

**CONTINUATION OF APPROVAL STATUS BASED ON 2005 NCLEX-PN® EXAMINATION
 PASS RATE, REVIEW OF 2005 ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW OF SELF-STUDY
 MIDLAND COLLEGE AT FT. STOCKTON
 VOCATIONAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider staff recommendation concerning approval status and requirements to be met for the Midland College at Ft. Stockton Vocational Nursing Education Program based on review of the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2005, review of the 2005 Annual Report, and review of the self-study report received May 15, 2006.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Year	Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Pass Rate	Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2005	Full	41.67%	5/12
2004	Full	100%	7/7
2003	Full	100%	5/5

- The Midland College at Ft. Stockton Vocational Nursing Education Program was originally established in 1971 and was transferred to Midland College in 1980.
- Due to the 41.67% pass rate on the 2005 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 May 15, 2006.

PROS AND CONS:

Pros-

- Program conducted a comprehensive self-study and identified factors which may have contributed to the low pass rate:
 - Students who failed the exam not only experienced serious personal crises and stresses but demonstrated poor judgment in decision-making and a lack of motivation.
 - Faculty and staff turnover was detrimental to students' morale.
 - Grade inflation may have occurred in the capstone course.
 - This was the first class to complete the program under a new curriculum.
- Corrective measures implemented:
 - Modification of capstone course to eliminate grade inflation.
 - Hiring of new program director.
 - Stabilization of faculty and staff
 - Opportunity for students to take science courses before admission to program
 - Inclusion of ethics issues throughout the program
 - Provision of additional teaching resources
 - Exit exams and remediation
 - Total Program Evaluation updated
 - Plan for curriculum evaluation

Cons-

- A Total Program Evaluation Plan was included with the Self-Study Report but the plan does not include all broad areas for evaluation required in Rule 214.13 (specifically evaluation of affiliating agencies). A description of how each area will be evaluated is included but decisions related to maintenance or revisions of the program based upon data are not included..

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

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

July 24, 2006

Dee Ann Decker, MSN, RN, CNS
Director, Vocational Nursing Education Program
Midland College at Ft. Stockton
Regional Technical Training Center
1309 W. IH 10
Fort Stockton, Texas 79735

Dear Ms. Decker:

At the July 20-21, 2006 meeting, the members of the Board of Nurse Examiners discussed the approval status of the Midland College at Ft. Stockton Vocational Nursing Education Program based on the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2005, review of the 2005 Annual Report, and review of the May 2006 Self-Study Report. Members of the Board wish to thank 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 continue the Full Approval status of the Midland College at Ft. Stockton 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 May 2006 Self-Study Report revealed that the report contains ongoing corrective measures. **Therefore**, the program director shall be responsible for insuring the implementation and continuing evaluation of ongoing corrective measures identified in the Self-Study Report and shall submit an evaluation of the effectiveness of corrective measures with the 2006 Annual Report. The evaluation shall include details related to the responsible evaluators and benchmarks as criteria for evaluation.
2. Rule 214.13(a) related to Total Program Evaluation requires that "There shall be a written plan for the systematic evaluation of the total program. The plan shall include evaluative criteria, methodology, frequency of evaluation, assignment of responsibility, and indicators (benchmarks) of program and instructional effectiveness." The Total Program Evaluation Plan included with the Self-Study did not include criteria for evaluating clinical agencies nor did the information under "Indicators of Program (& Instructional) Effectiveness" provide data for the conclusions and decision-making. **Therefore**, the program director and faculty shall revise the program evaluation plan to include the evaluation of affiliating agencies and current data for decision-making, and shall submit the revised plan with current data with the 2006 Annual Report.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of any assistance, please contact board staff at (512) 305-6814.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP
President

Janice I. Hooper, PhD, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education
copy: David E. Daniel, EdD, President, Midland College