

**Consideration for Change in Approval Status
From Full Approval with Warning to Full Approval
Vista College in El Paso, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the proposed change in the approval status of the Vista College Vocational Nursing Education Program in El Paso, Texas, based upon review of the 2014 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate and compliance with Board Rule 214.

Historical Perspective:

- Vista College VN program was established in 2004.
- Vista College is licensed by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) and is accredited by the Council on Occupational Education (COE). The most recent four (4) year reaffirmation from COE occurred in 2012.
- The Vista College VN program main campus is located in El Paso, Texas. Three (3) extension sites have been approved by Board staff: Lubbock, Amarillo, and Beaumont.
- The Lubbock extension site admitted its first cohort of students in December 2009. The Amarillo and Beaumont extension sites admitted their first cohort of students in January 2014.
- The table below reflects the Vista College NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate history for the past five (5) years:

Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-PN® Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2014	Pending	89.47%	85/95
2013	Full with Warning	67.26%	76/113
2012	Full	74.55% (Self-Study)	41/55
2011	Full	84.06%	58/69
2010	Full	93.75%	60/64

- The 2014 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate includes candidates from two (2) Vista College VN program sites – El Paso and Lubbock. Initial graduate test results from the Amarillo and Beaumont sites will be included in the 2015 examination pass rate year.
- In July 2013, as required by §214.4(c)(2)(B), Vista College VN program submitted a Self-Study Report (SSR). The SSR offered a comprehensive program analysis and identified the following areas needing improvement:
 - High turnover of program directors and faculty;
 - Vacant faculty positions;
 - Inconsistent application of established faculty orientation policies and processes;
 - Inconsistent application of standardized testing resources for remediation;
 - Inconsistent faculty application of test blueprinting and examination development;
 - Lack of admission requirement rigor;
 - Inconsistent application of established attendance policy; and,

- Lack of progression metrics from term to term.
- Although corrective measures were implemented, the 2013 NCLEX-PN® examination rate was below the required benchmark of eighty (80) percent and the program approval status for Vista College VN program was changed from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning at the April 2014 Board meeting.
- In May 2014, Cathy Johnson, MSN, RN, NE-BC, assumed the leadership role of program director of the VN program. Ms. Johnson is an experienced educator and administrator, respected by administration, faculty, students, and the professional community.
- The 2014 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate was 89.47% with eighty-five (85) out of ninety-five (95) first-time candidates passing the examination.

Rationales for Staff Recommendation:

The program has demonstrated a pass rate for first-time candidates of at least 80% on the 2014 NCLEX-PN® examination and is currently in full compliance with Board Rule 214.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status of the Vista College Vocational Nursing Education Program in El Paso, Texas from Full Approval with Warning to Full Approval based upon the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate and compliance with Board Rule 214 as indicated in the attached Board Order (See Attachment #1).

Draft Letter

April 20, 2015

Cathy Johnson, MSN, RN, NE-BC
Program Director, Vocational Nursing Education Program
Vista College
7731 North Loop Ave

El Paso, TX 79915

Dear Ms. Johnson:

At the April 16-17, 2015 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) discussed the approval status of Vista College Vocational Nursing Education Program in El Paso, Texas, based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2014 and compliance with Rule 214. Members of the Board wish to thank you for being present at the meeting.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Vista College Vocational Nursing Education Program in El Paso, Texas from Full Approval with Warning to Full Approval.

If you have any questions or if we may be of any assistance, please contact Board staff at sandi.emerson@bon.texas.gov or 512-463-4631.

Sincerely,

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director

Copy: Jim Tolbert, CEO, Vista College/Education Futures Group
Council on Occupational Education

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of:

Vista College
Vocational Nursing Education Program
in El Paso, Texas

ORDER OF THE BOARD

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on April 16, 2015, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of Vista College Vocational Nursing Education Program in El Paso, Texas, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 214, based upon the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2014, and compliance with Rule 214.

After review and due consideration of the filed materials, as well as the presentation by representatives from Vista College Vocational Nursing Education Program in El Paso, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status of the Vista College Vocational Nursing Education Program in El Paso, Texas from FULL APPROVAL WITH WARNING to FULL APPROVAL.

Entered this 16th day of April, 2015

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director
on Behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing