

**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
COASTAL BEND COLLEGE IN BEEVILLE, TEXAS
ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider the Coast Bend College (CBC) proposal to establish a generic associate degree nursing educational program with an LVN to RN bridge track in Beeville, Texas. The final revised version of the proposal was sent to members of the Board under a separate cover. A Notice of Public Hearing has been posted (See Attachment One).

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

- Coastal Bend College at Beeville Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program began in 1967 as Bee County College.
- The college added a VN program in Alice in 1974, a VN program in Kingsville in 1975, and a VN program in Pleasanton in 2002.
- The college's name was changed to Coastal Bend College (CBC) on September 1, 1998.
- Board staff conducted survey visits of all four (4) VN programs August 7-10, 2006 and found that at the time the facilities, resources and services at all four (4) locations met the Board's required standards with minimal exceptions that were subsequently corrected.
- CBC began the proposal process on December 10, 2007 when the first draft of a proposal to establish a professional nursing educational program was received in the Board office.
- Board staff completed the review of the proposal and suggested revisions to the proposal were discussed and sent to the program via email.
- A final version of the proposal was received in the Board office on March 27, 2008 and staff noted that the comments provided to the program in the written review on March 13, 2008 have been addressed in the final version of the proposal with the exception of some minor suggestions.

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSAL:

Overview:

- CBC in Beeville, Texas, is requesting to establish a generic associate degree nursing (ADN) educational program with an LVN to RN track.
- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has approved CBC to implement an Associate of Applied Science Degree Program in Nursing.
- The program proposes an initial enrollment in the ADN educational program of twenty (20) students.

Present and Anticipated Need for Program:

- Proposal included current and future evidence of numerous job openings for Registered Nurses (RNs) in the CBC service area.
- Results from surveys of health care agencies in the area indicate a consistent need for RNs.

Potential Student Population:

- The proposal lists at least three (3) different sources of potential students.
- The results of several different surveys indicate that a strong interest in the proposed program exists.

Impact on Existing Programs:

- Proposal states that there are no nursing programs located within twenty-five (25) miles of the CBC campuses, but Del Mar College's eLine program is available to residents within the CBC service area.
- A survey of community health care facilities indicated that the facilities are willing to accommodate the proposed CBC program.
- The proposed program will provide clinical learning experiences in a wide variety of health care facilities, including acute care, long term care, and day care as indicated by the comprehensive list in the proposal of area health care facilities already used by the VN program and willing to provide clinical experiences for the proposed program.

Director/Faculty:

- The proposal identifies a prospective program director, Betty Sims, MSN, RN, FRE, who is the author of the proposal.
- Four (4) individuals have been identified as prospective faculty and all the individuals have the required qualifications.

Budget:

- Proposed budget includes salaries, secretarial support, supplies, Internet, textbooks, uniforms, printing, insurance, and organization membership.
- The budget projections address the required elements of Rule 215.

Students:

- Information in the Student Handbook, pages 37-59, regarding eligibility for licensure does not include all the required information as cited in Rule 215.8(f).
- A receipt specifically listing the Board's eligibility information as cited in Rule 215.8(f) for students to sign acknowledging receipt of said eligibility information is not present.
- Child care for children six (6) weeks to five (5) years old is available for students through the CBC Child Development Center.
- CBC is compliant with The Americans With Disabilities Act.

Program of Study:

- The proposed curriculum is well-developed and includes all required elements.
- The didactic content will be delivered via a hybrid design, including online format and face-to-face interaction.
- Library services are offered through a full service library with text and electronic services.

Total Program Evaluation:

- All of the required nine (9) applicable board areas are present in the Total Program Evaluation Plan included in the proposal.
- Numerical benchmarks are present for all areas of evaluation in the Total Program Evaluation Plan.
- Numerical benchmarks may require revision as data is collected.

PROS AND CONS:

Pros:

- Coastal Bend College has operated a successful VN program in Beeville since 1967, a successful VN program in Alice since 1974, a successful VN program in Kingsville since 1975, and a successful VN program in Pleasanton since 2002.
- A proposed director and four (4) qualified, prospective faculty members have been identified for the proposed program.
- The proposed program of study/curriculum is well-developed and addresses all required elements.
- Adequate clinical facilities for clinical learning experiences have been secured for the first cohort of twenty (20) students.
- Adequate budget projections to operate the program, to purchase additional lab supplies and equipment upon program approval, and maintain the necessary facilities, resources and services were included in the proposal.
- The proposed program will utilize the established facilities, resources and services, including nursing skills labs, currently located at CBC.
- Board staff conducted a survey visit of the four (4) VN programs in Beeville, Alice, Kingsville, and Pleasanton in August 2006, and determined that at the time all facilities, resources and services, including the nursing skills labs, met the Board's required standards with minimal exceptions that were subsequently corrected.

Cons:

- Information in the Student Handbook, pages 37-59, regarding eligibility for licensure does not include all the required information as cited in Rule 215.8(f).
- A receipt specifically listing the Board's eligibility information as cited in Rule 215.8(f) for students to sign acknowledging receipt of said eligibility information is not present.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Move to approve a generic associate degree nursing educational program with an LVN to RN bridge track to be established by Coastal Bend College in Beeville, Texas and grant the program Initial Approval status, issue the commendations and the requirement to be met, and authorize Board staff to conduct a survey visit approximately six (6) months after enrollment of the first cohort of students, as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment Two).

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460
Austin, Texas 78701-3942

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

for

Consideration of a Proposal from Coastal Bend College

To Establish An

Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program

in

Beeville, Texas

Date and Time: April 17, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.

Place:

Hobby Building
333 Guadalupe Street
Tower 2, Room 225
Austin, Texas

The Board will hear testimony from individuals who wish to present information concerning the proposal. Written testimony will also be considered and should be received in the Board's office by April 4, 2008.

Address written testimony to:

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director
Texas Board of Nursing
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460
Austin, Texas 78701-3942

DRAFT LETTER

April 28, 2008

Thomas Baynum, PhD, President
Coastal Bend College
3800 Charco Road
Beeville, Texas 78102

Dear Dr. Baynum:

At the April 17-18, 2008 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) discussed the Coastal Bend College proposal to establish a new generic associate degree nursing educational program with an LVN to RN bridge track in Beeville, Texas. The members of the Board wish to thank you and [] for being available to answer questions.

As indicated by the enclosed order, the Board is pleased to inform you that based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to grant Initial Approval status to the Coastal Bend College Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Educational Program in Beeville, Texas, issue commendations and requirements to be met, and authorize a survey visit of the program approximately six (6) months after enrollment of the first cohort of students. The program has Board approval to implement the program with an initial enrollment of twenty (20) students.

Commendations:

1. The college and the author of the proposal are commended for the excellent proposal that needed minimal revision to meet the requirements for a proposal to establish a new nursing educational program.
2. The program is commended for the creative methods of incorporating a hybrid design for course delivery, including online format and face-to-face interaction, and increased utilization of simulation in the program of study.

Requirement:

Rule 215.8(f) related to *Students*, requires that "Individuals enrolled in approved professional nursing education programs preparing students for initial licensure shall be provided verbal and written information regarding conditions that may disqualify graduates from licensure and of their rights to petition the Board for a Declaratory Order of Eligibility. Required eligibility information includes: (1) Texas Occupations Code §§301.252, 301.257 and 301.452 - .469; and (2) Sections 213.27 - 213.30 of the Texas Administrative Code (relating to Good Professional Character, Licensure of Persons with Criminal Convictions, Criteria and Procedure Regarding Intemperate Use and Lack of Fitness in Eligibility and Disciplinary Matters, Declaratory Order of Eligibility for Licensure)." A review of the Student Handbook included in the proposal revealed that information in the Student Handbook, pages 37-59, regarding eligibility for licensure does not include all the required information as cited in Rule 214.8(b) and a receipt specifically listing the Board's eligibility information as cited in Rule 215.8(f) for students to sign acknowledging receipt of said eligibility information is not present. **Therefore**, the program shall revise the Student Handbook and other sources to include the specific verbal and written information regarding conditions that may disqualify graduates from licensure and their rights to petition the Board for a Declaratory Order of Eligibility as cited in Rule 215.8(f) and develop a separate receipt specifically listing the Board's eligibility information as cited in Rule 215.8(f) for students to sign acknowledging receipt of said eligibility information.

Requirements are mandatory criteria based on program assessment directly related to the rule that shall be addressed in the manner prescribed. Board staff will be contacting the program director to make arrangements for the authorized survey visit approximately six (6) months after enrollment of the first cohort of students. If you have any questions, or if we may be of any assistance, please contact board staff at (512) 305-6815 or by email at robbin.wilson@bon.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP
President

Robbin Wilson, MSN, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

xc: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Betty Sims, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing Education, College Bend College

Enclosure

DRAFT BOARD ORDER

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the matter of the proposal of

Coastal Bend College in Beeville, Texas

For approval to establish an Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Coastal Bend College in Beeville, Texas

The Texas Board of Nursing in and for the State of Texas in a regularly scheduled meeting, held on the 17th day of April 2008, considered the proposal for authority to establish an Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program by the Board, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code.

At the meeting, Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP, President of the Board, presided and the following members were present:

George Buchenau, Jr., BSN, RN, Representing Practice
Deborah Hughes Bell, CLU, ChFC, Consumer Member
Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN, Representing VN Programs
Sheri Denise Crosby, JD, Consumer Member
Marilyn J. Davis, BSN, RN, Representing Practice
Brenda S. Jackson, PhD, RN, Representing BSN Programs
Richard Robert Gibbs, LVN, Representing Practice
Rachel Gomez, LVN, Representing Practice
Blanca Rosa Garcia, PhD, RN Representing ADN programs
Beverly Jean Nutall, LVN, Representing Practice
Mary Jane Salgado, MEd, Consumer Member
Frank D. Sandoval, Jr., Consumer Member

The Board reviewed the proposal of the above school and after having discussed the proposal in an open public meeting, the Board makes the following findings:

FINDINGS

That a written proposal has been filed with said Board.

That a public meeting on said proposal was held to take testimony and evidence by the Board.

That the written proposal does meet the minimum requirements for proceeding with the establishment of an approved program offering an Associate Degree in Nursing.

ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT, the proposal of Coastal Bend College is contingently approved, having been found to comply with minimum requirements and standards for establishing an Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program to prepare registered nurses.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT THE aforementioned entity is authorized to proceed to meet all requirements of the Board for Initial Approval, and that prior to the admission of the first cohort of twenty (20) students, that all requirements issued by the Board must be met. In no event will the program admit students until all the legal requirements and standards for professional nursing education as described in Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nursing Education, §215.1-§215.13 (effective 02/13/05) are met.

Specifically, the Board requires the following conditions as described in the above rule to be met by August 31, 2008 if students are to be admitted to the Coastal Bend College, Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program:

- Verbal and written information regarding conditions that may disqualify graduates from licensure and their rights to petition the Board for a Declaratory Order of Eligibility shall be revised in the Student Handbook and other sources to include the specific information as cited in Rule 215.8(f).
- A separate receipt specifically listing the Board's eligibility information as cited in Rule 215.8(f) shall be developed for students to sign acknowledging receipt of said eligibility information.

DATED THIS 17th day of April 2008.

THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

Seal

By: _____

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP, President