

**Consideration for Change of Approval Status from Full to Full with Warning
 Clarendon College in Pampa, Texas
 Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider a proposed change in the program approval status of Clarendon College Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program in Pampa, Texas, based upon review of the 2011 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate, the 2011 Nursing Education Program Information Survey, the 2011 Compliance Audit for Nursing Education Programs, and Board Rule 214.

Historical Perspective:

- The Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Program has been in operation since 1973.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past seven years are presented in the following table:

Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-PN® Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2011	Pending	68.52%	37/54
2010	Full (April 2009 Board)	73.17%	30/41
2009	Full with Warning	87.50%	21/24
2008	Full with Warning (July 2008 Board)	88.57%	31/35
2007	Full	79.31%	23/29
2006	Full	68.00%	17/25
2005	Full	90.91%	20/22

- Due to the 68.00% pass rate on the 2006 NCLEX-PN® examination, the program was required to submit a Self-Study Report that evaluated factors contributing to graduates' performance and a description of corrective measures to be implemented.
- Although corrective measures were initiated, the 2007 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate is 79.31%.
- At the July 17-18, 2008 Board meeting, the Board changed the approval status of Clarendon College VN Education Program from full to full with warning and authorized staff to conduct a survey visit in Fall 2008.
- Board staff conducted a focused survey visit of the program October 8-9, 2008 to evaluate the ongoing corrective measures and to assist in identifying other causative factors that may have contributed to the below 80% NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates.

- The program's 2008 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate is 88.57%.
- At the April 23-24, 2009 Board meeting, the Board changed the approval status of Clarendon College VN Education Program from full with warning to full approval.
- The 2009 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate is 87.50%.
- The program's 2010 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate is 73.17%; resultantly, the program director was required to submit a Self-Study Report to Board staff to provide an internal examination of factors that may have contributed to graduates' performance on the licensure examination, as well as to identify proposed corrective actions. The document was received in the Board office on October 27, 2011.
- The corrective measures included:
 - change of admission criteria to require a minimum 2.5 GPA to be considered for entrance into the nursing program;
 - discontinuance of group testing, open book testing, and retesting for grade determination;
 - revision of clinical evaluation tools and subsequent instruction of faculty regarding proper use of the instruments;
 - performance of test item analysis before and after administration of each examination;
 - change of the minimum passing grade in all nursing courses from 76 to 78;
 - implementation of the Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) NCLEX-PN® Review Course;
 - change of faculty to student ratio to 1:5 in clinical lab experiences to improve learning outcomes;
 - incorporation of ATI computer adaptive testing to include *Dosage Calculations* and *Pharmacology*;
 - identification of the *Anatomy and Physiology Course* and the *Nutrition Course* as academic courses rather than nursing courses;
 - implementation of a *Fundamentals of Nursing* course into the vocational nursing curriculum; and
 - incorporation of the ATI end-of-course examination as a percentage of the final course grade.
- Although multiple corrective measures were implemented, the 2011 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate is 68.52%.
- The following numbers of students are currently enrolled in the identified cohorts:

September 2011	14 students
January 2012	45 students
- In January 2012, Kory Dunn, RN resigned as the program director and Kellye Reed, BSN, RN assumed the nursing administrator position. Ms. Dunn will continue to serve as a faculty member in the vocational nursing education program.

Pros and Cons:

Pros:

- The program submitted a comprehensive evaluation of factors that may have contributed to the below 80% NCLEX-PN® pass rates.
- Corrective measures were timely instituted and evaluated.

Cons:

- The 2010 and 2011 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates are below 80%.

Staff Recommendation: Based upon review of the 2011 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate, the 2011 Nursing Education Program Information Survey, the 2011 Compliance Audit for Nursing Education Programs, and Board Rule 214, move to change the approval status of Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Pampa, Texas from full to full with warning and authorize Board staff to conduct a survey visit as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

April 23, 2012

Kelley Reed, BSN, RN, Director
Vocational Nursing Education Program
Clarendon College
1601 West Kentucky Ave
Pampa, TX 79065

Dear Ms. Reed:

At the April 19-20, 2012 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status of the Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Education Program, based upon a review of the 2011 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate, the 2011 Nursing Education Program Information Survey, the 2011 Compliance Audit for Nursing Education Programs, and Board Rule 214. Members of the Board wish to thank you and <<INSERT AS NEEDED>> for being present at the meeting to answer questions.

Based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Education Program from full to full with warning and authorize a survey visit in 2012. Board staff will contact you to schedule the survey visit.

If you have any questions or if we may provide assistance, please contact Board staff at 512-305-7660.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN
President

Virginia D. Ayars, EdD, MS, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: Texas Workforce Commission