

January 18, 2023

Dr. Kevin Sightler
Director of Substantive Change
SACSCOC
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-4097

Dear Dr. Sightler,

St. Petersburg College is pleased to submit the following information regarding changes to its certificate and academic programs. Board approval was received on June 21, 2022 concerning these changes. Please accept this letter as notification of the closure of our A.S. in Orthotics & Prosthetics.

The change below regards closing a program offering and represents our teach-out plan.

Teach out of Program - Orthotics & Prosthetics Associate in Science (ORTHO-AS)

The Orthotics & Prosthetics Associate in Science program (ORTHO-AS) is closed to further enrollment as of Fall 2022. Demand for this program and its enrollment have decreased steadily since 2016, due in part to changes in the industry and the local job market. Whereas 30 students were enrolled in 2016, no new students enrolled in 2021-2022.

As of the date of the June Board of Trustees approval, there were 9 students who had not completed this degree plan; however, all completed the program in July 2022. Students were sent an email outlining the degree closure and provided assistance in ensuring their current academic plan resulted in completion of their degree.

Faculty were informed of the impending change in conversations with the Dean of Health Sciences. All faculty within O&P have since been reassigned to other academic programs that match their credentials, thus no remaining faculty will be impacted by this program closure. A part-time lab assistant position was shared among O&P and multiple other health sciences programs. Since Fall 2022, this assistant was reassigned to other courses within other education programs fitting their credentials and no need for new employment is anticipated. As the college will continue to offer a non-credit Industry Credential program for students interested in this field, all program equipment has been moved over for use in this program.

Neither the student nor the instructors will incur any charges/expenses due to this teach-out plan.

If you have need for further information, please feel free to contact our SACSCOC Liaison, Sabrina Crawford at (727) 341-3118 or Crawford.Sabrina@spcollege.edu.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sabrina Crawford
SACSCOC Liaison
St. Petersburg College