

**CONFIRMATION OF APPROVAL STATUS BASED ON 2007 NCLEX-PN® EXAMINATION
 PASS RATE, REVIEW OF 2007 NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION SURVEY
 (NEPIS) AND 2007 COMPLIANCE AUDIT OF NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM (CANEP),
 AND REVIEW OF SELF-STUDY
 PANOLA COLLEGE IN CARTHAGE, TEXAS
 VOCATIONAL NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider staff recommendation concerning approval status and requirement to be met for the Panola College Vocational Nursing Educational Program based on review of the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2007, review of the 2007 VN-NEPIS and VN-CANEP, and review of the self-study report received June 16, 2008.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Year	Approval Status	NCLEX-PN® Pass Rate	Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2007	Full	78.69%	48/61
2006 - Carthage Center	Full Full	87.50% 91.67%	21/24 33/36
2005 - Carthage Center	Full Full	81.82% 93.75%	27/33 30/32

- Panola College Vocational Nursing (VN) Educational Program consolidated its two sites at Carthage and Center into one program effective October 2007. The Board was notified of this consolidation at the January 17, 2008 meeting.
- The Panola VN program at Carthage has been in operation since 1961. The VN program at the Center site began in 1997.
- Due to the 78.69% pass rate on the 2007 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 June 16, 2008.
- The self-study report indicated that the major contributor to the decreased NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate related to issues at the Carthage site and this was emphasized in the report.

PROS AND CONS:

Pros-

- The self-study report submitted to board staff provided pertinent information and a comprehensive analysis of the program.
- The director stated that the self-study process was very worthwhile and faculty are willing to improve the program based upon the analysis.
- The program has already begun to implement many of the corrective measures discussed in the self-study report.

- The program recognized contributing factors which may have affected the program's pass rate:
 - Lesser qualified students admitted, especially at the Carthage site
 - Need for better admission and readmission policies
 - Lack of remediation/review course policies
 - High faculty turnover
 - Hiring of faculty with little or no teaching experience
 - Little time for faculty orientation and mentoring
 - Prior curriculum revision which was never completed or formalized
 - Lack of consistency in clinical evaluation tools
 - Lack of adequate test analysis and blueprinting

- Corrective measures planned and/or implemented:
 - Revision of Student Handbook with new admission policies and policies for standardized testing - now online with updated web page
 - New faculty orientation and professional development policies
 - Curriculum revision was submitted to The Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and will be submitted to BON following THECB approval
 - Plans for mandatory review course
 - Revised clinical evaluation tools to be used Fall 2008

Cons-

- Total Program Evaluation Plan needs to be reconsidered for assignment of responsibility for items on evaluation plan, time periods for evaluation, and indicators for each item.
- Total Program Evaluation Plan needs to provide evidence of decision-making based upon evaluation data.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Move to continue full approval status for the Panola College Vocational Nursing Educational Program, accept the self-study report, and issue the requirement as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment).

DRAFT LETTER

October 27, 2008

Barbara Cordell, PhD, RN, AHN-BC
Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences
Vocational Nursing Educational Program
Panola College
820 West Panola
Carthage, Texas 75633

Dear Dr. Cordell:

At the October 23-24, 2008 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status of the Panola College Vocational Nursing Educational Program based on the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2007, review of the 2007 PN-NEPIS and PN-CANEP, and review of the June 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 Panola College Vocational Nursing Program, accept the self-study report, and issue the following requirements 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." A review of the June 2008 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 a revised total program evaluation plan which includes an evaluation of the effectiveness of corrective measures with the 2009 PN-CANEP.

Please provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of the major curriculum change with the PN-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) 305-6814.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP
President

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

copy: Dr. Greg Powell, President