

**PROPOSED CHANGE OF APPROVAL STATUS BASED ON 2009 NCLEX-RN® EXAMINATION
 PASS RATE AND REVIEW OF 2009 NEPIS AND CANEP
 WEST TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY IN CANYON, TEXAS
 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider a proposed change in the approval status for the West Texas A & M University in Canyon, Texas Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program based on review of the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2009 and review of the 2009 NEPIS and CANEP.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Year	Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Pass Rate	Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2009	Full (Pending)	76.27%	90/118
2008	Full	74.26%	75/101
2007	Full	91.30%	84/92
2006	Full	86.76%	59/68
2005	Full	85.42%	41/48

- The West Texas A & M University in Canyon, Texas Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program has been in operation since Fall 1972.
- Due to the 74.26% pass rate on the 2008 NCLEX-RN® 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 submitted in June 2009 identified the following items:
 - (1) The existing comprehensive evaluation plan is insufficient in discriminating learning outcomes between NCLEX-RN® passers and failers throughout the program;
 - (2) There is no departmental retention program aimed at success from admission to graduation;
 - (3) There are many novice faculty members with little or no pedagogical training or education;
 - (4) The 6-semester nursing curriculum incorporates university core courses throughout the curriculum; and
 - (5) Current admission standards do not correlate with nursing student success in the program or with 1st time NCLEX-RN® pass rates.
- The self-study report recommended the following corrective measures:
 - (1) Revise the processes for formative and summative evaluation of students throughout the curriculum using a standardized test;
 - (2) Develop and implement a student retention program in Fall 2008;
 - (3) Strengthen the faculty orientation and mentorship programs;
 - (4) Develop a 2 + 2 curriculum in order to better correlate nursing didactic and clinical learning experiences; and
 - (5) Increase admission requirements and utilize a standardized admission testing.
- In spite of implementing corrective measures, the 2009 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate was 76.27%.

PROS AND CONS:

Pros-

- The program submitted a comprehensive evaluation of factors that may have contributed to the lowered NCLEX-RN® pass rates in the July 2009 self-study report.
- Corrective measures were instituted and evaluated.
- The administration and faculty conducted an extensive review of the curriculum and testing process.
- Faculty have been engaged in curriculum revision and plan to submit a major curriculum change to board staff.

Cons-

- The full outcome of the corrective measures will not be known until the Spring 2010 class graduates and their results on the 2010 NCLEX-RN® examination are evaluated.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Move to change the approval status of the West Texas A & M University in Canyon, Texas Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program from full to full with warning and authorize staff to conduct a survey visit in Fall 2010 as indicated in the attached letter (Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

April 22, 2010

Deborah Davenport, PhD, RN
Interim Nursing Department Head
West Texas A & M University
WTAMU Box 60969
Canyon, Texas 79016

Dear Dr. Davenport:

At the April 22-23, 2010 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status of the West Texas A & M University in Canyon, Texas Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program based on the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2009 and review of the 2009 NEPIS and CANEP. Members of the Board wish to thank you and for being present at the meeting to answer questions.

Based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the West Texas A & M University in Canyon, Texas Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program from full to full with warning and authorize a survey visit in Fall 2010. Board staff will contact you to schedule the survey visit.

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