

**CONTINUATION OF APPROVAL STATUS BASED ON 2007 NCLEX-RN7 EXAMINATION  
 PASS RATE, REVIEW OF 2007 NEPIS AND CANEP, AND REVIEW OF SELF-STUDY  
 SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE  
 ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

Consider staff recommendation concerning approval status and requirements to be met for the South Plains College Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program based on review of the NCLEX-RN7 examination pass rate for 2007, review of the 2007 NEPIS and CANEP, and review of the self-study report received on March 25, 2008.

**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

Year	Approval Status	NCLEX-RN7 Pass Rate	Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2007	Full	71.43%	60/84
2006	Full	81.58%	62/76
2005	Full	85.71%	54/63

\$ South Plains College Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program has been in operation since 1985.

\$ Due to the 71.43% pass rate on the 2007 NCLEX-RN7 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 March 25, 2008.

**PROS AND CONS:**

Pros-

\$ Program conducted a comprehensive self-study and identified factors which may have contributed to the low pass rate:

\$ A majority of students had to repeat at least one science course. Those students who had to repeat anatomy and physiology struggled in their nursing courses. Subsequently, the faculty was required to re-teach physiology.

\$ ATI scores were below the benchmark. It was felt that the content mastery scores were not true indicators, as the students may not have taken the exams seriously since there was no required remediation. The GN comprehensive predictor had to be repeated by over 50% of the NCLEX failures.

\$ Students experienced personal issues that directly impacted their performance. Many of the students were single parents and other students had to work while attending school.

\$ Corrective measures identified:

\$ Implement peer tutoring and student advisement regarding science courses. Consider decreasing the number of times that a science course can be repeated.

\$ Require remediation if content mastery score is below Level II. Require remediation if GN predictor is below 63%. Retest until benchmark achieved. Consider limiting the number of times that a student can take the GN predictor.

\$ Refer students to counseling center and to the Center for Teaching and Learning. Explore alternative solutions for students needing to work while enrolled.

Cons-

\$ None identified.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Move to continue full approval status for the South Plains College Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program, accept the Self-Study Report, and issue the requirements as indicated in the attached letter (Attachment #1).

**DRAFT LETTER**

July 21, 2008

Sue Ann Lopez, MSN, RN, Director  
Associate Degree Nursing Program  
South Plains College  
1401 College Avenue  
Levelland, Texas 79336

Dear Ms. Lopez:

At the July 17-18, 2008 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status of the South Plains College Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program based on the NCLEX-RN7 examination pass rate for 2007, review of the 2007 NEPIS and CANEP, and review of the March 2008 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 South Plains College Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program and issue the following requirements to be met:

**REQUIREMENT:**

Rule 215.6(h) 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." 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 with the 2008 RN-CANEP.

Please provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of the major curriculum change with the RN-CANEP through graduation of the first class using the new curriculum.

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) 305-7660.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP  
President

Virginia D. Ayars, MS, RN  
Nursing Consultant for Education

cc: Kelvin Sharp, EdD, President  
Marla Cottenoir, MSN, RN, Dean of Health Occupations