

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
www.acenursing.org

**Disclosure Statement Regarding the Status of the Associate Degree Nursing
Program at East Arkansas Community College, Forrest City, AR**

Issued October 8, 2021 by the ACEN

The following publicly available information is provided by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) concerning the accreditation of the associate degree nursing program at East Arkansas Community College, Forrest City, AR. Information presented below is in accordance with ACEN Policy #5 [Notification of Commission Decisions](#). ACEN staff cannot comment further on questions specifically related to the associate degree nursing program at East Arkansas Community College

**What is the accreditation status of the associate degree nursing program
at East Arkansas Community College?**

On September 8-10, 2021, the ACEN Board of Commissioners voted to deny initial accreditation to the associate degree nursing program at East Arkansas Community College.

**Why did the ACEN Board of Commissioners vote to deny initial accreditation to
the associate degree nursing program at East Arkansas Community College?**

The ACEN Board of Commissioners voted to deny initial accreditation for failure to comply with Standard 6 Outcomes, Criterion 6.2, of the ACEN Standards and Criteria. Standard 6 expects that program evaluation demonstrates that students have achieved each end-of-program student learning outcome and each program outcome. Criterion 6.2 expects the program demonstrates evidence of graduates' achievement on the licensure examination. Access the [ACEN Standards and Criteria](#) to read the full text of the Standards and Criteria cited above.

What will happen next?

Per ACEN Policy #10 [Appeal Process and Submission and Review of New Financial Information Subsequent to Adverse Action](#), the associate degree nursing program at East Arkansas Community College has 30 calendar days after receipt of official notification in which it could submit a written notice to initiate an appeal. The ACEN must receive the official notification by 5 pm Eastern Time, November 8, 2021.

If East Arkansas Community College submits an official notification to initiate an appeal, then the ACEN will initiate the appeal process and the Appeal Hearing will be scheduled per the timeline outlined in Policy #10.

If East Arkansas Community College does not submit an official notification to initiate an appeal, then the ACEN will not initiate the appeal process.

For information about denial of initial accreditation or the appeals process, see ACEN Policy #4 [Types of Commission Actions for Initial and Continuing Accreditation](#) and Policy #34 [Candidacy for a Governing Organization/Nursing Program Seeking Initial Accreditation](#).

Access the [ACEN Accreditation Manual](#) for additional information regarding the ACEN accreditation process.

The ACEN is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE) and Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as a reliable authority regarding the quality of education or training offered by institutions/nursing programs accredited by the ACEN.