

**CONTINUATION OF APPROVAL STATUS BASED ON 2006 NCLEX-RN® EXAMINATION
 PASS RATE, REVIEW OF 2006 ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW OF SELF-STUDY
 NAVARRO COLLEGE
 ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider staff recommendation concerning approval status, commendations and requirements to be met for the Navarro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program based on review of the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2006, review of the 2006 Annual Report, and review of the self-study report received April 3, 2007.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Year	Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Pass Rate	Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2006	Full	78.57%	22/28
2005	Full	100.00%	29/29
2004	Full	82.50%	33/40

- Navarro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program has been in operation since 1982.
- Due to the 78.57% pass rate on the 2006 NCLEX-RN® 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 April 3, 2007.

PROS AND CONS:

Pros-

- The program has a history of NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates above the required 80%.
- The self-study report submitted to the Board staff was exceptional and provided extensive data and a comprehensive analysis of the data.
- The Total Program Evaluation Plan submitted with the self-study report was excellent and addressed all requirements in Rule 215.13 *Total Program Evaluation*, presented evaluative data and decisions made related to the data.
- Conclusions provided in the self-study identified many positive aspects of the program:
 - Ongoing remediation efforts are in place for students who score low on exams.
 - An optional 3-day on-campus NCLEX review course was provided for graduates.
 - The program utilizes achievement exams and standardized tests throughout the curriculum.
 - The program exceeds BNE and WECM recommended ratios for clinical to class time.
 - Many areas evaluated were found to be "not a problem."

- The self-study report identified possible problem areas of the program and 2006 graduates:
 - No pre-admission test was used for the class of 2006.
 - The validity of using a standardized exit exam (HESI) was questioned since all graduates passed the first time.
 - Negative attitudes of three faculty who resigned in Summer 2006 may have influenced students.
 - Significant issues which may have affected the six students who failed the NCLEX:
 - English as a second language
 - Frequent course exam scores below 75%
 - Excess travel distance to school
 - Individual student stressors near the NCLEX-RN exam date.

- Corrective measures to be implemented:
 - Providing structured remediation for students with scores less than 80 on course exams rather than the current 70% criteria.
 - Requiring a score of 75 to pass theory exams and courses.
 - Initiating an admission test policy.
 - Strengthening the ability of the admission process to screen for at-risk students.
 - Requiring a passing score on standardized exams for progression in theory courses.
 - Continuing and expanding the use of data plans and data collection tools.
 - Monitoring course objectives and test items to assure consistency in curriculum.
 - Increasing faculty benefits and recruitment and mentoring activities.

Cons-

- Navarro College ADN Program is presently advertising for one full time nursing faculty position.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Move to continue full approval status for the Navarro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program, accept the Self-Study Report, and issue the commendation and requirement as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment).

DRAFT LETTER

July 23, 2007

Betty Shumate, MS, RN
Director, Associate Degree Nursing Education Program
Navarro College
3200 West 7th Avenue
Corsicana, Texas 75110

Dear Ms. Shumate:

At the July 19--20, 2007 meeting, the members of the Board of Nurse Examiners discussed the approval status of the Navarro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program based on the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2006, review of the 2006 Annual Report, and review of the April 2007 Self-Study Report. Based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to continue the Full Approval status of the Navarro College Associate Degree Nursing Program, accept the Self Study Report, and issue the following commendation and requirement to be met:

COMMENDATION:

The Director and the program are commended for the excellent program analysis in the Self-Study Report.

REQUIREMENT:

Rule 215.6(f) related to Administration and Organization requires that "Each professional nursing education program shall be administered by a qualified individual who is accountable for the planning, implementation and evaluation of the professional nursing education program." A review of the April 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 effectiveness of corrective measures with the 2007 Annual Report.

A requirement is a mandatory criterion based upon program assessment directly related to the rules that must 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) 305-6814.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP
President

Janice I. Hooper, PhD, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: Richard M. Sanchez, EdD, President, Navarro College