

**PROPOSED CHANGE OF APPROVAL STATUS BASED  
 ON COMPLETION OF BOARD-ISSUED REQUIREMENT  
 AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
 ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

Consider a proposed change of approval status for Austin Community College (ACC) Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Program based on completion of the Board-issued requirement regarding employment of a permanent Department Chair/Director for the ACC ADN Education Program (See Attachment One).

**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

YEAR	Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rates	Austin Community College ADN Program Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2006	Full with Warning	96.88%	186/192
2005	Full	92.97%	119/128
2004	Full	90.65%	126/139
2003	Full	96.58%	113/117
2002	Full	91.35%	95/104

- In December 2003, the Dean of Health Sciences at ACC requested approval of Jean E. Ward, MSN, RN as Interim Department Chair/Director of the ADN Education Program to replace the previous director, appointed in January 1999 and who resigned in January 2004.
- The appointment of Ms. Ward as Interim Department Chair/Director was approved and effective for the period of January 2004 to January 2005.
- On December 21, 2004, the Dean of Health Sciences at ACC submitted a request to the Board for an extension of the appointment of Ms. Ward as the Interim Department Chair/Director for an additional year. The Dean indicated in her letter that numerous avenues for advertising the position vacancy had not been successful and that the College Human Resources Department would continue to aggressively advertise and recruit for that position.
- At the January 20-21, 2005 meeting, the Board approved a one-year extension of the appointment of Ms. Ward as Interim Department Chair/Director from January 2005 through January 2006.
- At the January 19-20, 2006 meeting the Board reviewed a petition from the Dean of Health Sciences at ACC for an extension of the appointment for Jean E. Ward, MSN, RN to continue as the Interim Department Chair/Director of the ADN Program for a third year, granted a second extension of the appointment of Ms. Ward, as Interim Department Chair/Director for the ACC ADN Program through January 2007, moved the program's approval status from Full to Full with Warning, issued a commendation for the 92.97% pass rate, and issued a requirement to be met for the administration of the college to submit documentation of the engagement of a professional search firm no later than February 15, 2006 and submit monthly status reports regarding the progress toward employment of a permanent Department Chair/Director for the ACC ADN Education Program.
- On April 19, 2006, ACC sent notification to the Board of the employment of Ms. Ward as permanent Department Chair/Director for the ACC ADN Education Program.

**PROS AND CONS:**

Pros:

- Ms. Ward remains in the position of Department Chair/Director of the ACC ADN Education Program.
- The ACC ADN Program's NCLEX-RN® pass rate has been commendable for the past five (5) years.

Cons:

- None noted.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Move to change the approval status of the Austin Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program from Full with Warning to Full, as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment Two).



**Dr. Stephen B. Kinslow, President**

Highland Business Center • 5930 Middle Fiskville Road • Austin, Texas 78752-4390 • 512.223.7000

January 5, 2007

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN  
Executive Director  
Board of Nurse Examiners  
333 Guadalupe # 3-460  
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Ms. Thomas:

This letter is to request a change in the Austin Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program approval status from Full with Warning to Full Approval based on program compliance with the Board requirement Rule 215.6(g)(3) issued in January 2006.

Austin Community College sent notification to the Board of the employment of Ms. Jean Ward on April 19, 2006 to serve as permanent Department Chair for the nursing program. In May 2006 the college received notification that Ms. Ward was approved by the Board.

I wish to convey my thanks to you and the Board for working with us to maintain high educational standards for the nursing program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eileen Klein".

Eileen Klein, EdD, RN  
Executive Dean Health Sciences

Cc: Robbin Wilson  
Jean Ward  
Mike Midgley

Cypress Creek Campus 1555 Cypress Creek Rd. Cedar Park, Texas 78613 512.223.2000 FAX 223.2001	Eastview Campus 3401 Webberville Rd. Austin, Texas 78702 512.223.5100 FAX 223.5125	Northridge Campus 11928 Stonehollow Dr. Austin, Texas 78758 512.223.4000 FAX 223.4661	Pinnacle Campus 7748 Highway 290 W Austin, Texas 78736 512.223.8001 FAX 223.8160	Rio Grande Campus 1212 Rio Grande Austin, Texas 78701 512.223.3003 FAX 223.3406	Riverside Campus 1020 Grove Boulevard Austin, Texas 78741 512.223.6000 FAX 223.6709	South Austin Campus 1080 W. Stasney Ln. Austin, Texas 78745 512.223.9100
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## DRAFT LETTER

January 23, 2007

Eileen Klein, EdD, RN  
Interim Executive Dean of Health Sciences  
Austin Community College  
Eastview Campus  
3401 Webberville Road  
Austin, Texas 78702

Dear Ms. Klein:

At the January 18-19, 2007 meeting, members of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas discussed the approval status of the Austin Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program and the college's request to change the program's approval status from Full with Warning to Full. The members of the Board wish to thank [ ] for being available to answer questions.

Based upon the discussion and the completion of the Board-issued requirement regarding employment of a permanent Department Chair/Director for the Austin Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Austin Community Associate Degree Nursing Education Program from Full with Warning to Full.

If additional information or clarification is needed, please contact Board staff at (512) 305-6815.

Sincerely,

Linda Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP  
President

Robbin Wilson, MSN, RN  
Nursing Consultant for Education

cc: Jean E. Ward, MSN, RN, Department Chair/Director, Associate Degree Nursing Program