

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL STATUS BASED ON  
2005 NCLEX-PN® EXAMINATION PASS RATE, REVIEW OF 2005 ANNUAL REPORT,  
AND REVIEW OF SELF STUDY REPORT**

**SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE AT MCALLEN  
DAY-VOCATIONAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

Consider staff recommendation concerning approval status of the South Texas College Day Vocational Nursing program at McAllen based on review of the 2005 NCLEX-PN® Examination pass rates, the 2005 Annual Report, and self-study report.

**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Approval Status</b>	<b>NCLEX-PN® Pass Rate</b>	<b>Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed/Total)</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>76.32%</b>	<b>(29/38)</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>2003</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>48</b>

South Texas College operates vocational nursing programs in McAllen(day and evening), Welsaco and Rio Grande City. The curriculum and program policies are the same for all of the programs. Of the four programs, the McAllen Day vocational nursing program has a pass rate of 76.32% on the 2005 NCLEX-PN. The program submitted an Annual Report and a self study pursuant to Rule 214.4 Approval. The last survey visit to the Day program was in 2002. The tentative date for the next routine survey visit is 2008.

**Summary of the Annual Report:**

The Annual Report indicated program compliance all areas.

**Summary of the Self Study:**

**PROS AND CONS:**

Pros:

- The program conducted a comprehensive self-study and identified factors which may have contributed to the low pass rate
  - Program officials found that a majority of failing students were weak on the ATI comprehensive assessment examination
  - Students were required to remediate in weak areas before completion of the program.
  - Curriculum and program policies are the same across the vocational nursing programs
  - The director and a majority of the faculty are experienced vocational nurse educators
  - Comparative analysis of students using English as a second language, pre admission GPA, and program GPA, found no significant differences in successful takers of the licensure examination and those who failed
  - Support, such as counseling, is available for student use

- **Corrective Measures**
  - Faculty will meet with students who do not meet the passing standard of the assessment exam within one week of the exam
  - Faculty will assure that students follow up on indicated areas of weakness on assessment. Students will be required to show written proof of remediation. Faculty will review for accuracy and completeness. Students will be advised of inaccuracies and areas that require more in depth study.
  - Faculty will be assigned to assist students to prepare a remediation plan.
  - The remediation plan will include time frames, timed comprehensive exams requirements to acquire test taking skills and assistance with anxiety management.
  - Faculty will report student progress to the program director on a daily basis

Cons:

- A Total Program Evaluation Plan was included with the Self-Study Report but the plan does not include numerical benchmarks for all areas. A description of an evaluation of each area is included but no data is presented supporting the conclusions.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board continue the full approval status of the South Texas College Day Vocational Nursing Program at McAllen accept the self study report, and issue requirements to be met as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment two).

July 25, 2006

Dear Mrs. Trevino:

At the July 21, 2006 meeting, the members of the Board of Nurse Examiners considered the 2005 NCLEX-PN® Examination pass rates, the 2005 Annual Report, and self-study report of the South Texas College-Day Vocational Nursing Program at McAllen. It was the decision of the Board to continue the Full Approval Status, accept the findings of the annual report and self study report and issue the following Requirements:

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 numerical benchmarks necessary for the conclusions and decision-making. **Therefore**, the program director and faculty shall revise the program evaluation plan to include numerical benchmarks for all areas of evaluation and shall submit the revised plan with current data with the 2006 Annual Report

Recommendations are suggestions based upon program assessment indirectly related to the rule. The program must respond in a method of the program’s choice. Requirements are mandatory criterion based on program assessment directly related to the rule that shall be addressed in the manner prescribed.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of any assistance, please contact board staff at (512) 305-7659.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP  
President

Betty Sims RN, MSN,  
Nursing Consultant for Education