding program changes

* Curriculum and Course revision has been completed. The full curriculum process has been initiated with implementation scheduled for AY22-23.

Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)

*The program is continuing to explore development of a BS in Imaging Sciences that would provide career laddering and include specialty areas needed in the state. Several key concerns including funding and program resources (faculty, specialized equipment and space) are being reviewed.

Recommendation 2: Develop a plan and proposal to apply for external accreditation. Address any guidance in the provost's response to the AY21 Interim Progress Report, posted on the [Academic Program Review website](#).

Timeline (2000 characters or less)

The program completed the initial application for accreditation with the JRCDS. This application allows the program to access the accreditation portal and materials necessary to begin the program self-study. The program has 3 years from the date of initial application to submit a self-study to move forward with the accreditation. Given the curriculum changes initiated for implementation in AY22-23, the program has begun work on collecting the self-study documentation and is waiting on formal approval of the new curriculum and course realignment before moving forward. The program has worked closely with the Director of the SAH and the Associate Dean of Clinical Health Sciences in initiating the accreditation process and developing a timeline for the self-study completion. The initial documents will be ready by the end of AY22.

How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)

*Successful completion of the DMS program self-study by end of AY23

*Successful submission to the JRCDS by the end of AY23

*Successful scheduling of a site visit in early AY24

Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)

* Collection of data and documents necessary to complete the program self-study

*Receipt of access to the portal required to begin the accreditation process

Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)

* Completion of DMS program self-study by end of AY23 with submission to the JRCDS

DEAN SECTION (Due on April 1)

If the program is fully delivered on one or more community campus, the dean should consult with the director(s) of the campus. After completing the Dean Section and signing it, the dean should email this form to the program, and copy uaa.oaa@alaska.edu. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.

For each recommendation, comment on the progress to date and provide commendations and guidance as appropriate. Refer to any guidance in the provost's response to the AY21 Interim Progress Report, posted on the [Academic Program Review website](#). (2000 characters or less for each recommendation)

Recommendation 1: *Decrease the credits of the AAS to be closer to 60, or move to a BS. The revision should be completed in AY21 for implementation in fall 2021. Refer to any guidance in the provost's response to the AY21 Interim Progress Report, posted on the [Academic Program Review website](#).*

The program has reviewed peer programs and carefully examined its own curriculum to reduce the credits to the maximum extent possible, while still including all components required for successful accreditation. Similar to other health programs which require significant clinical hours, the requirements for this program necessitate either a credit-heavy AAS or a BS which has room in the curriculum for specialty or advanced coursework or elective credits. I agree that maintaining an AAS, even with the relatively high credit requirement, is the best option for students and the industry at this time rather than moving to a BS DMS degree. As the program noted, a BS program which the AAS articulates into could provide professional development opportunity for graduates as well as an opportunity for them to apply their full AAS credits toward a BS degree if they choose.

Although the desire and goal was to achieve a credit load closer to 60 credits, I believe the program has thoroughly looked at its own curriculum as well as peer programs and has put forward a curriculum that is as low in credits as it can achieve while still meeting accreditation standards and providing a curriculum that will allow students to be successful in achieving competency and passing national credentialing exams. The program has reduced the total credits required for the AAS from 83 credits in the current catalog to 75 credits, bringing it in alignment with BOR requirements.

Recommendation 2: *Develop a plan and proposal to apply for external accreditation. Refer to any guidance in the provost's response to the AY21 Interim Progress Report, posted on the [Academic Program Review website](#).*

The program has an achievable plan for seeking external accreditation. The program has been reviewing the standards during the curriculum revision process they have undertaken in this academic year. This should support a self-study and accreditation application that does not require further significant curriculum revisions. Prior to applying for initial accreditation, the program will need to provide a detailed resource assessment for internal review (see JRC-DMS Standard III.D).

The Dean's office will continue to work closely with the program and OAA on the accreditation application process and timelines.

In AY21, the provost required an Interim Progress Report in AY22.

Does this Interim Progress Report demonstrate that the program has completed the tasks as requested by the provost? Yes No

The provost required a Follow-up Program Review in AY24. Do you agree? Yes No

If no, why not? (500 characters or less) The program has achieved the goals of this review cycle including determining whether a credit reduction in the AAS or development of a BS would be in the best interest of students and workforce demands at this time and developing a plan to begin the process for external accreditation.

If you are proposing that this Interim Progress Report end the current review cycle:

What are your continuing or new commendations?

I commend the program for: (number and list the specific commendations in the narrative box, 1500 character limit)

I commend the program for the following:

1. Conducting a thorough review of comparable programs both within UAA institutional peers as well as a broader selection of programs.
2. Completing a curriculum revision which reduced the credit requirements by approximately 10% while ensuring that the program is poised to apply for external accreditation.

What are your continuing or new recommendations?

I recommend that the program: (number and list the specific recommendations in the narrative box, 1500 character limit)

I recommend that the program continue with their plans and timeline for seeking external accreditation.

What is your proposed final recommendation for the cycle? Continuation -- Program is successfully serving its students and meeting its mission and goals. No immediate changes necessary, other than regular, ongoing program improvements.

If an Interim Progress Report is proposed, recommended year: N/A

If a Follow-up Program Review is proposed, recommended year: N/A

Proposed next regular Program Review: AY2029

Dean's signature:

André B. Rosay

Date: 4/1/2022

PROVOST SECTION (Due on August 1)

After completion and signature, the provost will email the final decision to the program and dean, with a copy to uaa.aaa@alaska.edu for posting. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.

Provost's commendations, additional or adjusted recommendations, if any, and other general comments (3000 characters or less):

I agree with the dean's assessment and recognize the faculty's considerable efforts to be proactive and action-oriented in addressing the current recommendations. In particular, I applaud the curriculum redesign, which reduces the total credits to be within the range set by Board of Regents policy. The program would like to seek specialized accreditation for the degree. They should submit to the dean by December 1, 2022 the internal UAA proposal requesting permission to seek specialized accreditation. I will consider the request at that time.

Moving forward, I am asking programs to think about how they put students first by looking carefully at issues such as pre-requisites, especially "hidden" pre-requisites, excess credits, especially for additional upper-division or in-residence credits beyond the university requirements, and student progression through the curriculum. I am also asking faculty to think about what it means to embrace diversity and inclusivity on the course and program level and about how they demonstrate this in their particular program(s). For example, some ways to demonstrate this are through the use of proven, high-impact practices at the program level such as portfolios, community-based/service learning, and undergraduate research. Proven pedagogic strategies also include designing assignments using Transparency in Learning and Teaching (TILT), the inclusion of formative assessments in addition to summative ones, and implementing OER and ZTC materials, particularly where course materials can be more reflective of diverse perspectives.

Please consider how the program can continue to build on its efforts and use what it has learned through this Program Review process to further reflect on the program, its curricular design, how each course is delivered, and how its students are supported. Please also consider how the program embraces and demonstrates its commitment to diversity and inclusion, as outlined above.

This Interim Progress Report completes the current cycle of Program Review for the AAS with a final decision of Continuation, as put forward by the dean. The next Program Review will be in AY29.

Final decision: Agree with the dean's overall recommendation with the additional guidance and adjustments as per the above comments.

Provost's signature:



Date: 5/13/2022