

**Consideration of Change of Approval Status from Full to Full with Warning
 Lamar State College - Orange, Texas
 Associate Degree Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider a proposed change in the program approval status of Lamar State College - Orange Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Program in Orange, Texas, based upon the review of the 2012 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate, the 2012 Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS), and Rule 215.

Historical Perspective:

- Lamar State College - Orange (LSC-O) ADN Program has been in operation since 1989.
- The Upward Mobility Program provides educational mobility for licensed vocational/practical nurses in a three (3) semester program..
- For the past nine (9) years, LSC-O Upward Mobility program has held full approval status.
- The table below depicts the LSC-O program NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates for the past six (6) years:

Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2012	Pending	67.86%	38/56
2011	Full	77.42%	48/62
2010	Full	86.79%	46/53
2009	Full	93.18%	41/44
2008	Full	85.71%	36/42
2007	Full	96.88%	31/32

- Lamar State College - Orange is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Leah Anne McGee, MEd, MSN, C-FNP, is an experienced educator and has been the program director for ten (10) years.
- In 2012, the LSC-O ADN program was directed to complete and submit a self-study report subsequent to the 2011 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate of 77.42% (48/62).
- The self-study report was received in the Board office by the due date of April 2012.
- The self-study report evaluated factors that could have contributed to the graduates' performance and included a description of corrective measures to be implemented.
- A review of the self-study report revealed that a variety of issues may have had an impact on graduates' performance including:
 - (1) admission criteria component
 - (2) student professional accountability issues
 - (3) student personal issues
 - (4) faculty issues
 - (5) exam construction and security
 - (6) timing of the exit exam and taking the NCLEX-RN® exam
- In analyzing data from the self study report, program faculty identified the following areas for improvement:
 - (1) Minimum required reading score on Admission Assessment Exam
 - (2) Exam construction, application to NCLEX-RN® test blueprint, and test security

- (3) Critical thinking focus in simulation activities
- (4) Timing of HESI exit examination
- (5) Student personal issues
- (6) Standardized testing and remediation plans
- Specific corrective actions included:
 - (1) Requisite reading score on admission assessment exam changed from 75% to 80%. This will be implemented for summer 2013 class
 - (2) Added professional behaviors outcome measurement to clinical evaluation tool
 - (3) Expanded academic dishonesty policy statement in student handbook.
 - (4) Increased use of early alert referral to appropriate student service
 - (5) Mandated remediation activities and added faculty monitoring
 - (6) Restructured simulation activities to include additional critical thinking skills
 - (7) Ensured examinations include test questions constructed at application level or higher
 - (8) Raised HESI exit exam score to 900 and moved exam closer to semester end
- Since submission of the self-study report, faculty have engaged in several professional development activities:
 - (1) One (1) faculty has completed simulation certification.
 - (2) Two (2) faculty attended conference focused on development of nursing curriculum
 - (3) One (1) faculty has been certified as a nurse educator
- Even though the program implemented corrective measures, the 2012 NCLEX-RN® pass rate remained below the required 80% benchmark at 67.86% (38/56)

PROS AND CONS:

Pros:

- The program submitted a comprehensive evaluation of factors that may have contributed to the lowered NCLEX-RN® pass rate.
- Corrective measures were instituted and are being evaluated.
- The school administration is supportive of the program and faculty, providing resources for ongoing faculty development..

Cons:

- It is not possible to determine if the corrective measures that were implemented to improve student performance are fully effective due to the limited time period from the dates of implementation of the corrective measures to the end of the 2012 NCLEX-RN® examination year.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status of Lamar State College - Orange Upward Mobility Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Orange, 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

January, 22, 2013

Leah Anne McGee, RN, MEd, MSN, C-FNP
Program Director, Upward Mobility Program
Lamar State College - Orange
Allied Health Bldg, Rm 219
410 West Front Street
Orange, TX 77630

Dear Ms. McGee:

At the January 17-18, 2013 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status of the Lamar State College - Orange Upward Mobility Associate Degree Nursing Education Program based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2012, review of the 2012 Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS), and compliance with Rule 215. Members of the Board wish to thank you, ????, 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 Lamar State College - Orange Upward Mobility Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Orange, Texas, from Full to Full with warning and authorize a survey visit in 2013. Board staff will contact you to schedule the survey visit.

It is the responsibility of the program director to inform the college administration of this action.

If you have any questions or if we may be of assistance, please contact Board staff at (512) 463-4631.

Sincerely,

Kathy Shipp, MSN, RN, FNP
President

Sandi Emerson, MSN, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy:
TWC
THECB