

**REPORT ON INFORMATION SESSION FOR PROGRAMS WISHING TO ESTABLISH A NEW  
NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM IN TEXAS**

**SUMMARY:**

Texas Board of Nursing (BON) Rule 214 Vocational Nursing Education and Rule 215 Professional Nursing Education require that new nursing educational programs must be approved by the Texas BON in order to operate in the State of Texas. The Texas BON has established guidelines for the initial approval of nursing programs of study, as well as identified criteria to be included in the application for initial approval.

Subsequent to the increased number of inquiries to Board staff regarding the process of new program proposal development, a workshop was conducted for interested stakeholders. Notice of the event was posted on the Board website and email communications were sent to individuals who had previously contacted the Board or submitted letters of intent. On September 17, 2009, the Informal Information Session was held in Room 500, Tower II of the William P. Hobby Building in Austin, Texas. Twelve individuals from six different educational facilities, representing vocational, associate degree, and baccalaureate degree nursing attended the meeting. The essential elements of the proposal process were presented and discussed.

Evaluations of the session indicated that all of the program objectives were completely met. The methods/strategies, as well as the relevance of the overall objectives, were determined to be completely effective. All of the participants recommended that Board staff continue to conduct the informal information sessions. In addition, the attendees stated that the opportunity to meet the assigned nursing education consultant and network face-to-face with other individuals in the process of proposal development was highly beneficial. Education consultants are currently considering offering the next session in January 2010.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

This is an information report. No action is recommended.