

**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM  
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY - SAN MARCOS IN ROUND ROCK, TEXAS  
BACCALAUREATE DEGREE NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

Consider the Texas State University - San Marcos (TSU) proposal to establish a Baccalaureate Nursing (BSN) Educational Program at the Texas State Round Rock Higher Education Center (RRHEC) in Round Rock, Texas and the results of the survey visit conducted by board staff. The final revised proposal with appendices, the Nursing Student and Nursing Faculty Handbooks, and digital photos of the facility (construction in progress) and resources were sent to each of the members of the Board on two (2) separate computer disks. A Notice of Public Hearing has been posted (See Attachment One).

**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

- On February 9, 2009, after several preliminary consultation visits with Board staff, TSU - San Marcos officially began the proposal approval process by submitting a written proposal to establish a BSN Educational Program at the TSU RRHEC in Round Rock, Texas.
- Marla Erbin-Roesemann, PhD, RN, one of the co-authors of the proposal, has been identified as the prospective dean/director of the proposed program.
- Board staff reviewed the original proposal and the review was verbally presented via conference call to Dr. Erbin-Roesemann and Dr. Lolly Lockhart on May 28, 2009 and a written document of the review was also sent to Dr. Erbin-Roesemann.
- The original proposal was revised, received in the Board office, and reviewed by Board staff prior to the survey visit on June 24, 2009.
- After review of the revised proposal, board staff conducted a survey visit of the site of the proposed program facilities at the TSU RRHEC in Round Rock, Texas on June 24, 2009. The report of the survey visit is included (See Attachment Two).
- After the survey visit and a proposal consultation on June 24, 2009, the program completed final revisions to the proposal and the final revised proposal with appendices, the Nursing Student and Nursing Faculty Handbooks, and digital photos of the facility and resources were sent to each of the members of the Board on two (2) separate computer disks.

**SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSAL:**

Overview:

- The TSU - San Marcos is requesting to establish a BSN Program at the TSU RRHEC in Round Rock, Texas.
- The proposed program has Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approval to create a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree with a major in Nursing.
- The program is projecting an initial enrollment in Fall 2010 of one-hundred (100) junior students into the nursing program.

Present and Anticipated Need for Program:

- Evidence presented in the proposal indicates that there is sufficient student demand for the proposed program and strong employment needs for the program's future graduates.
- Letters of support for the proposed program from various healthcare facilities were included in the proposal.

Potential Student Population:

- Based on findings from surveys conducted by TSU, numerous potential students have expressed interest in the program.
- A comprehensive student admission and enrollment plan was presented in the proposal.

#### Impact on Existing Programs:

- A letter of support from the Dean of the University of Texas at Austin nursing educational program was provided in the proposal.
- The proposed program will provide clinical learning experiences in local health care facilities and utilize preceptors with minimal impact on existing programs in the area.
- The TSU proposed BSN program will work cooperatively with all other central Texas nursing schools and hospital clinical facilities that meet regularly under the Health Industry Steering Committee (HISC) to coordinate the scheduling of clinical rotations using a computerized scheduling program.

#### Director/Faculty:

- The proposal identifies a prospective director for the proposed program, Marla Erbin-Roesemann, PhD, RN and at least ten (10) core nursing faculty members.
- All individuals have the required qualifications.

#### Funding and Budget

- Sources of Funding:
  - Initial funding for the proposed program is from Texas State University reallocated funds, Tuition Revenue Bonds in the amount of \$36 million for the building and equipment, and a \$2 million line item for operations from the Texas Legislature;
  - A gift of \$6 million from the St. David's Community Health Foundation for operations, and additional gifts from Central Texas Medical Center and Scott & White Medical Center; and
  - Continuing funding will be state formula funding and additional gifts and grants.
- A projected budget for the first five (5) years includes salaries, secretarial/clerical support, and supplies/equipment and materials.
- The budget projections address the required elements of Rule 215.

#### Program of Study:

- Proposed curriculum is well-developed.
- Syllabi for all courses that address requirements in Rule 215 were included in the proposal with the exception of the clinical evaluation tools that demonstrate limited progression throughout the curriculum and consist of outcomes/objectives that not written in measurable terms.

#### Systemic Plan of Evaluation:

- A Program Evaluation Plan that was included in the proposal addresses all required items and benchmarks are in place for most criteria.
- Numerical benchmarks will need to be included/revised as data is collected after the program is implemented.

#### **SUMMARY OF SURVEY VISIT:**

- An in-depth discussion of the proposed facility, including review of the detailed blueprints, was presented by Dr. Covington, a representative of the architect, and the construction site manager. Board staff questions were discussed and answered by Dr. Ruth Welborn and the other co-authors of the proposal to the satisfaction of Board staff.
- Board staff were able to tour the current RRHEC Administration/Business building and view the construction site with the partially completed Nursing building, including the structure of the first floor and the beginning structure of the second floor. The tour of the current RRHEC provided additional information to Board staff.
- A report of the survey visit is included in this document (See Attachment Two).

#### **PROS AND CONS:**

##### Pros:

- A qualified director and at least ten (10) core nursing faculty have been identified for the proposed program.
- The proposed program of study/curriculum is well-developed.
- Adequate clinical facilities for clinical learning experiences have been secured for the program and

- the plan to utilize preceptors is in place.
- Adequate budget projections to operate the program and acquire the necessary facilities, resources and services were included in the proposal along with inventory lists of existing equipment and supplies and copies of purchase orders for additional equipment and supplies needed for implementation of the program.
- Nursing students must complete all prerequisite courses prior to beginning the nursing courses.
- Nursing students will be required to provide their own laptop computers and personal digital assistant (PDAs) for use on the TSU RRHEC campus.

Cons:

The following concerns were identified in the proposal:

- The nursing building located at the TSU RRHEC is not currently completed. Construction is in progress and is not scheduled to be completed until 2010.
- Because the facility's construction is in progress, Board staff are unable to visually verify that the nursing building and proposed resources meet the requirements of Rule 215.11 related to Facilities, Resources, and Services.
- All the current clinical evaluation tools for the clinical nursing courses are essentially the same. The behavioral expectations/outcomes/objectives in each clinical evaluation tool demonstrate minimal progression throughout the curriculum; critical behaviors have not been indicated; and most of the behavioral expectations/outcomes/objectives are not written in measurable terms.
- Signed written agreements between the program and the affiliating agencies that will be utilized throughout the program of study in accordance with Rule 215.10(c)(1) related to Clinical Learning Experiences are not present.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Board staff's recommendation is presented in the form of three options:

1. Move to approve a Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program to be established by Texas State University - San Marcos at the Texas State University Round Rock Higher Education Center in Round Rock, Texas, **contingent** on a survey visit by Board staff confirming that the construction of the nursing building is completed and provision of adequate resources is in place in accordance with requirements in Rule 215, Professional Nursing Education, grant the program Initial approval status, authorize board staff to conduct survey visits as necessary until the program is moved to Full approval status, and issue commendation and requirements to be met, as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment Three).
2. Move to **defer** the decision on approval of the proposed Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program to be established by Texas State University - San Marcos at the Texas State University Round Rock Higher Education Center in Round Rock, Texas, until the construction of the nursing building is completed, provision of adequate resources is in place, as confirmed by Board staff during a survey visit of the facility, and the proposal is presented at a future regularly scheduled Board meeting (See Attachment Three).
3. Move to **deny** approval of the proposed Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program to be established by Texas State University - San Marcos at the Texas State University Round Rock Higher Education Center in Round Rock, Texas. Texas State University - San Marcos must wait a minimum of twelve (12) calendar months from the date of this denial or until July 23, 2010, before submitting a new proposal to establish a new Baccalaureate Nursing (BSN) Educational Program at the Texas State Round Rock Higher Education Center in Round Rock, Texas (See Attachment Three).

**TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING  
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460  
Austin, Texas 78701-3942**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

for

Consideration of a Proposal from Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas

To Establish A

Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program

in

Round Rock, Texas

Date and Time: July 23, 2009 at 10:45 a.m.

Place:

The Driskill Hotel  
604 Brazos Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

The Board will hear testimony from individuals who wish to present information concerning the proposal. Written testimony will also be considered and should be received in the Board's office by July 10, 2009.

Address written testimony to:

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director  
Texas Board of Nursing  
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460  
Austin, Texas 78701-3942

**TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING  
SURVEY VISIT REPORT**

**NAME OF NURSING PROGRAM:** Texas State University - San Marcos, Baccalaureate Nursing (BSN) Educational Program at the Texas State Round Rock Higher Education Center in Round Rock, Texas

**PROPOSED DIRECTOR:** Marla Erbin-Roesemann, PhD, RN

**REASON FOR SURVEY:** Visit site to determine adequacy of facilities, resources, and services.

**DATE:** June 24, 2009

**SURVEY VISITORS:** Robbin Wilson, MSN, RN, Virginia Ayars, MS, RN, Mary Beth Thomas, PhD, RN

**The following survey tool includes only the standards/criteria related to 215.11, Facilities, Resources, and Services which was the focus of the survey visit. No other standards/criteria were evaluated during the site visit.**

STANDARD/CRITERIA	EVIDENCE	COMMENTS
<b>§215.11 Facilities, Resources, and Services</b>		
(a) The governing institution shall be responsible for providing: (1) educational facilities, (2) resources, and (3) services which support the effective development and implementation of the nursing education program.	Strong administrative support was evident during the survey visit.	Criteria met.
(b) The dean or director and faculty shall have adequate secretarial and clerical assistance to meet the needs of the program.	The proposal outlines the secretarial and clerical assistance and the blueprints of the facility show location of the offices that will be provided for secretarial and clerical staff.	Criteria partially met.
© The physical facilities shall be adequate to meet the needs of the program in relation to the size of the faculty and the student body. (1) The dean or director shall have a private office.(2) Faculty offices shall be conveniently located and adequate in number and size to provide faculty with privacy for conferences with students and uninterrupted work. (3) Space for clerical staff, records, files, and equipment shall be adequate. (4) There shall be mechanisms which provide for the security of sensitive materials, such as examinations and health records. (5) Classrooms, laboratories, and conference rooms shall be conducive to learning and adequate in number, size, and type for the number of students and the educational purposes for which the rooms are used.	During the presentation of the facility blueprints, locations of the dean, director, faculty and clerical staff offices were discussed and identified. The details and locations of classrooms, laboratories and conference rooms are also depicted on the blueprints with size capacities detailed.  Visitors were able to view the construction site and layout of the future nursing building. Construction of the first floor foundation building and structural components of the beginning second floor were visible.	Criteria partially met.
(d) The learning resources, library, and departmental holdings shall be current, use contemporary technology appropriate for the level of the curriculum, and be sufficient for the size of the student body and the needs of the faculty. (1) Provisions shall be made for accessibility, availability, and timely delivery of information resources.(2) Facilities and policies shall promote effective use, i.e. environment, accessibility, and hours of operation.	The proposal includes detailed explanations and lists regarding resources, library access, and departmental holdings that will be provided and purchased. The location of study, computer, and relaxation areas for students are depicted on the facility blueprints.	Criteria partially met.

**DRAFT LETTER**

July 30, 2000

Marla Erbin-Roesemann, PhD, RN  
Associate Dean, College of Health Professions  
Texas State University - San Marcos  
Round Rock Higher Education Center  
1555 University Blvd., Nursing  
Round Rock, Texas 78665-8017

Dear Dr. Erbin-Roesemann:

At the July 23-24, 2009 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) discussed the proposal from Texas State University (TSU) - San Marcos in San Marcos, Texas, to establish a baccalaureate degree nursing educational program at the TSU - San Marcos Round Rock Higher Education Center (RRHEC) in Round Rock, Texas. The members of the Board wish to thank you and [ ] for being available to answer questions.

Based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to

- (1) **[grant Initial approval status to the TSU - San Marcos baccalaureate degree nursing educational program at the Texas State RRHEC in Round Rock, Texas, contingent on a survey visit by Board staff verifying completion of the nursing building and furnishing of the facility in accordance with the requirements outlined in Rule 215 as indicated in the enclosed Board Order. At that time, the program may begin enrolling the first cohort of 100 students. Additionally, the Board authorizes board staff to conduct survey visits as necessary until the program is moved to Full program approval status; and issues the following commendation and requirements to be met.**

**Commendation:**

**Dr. Ruth Welborn, Dr. Erbin-Roesemann, Dr. Covington, and Dr. Lockhart, co-authors of the proposal, are commended for the well-written and comprehensive proposal and the timely manner in which Board staff requests and suggestions were addressed.**

**Requirements:**

1. **Rule 215.9(h) related to Program of Study requires that "Faculty shall develop and implement evaluation methods and tools to measure progression of students' cognitive, affective and psychomotor achievements in course/clinical objectives according to Board guidelines." A review of the syllabi for all the clinical courses revealed that all the current clinical evaluation tools for the clinical nursing courses are essentially the same. The behavioral expectations/outcomes/objectives in each clinical evaluation tool demonstrate minimal progression throughout the curriculum; critical behaviors have not been indicated; and most of the behavioral expectations/outcomes/objectives are not written in measurable terms. Therefore, the dean/director and nursing faculty shall revise the clinical evaluation tools for each clinical course to include specific behavioral expectations/outcomes/objectives in each clinical evaluation tool that demonstrate progression throughout the curriculum and that are written in measurable terms, indicate the critical behavioral expectations/outcomes/objectives on each clinical evaluation tool, and submit the clinical evaluation tool for each clinical course to the Board office for board staff approval prior to implementing each clinical course.**

**Requirements are mandatory and are based on program assessment directly related to the rule. Requirements shall be addressed in the manner prescribed. Please report on the address of the above requirements as indicated above. Board staff will contact you to arrange for future survey visits.]**

or

- (2) **[defer a decision on approval of the proposed TSU - San Marcos baccalaureate degree nursing educational program at the Texas State RRHEC in Round Rock, Texas, until such time as the nursing building is completed and furnished in accordance with the requirements outlined in Rule 215 and the proposal is again presented to the Board at a future regularly scheduled Board meeting.]**

or

- (3) **[deny further consideration of the proposal and approval the program. TSU - San Marcos must wait a minimum of twelve (12) calendar months from the date of this denial or until July 23, 2010, before submitting a new proposal to establish a new Baccalaureate Nursing (BSN) Educational Program at the Texas State Round Rock Higher Education Center in Round Rock, Texas.]**

If you have questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact board staff at (512) 305-6815 or by email at [robbin.wilson@bon.state.tx.us](mailto:robbin.wilson@bon.state.tx.us).

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP  
Board President

Robbin Wilson, MSN, RN  
Nursing Consultant for Education

xc: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
Ruth B. Welborn, PhD, RN, Dean, College of Health Professions, Texas State University - San Marcos

Enclosure

**DRAFT BOARD ORDER**

**BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**

In the matter of the proposal of

Texas State University - San Marcos in San Marcos, Texas

For approval to establish a Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program at the Texas State Round Rock Higher Education Center in Round Rock, Texas

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

TO: Texas State University - San Marcos in San Marcos, Texas

The Texas Board of Nursing in and for the State of Texas in a regularly scheduled meeting, held on the 23rd day of July 2009, considered the proposal for authority to establish a Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program by the Board, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code.

At the meeting, Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP, President of the Board, presided and the following members were present:

Deborah Hughes Bell, CLU, ChFC, Consumer Member  
Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN, Representing VN Programs  
Patricia "Patti" Clapp, BA, Consumer Member  
Tamara "Tami" Cowen, MN, RN, Representing Practice  
Sheri Denise Crosby, JD, Consumer Member  
Marilyn J. Davis, BSN, RN, Representing Practice  
Blance Rosa Garcia, PhD, RN, Representing ADN Programs  
Richard Robert Gibbs, LVN, Representing Practice  
Kathy Leader-Horn, LVN, Representing Practice  
Josefina LuJan, PhD, RN, Representing BSN Programs  
Beverly Jean Nutall, LVN, Representing Practice  
Mary Jane Salgado, MEd, Consumer Member

The Board reviewed the proposal of the above school and after having discussed the proposal in an open public meeting, the Board makes the following findings:

**FINDINGS**

That a written proposal has been filed with said Board.

That a public meeting on said proposal was held to take testimony and evidence by the Board.

That the written proposal does meet the minimum requirements for proceeding with the establishment of an approved program offering a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing.

## ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT, the proposal of Texas State University - San Marcos in San Marcos, Texas, is contingently approved, having been found to comply with minimum requirements and standards for establishing a Professional Nursing Educational Program to prepare registered nurses.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT THE aforementioned entity is authorized to proceed to meet all requirements of the Board for Initial Approval, and that prior to the admission of any students that all requirements issued by the Board must be met. In no event will the program admit students or plan to admit students nor will the Initial Approval be fully granted by the Board until the legal requirements and standards for professional nursing education as described in Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nursing Education, §215.1-§215.13 (effective 10/19/08) and the Board-issued requirements are met.

Specifically, the Board requires the following conditions as described in the above rule to be met by August 31, 2010 if students are to be admitted to the Texas State University - San Marcos Baccalaureate Nursing Educational Program at the Texas State Round Rock Higher Education Center in Round Rock, Texas for the Fall 2010 semester:

- Completion of the nursing building and furnishing of the facility in accordance with the rule requirements as verified by Board staff during a survey visit of the program.
- Verification by Board staff of signed clinical facility agreements for all clinical agencies/facilities that will be utilized during the program's first two years of operation.
- Completion of the clinical evaluation tools that will be utilized during the first semester of the program of study and each subsequent semester and approval of these tools by Board staff.

DATED THIS 23rd day of July 2009.

THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

Seal

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP, Board President