

**REPORT ON BNE NEW DEAN, DIRECTOR, AND COORDINATOR  
ORIENTATION WORKSHOPS FOR 2006-2007**

**SUMMARY:**

Rule 214 Vocational Nursing Education and Rule 215 Professional Nursing Education require that a newly appointed dean, director, interim dean, interim director, or coordinator of a nursing education program attend the next scheduled orientation provided by the Board staff. A new dean, director or coordinator orientation is usually scheduled in the fall and spring by Board staff.

Board staff conducted one formal and two informal new dean, director or coordinator orientation sessions during the 2006-2007 report year:

- Formal Fall 2006 Orientation - September 21, 2006 52 attendees
- Two Informal Spring 2007 Orientation Consultations 5 attendees total  
(February, 2007 and March, 2007)

The purpose of the orientation program was to provide an overview of the organization and function of the Board of Nurse Examiners, rules and regulations which guide nursing education programs, other rules which impact nursing students and nursing educators, and the initial licensing application process. Board staff had prepared an online portion of the orientation for completion by attendees prior to the face-to-face meeting in Austin. The face-to-face orientation on September 21, 2006 was presented in a workshop format where attendees participated by working through education situations in group process. This gave the new program directors/coordinators hands-on experience in using the education guidelines. Board staff also provided an update on current issues and/or proposed rule changes which affect nursing education programs. Attendees received CEU's for their participation.

Evaluations of the orientation indicated eight of the ten program objectives were completely met. Two objectives related to the Differentiated Entry Level Competencies were met to a high degree but several participants indicated a need for more information in this area. Positive comments on the evaluations included "great overview, great improvement over previous format, learned so much, very informative, liked interaction with consultants, appreciated online, appreciated networking opportunities, board staff helpful, expertise of consultants evident." Helpful suggestions from participants included "simplify exercises, give more explanations for exercises, need more time, allow participants to ask more questions, smaller groups, less handouts, more on common problems experienced by programs." Many suggested a registration fee to include a working lunch. Some attendees were repeaters and others indicated they would like to attend future workshops.

The two informal Spring 2007 orientation consultations followed the same format but since there were only a few new program directors/coordinators, the face-to-face meetings involved a total of only 5 participants. Their responses was very positive.

The online orientation has continued to provide an orientation to new and experienced directors/coordinators of nursing programs as well as interested faculty members. Since changes to the education rules will occur in 2008, the online orientation will be revised and updated.

The online portion allows the participant to gain an understanding of the education and licensing rules through online explanation and questions. The face-to-face portion provides an opportunity for participants to engage in implementing the education rules in group work and discussion.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

This is an information report. No action is recommended.