

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

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider staff recommendation concerning approval status and requirements to be met for the Western Texas 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	75.00%	12/16
2005	Full	80.00%	16/20
2004	Full	70.59%	12/17

- Western Texas College at Vocational Nursing Education Program has been in operation since January 1972.
- Due to the 75.00% 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 27, 2007.
- The program had been previously required to submit a Self-Study for the 2004 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate.

PROS AND CONS:

Pros-

- Program conducted a comprehensive self-study and identified factors which may have contributed to the low pass rate:
 - Continuing limited application pool
 - Admission of possible weak students
 - Weaknesses in standardized tests
- Corrective measures implemented:
 - Increasing advertising and recruitment for students
 - New student orientation
 - Identification of at-risk students and remediation activities
 - Changes in standardized tests and processes

Cons-

- A Total Program Evaluation Plan was included with the Self-Study Report. Though numerical benchmarks and achievement of benchmarks are provided for most items, the dates for data collection and specific decisions based on data are not included.
- Projected corrective measures are not included in the Evaluation Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

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

DRAFT LETTER

October 22, 2007

Diane Beard, BSN, RN
Vocational Nursing Program
Western Texas College
6200 S. College Ave.
Snyder, TX 79549

Dear Ms. Beard:

At the October 18-19, 2007 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing considered the approval status of the Western Texas 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 the review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to continue the Full Approval status of the Western Texas College Vocational Nursing Program and issue the following requirement to be met:

REQUIREMENT:

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.

A requirement is a mandatory criterion based on program assessment directly related to the rule 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: Dr. Gregory Williams, President, Western Texas College