

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status  
From Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning  
Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing in Abilene, Texas  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program**

**Summary of Request:**

Consider the proposed change in approval status for Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing (PHSSN) Baccalaureate Degree Nursing (BSN) Education Program in Abilene, Texas, from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning based upon the 2015 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate, findings in the 2015 Self-Study Report, and compliance with Rule 215.

**Historical Perspective:**

- The PHSSN began in 1997 as a consortium nursing program among Abilene Christian University, Hardin-Simmons University, and McMurray University, three Christian universities in Abilene, Texas.
- Abilene Christian University left the consortium and established a separate BSN program in 2013.
- Nina Ouimette, EdD, RN-BC is the Program Director for the PHSSN BSN program.
- The NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates for the past five (5) years are included in the table below:

<b>NCLEX Examination Year</b>	<b>BON Approval Status</b>	<b>NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rate</b>	<b>Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)</b>
2015	Full	75.00%	42/56
2014	Full	69.05%	58/84
2013	Full	83.93%	47/56
2012	Full	81.93%	68/83
2011	Full	70.27%	104/148

- Due to the 2014 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate of 69.05%, the program director and faculty were required to submit a Self-Study Report (SSR) in 2015 that would evaluate factors that may have contributed to the graduates' performance on the NCLEX-RN® examination and a description of the corrective measures to be implemented.
- The faculty identified factors in the SSR that may have contributed to the decline in the pass rate and designed corrective measures to be implemented that included:
  - Revision of the admission, readmission, and progression criteria;
  - Policy change to require mandatory remediation;
  - Review and revise faculty orientation and training;
  - Ensure rigor across the curriculum;
  - Establish training and interrater reliability in grading processes;

- Develop consistency in the use of a test plan and blueprints;
  - Provide faculty training in test item development and analysis;
  - Review and revise the Total Program Evaluation Plan to improve effectiveness; and
  - Standardize care plan grading and evaluation of students in the clinical area.
- Board Staff conducted a conference call with the program director on December 7, 2015, to discuss the process for changing the program's approval status from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning at the Board meeting on January 21, 2016. The conference call provided an opportunity for Board Staff and the program to discuss the process and implications of the warning status.
  - PHSSN has provided a response to the Board action (See Attachment #1).

**Rationale for Recommendations:**

Rule 215.4(c)(3)(A) states: "A warning may be issued to a program when the pass rate of first-time NCLEX-RN® candidates ... is less than 80% for two (2) consecutive years..."

The Education Guideline for writing a Self-Study Report requires that "The effects of the corrective measures should be evaluated as a part of the Total Program Evaluation Plan."

**Staff Recommendation:**

Move to change the approval status for the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing in Abilene, Texas, from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning based upon the 2015 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate, findings in the 2015 Self-Study Report, and compliance with Rule 215, and impose the conditions and requirements in the attached letter and Board Order (See Attachment #2).

*Patty Hanks*  
**SHELTON**  
 SCHOOL OF NURSING

December 14, 2015

Janice Hooper, PhD, RN, FRE, CNE, FAAN  
 Nursing Consultant for Education  
 Texas Board of Nursing  
 William P. Hobby Building  
 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460  
 Austin, TX 78701-3944

Re: Proposed Change in Approval Status for the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing (PHSSN)

Dear Dr. Hooper,

This letter is in response to the proposed change in approval status from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning based on the 2015 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate. We appreciate the time you took during the conference call to clarify the meaning and implications of the proposed change. Furthermore, we appreciate the notice that the proposed change will be presented at the board meeting on January 21, 2016. We will have some representatives in attendance at this meeting. We ask that you consider this response for inclusion in the board report.

The decline in NCLEX-RN® pass rate for PHSSN began in 2014. Since this onset, we have completed and submitted a self-study report to the Texas Board of Nursing. The school of nursing is dedicated to improving our students' performance on the NCLEX-RN® examination and is working diligently to implement the actions identified in the self-study as shown in the Self-Study Progress Table. All action items identified in the self-study are to be in full effect on the first day of the spring 2016 semester. The May 2015 graduates tested 10% better than the May 2014 graduates, for first time test takers, during the April to September testing period (see NCSBN/Mountain Measurement report). In addition, we have had a site visit with a highly qualified external consultant whose purpose was to review the entire program and make recommendations. These recommendations will be incorporated into the actions already in progress.

We are confident that the May 2016 graduates will excel during the NCLEX-RN® examination based on the positive responses we are seeing due to the actions currently in progress and the improved rigor across the curriculum. Our administration and faculty are fully committed to producing students that are prepared for safe entry into practice and demonstrate high standards on the NCLEX-RN® examination. We look forward to the site visit next year and working closely with the Texas Board of Nursing in our pursuit of excellence in nursing.

Sincerely,



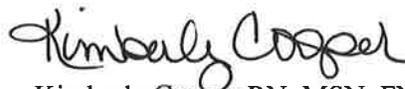
Chaluz C. Kapaale RN, MSN, CNOR(E)  
 Instructor of Nursing  
 BSN Program Coordinator



Theresa Naldoza RN, MSN, CNE  
 Instructor of Nursing  
 Senior Level Coordinator



Nina Ouimette RN-BC, EdD  
 Professor of Nursing  
 Dean School of Nursing



Kimberly Cooper RN, MSN, FNP-C  
 Assistant Professor of Nursing  
 Junior Level Coordinator

Atts: Self-Study Progress Table; NCSBN/Mountain Measurement report

**2149 Hickory Street**  
**Abilene, TX 79601**  
**325-671-2399**

Agenda Item: 3.2.8.d.  
Attachment #2  
Board Meeting: January 2016

Draft Letter

January 26, 2016

Nina Ouimette, EdD, RN-BC  
Dean and Professor of Nursing  
Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing  
2149 Hickory Street  
Abilene, Texas 79601-2339

Dear Dr. Ouimette:

At the January 21-22, 2016 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) discussed the approval status of the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas, based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2015, findings in the 2015 Self-Study Report, and compliance with Rule 215.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas, from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning and impose the conditions and requirements in the attached Board Order.

If you have any questions or if we may be of any assistance, please contact Board Staff at [Janice.hooper@bon.texas.gov](mailto:Janice.hooper@bon.texas.gov) or 512-305-6814.

Sincerely,

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

Copy: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education  
McMurray University

**BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**

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**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

In the Matter of  
Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program  
Abilene, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on January 21, 2016, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 215, based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2015, findings in the Self-Study Report, and compliance with Rule 215.

Representatives from Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas discussed the change in approval status during a conference call with Board Staff and were offered the opportunity to provide a written response for the Board's consideration. After review and due consideration of the materials presented by Staff and filed by Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing in Abilene, Texas, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status of Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas from FULL APPROVAL to FULL APPROVAL WITH WARNING and imposes the following conditions/requirements:

1. In accordance with Rule 215.4(a)(3)(A), a program survey visit will be conducted by Board Staff during 2016.
2. An evaluation of the effectiveness of the corrective measures outlined in the 2015 Self-Study Report is to be submitted by the program to Board Staff no later than June 1, 2016, per Education Guideline 3.2.1.a.

Entered this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2016

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