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COMMISSION ON COLLEGES

July 4, 2025

Dr. T. Rhett Brown
President
Wingate University
213 E. Wilson Street
Wingate, NC 28174

Dear Dr. Brown:

Thank you for submitting the following substantive change:

Substantive change:
Program Closure
Doctor of Pharmacy
at Wingate University Health Sciences Center
Submission date:
4/30/2025
Intended Implementation date:
4/25/2025
Case ID:
SC031307

The University confirms that the Doctor of Pharmacy program is only closing at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center off-campus instruction site (OCIS) in Hendersonville.

The University will inform currently enrolled students of the program closure at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center. The Interim Dean of the School of Pharmacy will notify all students via a live Zoom meeting. This meeting will be followed by a cohort-specific email outlining the details and plan for degree completion.

The University confirms there is one lapsed enrolled student. The student was admitted to the Fall 2024 cohort and deferred. The student will receive an offer to attend the School of Pharmacy on the main campus. Prospective students will be notified of the closure at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center via email by the Interim Dean of the School of Pharmacy on the main campus. Additionally, a live Zoom meeting will be scheduled to answer any questions.

The pharmacy program will continue uninterrupted on the University's main campus. All students will be able to complete their degree program.

Currently, the pharmacy program at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center OCIS is delivered in a live, synchronous format from the main campus. Laboratory and objective structured clinical exams (OSCEs) are conducted in person at both sites. The university was approved for distance education on May 1, 2018.

The distance between campuses is approximately 140 miles. Relocation to the area will be necessary for students to continue in the program on the main campus.

To offset financial difficulties for students who may have apartment leases or other housing obligations in Hendersonville, the students will be offered on-campus student housing at no cost. There are no other tuition or fees charged related to the teach-out.

Faculty and staff in both the Pharmacy and the Physician Assistant Studies programs were notified in person by the President and the Vice Provost of Levine College of Health Sciences. Faculty and staff at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center were notified in person by the Provost and Interim Dean.

The two community partners most affected by the closure of the pharmacy program on the Wingate University Health Sciences Center are Henderson County and UNC Health – Pardee. The President, Provost, and Vice Provost have been in regular contact with both partners regarding the University's ongoing relationship and use of the space in the county-owned building.

The University confirms that there are no agreements with other institutions for program completion. All students can complete their program at the University.

Three staff members at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center OCIS work with both the Pharmacy and Physician Assistant Studies (PA) programs. All three positions will be maintained in Hendersonville to continue supporting the PA program with no changes to employment status.

There are currently four pharmacy faculty members at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center OCIS. Two faculty members will be maintained at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center to support clinicals. The remaining two will be offered a position on the main campus. This will require relocation to the area. If the faculty choose not to relocate to a position at the main campus, a severance package will be offered.

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges approves the closure of the Doctor of Pharmacy at the Wingate University Health Sciences Center.

Should you need assistance, please contact Dr. Denise Y. Young at (404) 492-5386 or via email at dyoung@sacscoc.org.

Please include the Case ID number above in all submissions or correspondence about this substantive change.

Sincerely,

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW:DDG/sb

cc: Dr. Eric F. Schneider, Vice Provost for Institional Effectiveness, Wingate University
Dr. Denise Y. Young, Vice President, SACSCOC