Jefferson College has been accredited

The Carilion-owned school earned the status for another 10 years.

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Jefferson College of Health Sciences this week earned accreditation for another 10 years, the Roanoke school announced Thursday.

The school began preparing to renew its accreditation three years ago, according to spokesman Mark Lambert. The process involved compiling written reports and hosting on-campus visits by independent reviewers who interviewed students, staff and faculty.

The reaffirmation of the school’s accredited status was announced Tuesday at the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges in Louisville, Ky.

Accreditation means the school’s curriculum, procedures and services meet standards set by peer institutions. Students who attend an accredited school can apply for federal financial aid and can transfer academic credits they earn to another accredited school.

The Carilion-owned college, which has 1,047 students this fall, offers master’s degrees in nursing, occupational therapy and physician assistant programs, and bachelor’s degrees in nursing and a range of other health care fields. It also offers associate degrees in several fields. The college was last accredited in 2000.

Over the past six years the school has nearly doubled its enrollment and has shifted its emphasis from associate degree programs to bachelor’s degree programs.

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President Obama is visible on a television screen as trader Sean Spain checks his screens in the Goldman Sachs booth on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Tuesday.