

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO §§215.2, 215.3, AND 215.6 RELATING TO  
ACCREDITATION OF THE GOVERNING INSTITUTION OF A SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

Consider the proposed amendments to §§215 in response to House Bill 2426 change in the statute relating to the accreditation of the governing institution of a school of nursing.

**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

- House Bill (HB) 2426 Section 301.157(b-1) requires that "The board may not require accreditation of the governing institution of a school of nursing. The board shall accept the requirements established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for accrediting the governing institution of a school of nursing. The governing institution of a professional nursing school, not including a diploma program, must be accredited by an agency recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board or hold a certificate of authority from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under provisions leading to accrediting of the institution in due course."

**PROPOSED RULE CHANGES:**

- §215.2 Definitions
  - (20) Governing institution-- an accredited college, university, or hospital responsible for the administration and operation of a Board-approved nursing program: the entity with administrative and operational authority over a Board-approved professional nursing educational program.
  - (37) Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)--a state agency created by the Legislature to provide coordination for the Texas higher education system, institutions, and governing boards, through the efficient and effective utilization and concentration of all available resources and the elimination of costly duplication in program offerings, faculties, and physical plants (Tex. Educ. Code, Title 3, Subtitle B, ch. 61).
- §215.3 Program Development, Expansion and Closure
  - (a) New programs.
    - (1) Proposal to establish a new professional pre-licensure ~~or post-licensure~~ nursing educational program.
      - (A) ~~A governing institution accredited by a Board-recognized accrediting body is eligible to submit a~~ The proposal to develop establish a professional nursing educational program may be submitted by:
        - (i) a college or university accredited by an agency recognized by the THECB or holding a certificate of authority from the THECB under provisions leading to accrediting of the institution in due course; or
        - (ii) a single-purpose school, such as a hospital, proposing a new diploma program.
- §215.6 Administration and Organization
  - (a) The governing institution of a professional nursing school/educational program, not including a diploma program, shall must be accredited by a Board-recognized an agency recognized by the THECB or hold a certificate of authority from the THECB under provisions leading to accreditation of the institution in due course.

**PROS AND CONS:**

**Pros-**

- Proposed amendments to §§215.2, 215.3, and 215.6 above reflect statutory changes and operationalize the statute.

**Cons-**

None noted

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

The motion to approve the proposed amendments to §§ 215.2, 215.3, and 215.6 relating to accreditation of the governing institution of a school of nursing will be included as part of Agenda Item 7.10.13.