

**CONTINUATION OF APPROVAL STATUS BASED ON 2006 NCLEX-PN® EXAMINATION
PASS RATE, REVIEW OF 2006 ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW OF SELF-STUDY
CLARENDON COLLEGE
VOCATIONAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider staff recommendation concerning approval status and requirements to be met for the Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Education Program based on review of the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2006, review of the 2006 Annual Report, and review of the self-study report received August 27, 2007.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Year	Approval Status	NCLEX-PN® Pass Rate	Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2006	Full	68.00%	17/25
2005	Full	90.91%	20/22
2004	Full	90%	9/10

- Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Education Program has been in operation since June 1980.
- 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 which contributed to graduates' performance and a description of corrective measures to be implemented.
- The Self-Study Report was received in the Board office on August 31, 2007.

PROS AND CONS:

Pros-

- Program conducted a comprehensive self-study and identified factors which may have contributed to the low pass rate:
 - Admission standards were lowered in order to accommodate a significant increase in student enrollment. Class size increased from twenty-four (24) students to sixty (60) students.
 - Three (3) new faculty may not have received adequate orientation, as there was no orientation specific to the vocational nursing program.
 - Test blueprinting was ineffective.
 - Program was not operating under a routine Total Program Evaluation and many critical elements had been overlooked.
- Corrective measures to be implemented:
 - Cease admission of students who fail to meet the standards.
 - Decrease admission from sixty (60) students to forty (40) students to focus on improving student outcomes, decreasing attrition and improving program efficacy
 - Revise faculty and student handbooks for increased clarity.
 - Initiate Professional Development Plan for faculty to include test item analysis, test blueprinting and development.
 - Update syllabi and clinical evaluation tools to include the DELC.
 - Implement revised Total Program Evaluation.

Cons-

- A Total Program Evaluation Plan was included with the Self-Study Report; however, indicators (numerical benchmarks) of program and instructional effectiveness for each area were not included.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Move to continue full approval status for the Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Education Program, accept the Self-Study Report, and issue the requirements as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment).

DRAFT LETTER

October 22, 2007

Jennifer Black, BSN, RN
Director, Vocational Nursing Education Program
Clarendon College
Box 968, Hwy 287
Clarendon, Texas 79226

Dear Ms. Black:

At the October 18-19, 2007 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing considered the approval status of the Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Education Program based on the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2006, review of the 2006 Annual Report, and review of the August 2007 Self-Study Report.

Based upon review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to continue the Full Approval status of the Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Program and issue the following requirements to be met:

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Rule 214.6(h) related to Administration and Organization requires that "The director or coordinator shall have the authority to direct the program in all its phases, including approval of teaching staff, selection of appropriate clinical sites, admission, progression, probation, and dismissal of students." Review of the August 2007 Self-Study Report revealed that the report contains ongoing corrective measures. **Therefore**, the program director shall be responsible for the implementation and continuing evaluation of ongoing corrective measures identified in the Self-Study Report and shall submit an evaluation of the corrective measures in a revised Total Program Evaluation Plan due September 1, 2008.

2. Rule 214.13(a) related to Total Program Evaluation, requires, in pertinent part, that "The plan shall include evaluative criteria, methodology, frequency of evaluation, assignment of responsibility, and indicators (benchmarks) of program and instructional effectiveness." A copy of the Total Program Evaluation Plan was included with the Self-Study Report and the required broad areas were included, but indicators (numerical benchmarks) of program and instructional effectiveness for each area were not included. **Therefore**, the nursing program director shall submit a copy of the revised Total Program Improvement Plan with indicators (numerical benchmarks) of program and instructional effectiveness for each required area, along with current data and actions/decisions based on analysis of the data with the Texas Board of Nursing 2007 compliance audit.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of any assistance, please contact board staff at (512) 305-7660.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP
President

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

copy: Dr. Myles Shelton, President
Texas Buckhaults, Dean