

**Consideration for Change of Approval Status from Full to Full with Warning
 Kaplan College in Corpus Christi, Texas
 Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider a proposed change in the program approval status of Kaplan College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Corpus Christi, Texas, based upon review of the 2010 NCLEX-PN® examination rate, the 2010 NEPIS, and Rule 214.

Historical Perspective:

- Kaplan College (Corpus Christi) Vocational Nursing Program has been in operation since 2007.
- The program was moved from Initial to Full approval at the October 2009 meeting, based on the initial pass rate and Site Visit in September 2009.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past three (3) years follow:

Exam Year	NCLEX-PN® Pass Rate	Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed / Total)	BON Approval Status	Date of Change in Approval Status
2010	70.67%	53/75	(Pending)	
2009	73.91%	17/23	Full	October 2009
2008	100.00%	23/23	Initial	
2007	New Program	New Program	Initial	

- The program was required to complete a Self-Study report because the 2009 NCLEX-PN® pass rate fell below the required 80%. The Self-Study, received in Board offices on May 17, 2010, identified a list of eight (8) factors thought to contribute to a low pass rate in 2009. Also included was an action plan to address each of those factors, with most actions taken prior to submission of the report itself.
- The factors identified in the Self-Study and implementation timeline for corrective actions are included in table the below:

Factor	Timeline for Action to Correct
Less stringent admission requirements	Implemented April 2009
Inconsistently applied grading practices by faculty members	Implemented April 2010
High faculty turnover and large number of new faculty between 2007-2009, a number without previous teaching experience	Implemented April 2010
Variations in delivery of course content by new faculty members	Implemented April 2010
Inconsistent quality of course tests, test items not developed using Bloom's taxonomy or NCLEX-PN® test plan	Implemented April 2010
Number of students who delayed testing following graduation	Implemented February and April 2010
Lack of formal NCLEX-PN® preparation activities for graduating students	Implemented December 2009
Lack of formal method for identifying students at risk and providing focused remediation	Implemented February 2010 with additional plans for June 2010

- Enrollments were increased from 30 admits in 2008 to 118 admits in 2009 and 120 admits in 2010.
- The Corpus Christi program Director (Tomak) in place at the time of the September 2-3, 2009 Site Visit transferred to the San Antonio campus on September 14, 2009, and subsequently left the Kaplan system in Summer 2010.
- A new Director (Huddleston) started with Kaplan College – Corpus Christi on November 16, 2009 and her credentials were received in Board offices on December 22, 2009. Her credentials were reviewed immediately and approval to serve as Director was conveyed that same day. She subsequently resigned in June 2010.
- An Interim Director (Sparks) who did not meet Rule 214 requirements served for an interim period.
- The current Interim Director (Lopez-Briseno) was approved November 1, 2010.

PROs and CONs:

Pros:

- The Self-Study report analyzed all aspects of the program and identified a list of eight (8) factors thought to contribute to a low pass rate.

Cons:

- Corrective actions implemented by the program have not had a positive impact on the NCLEX-PN® pass rate.
- Increased enrollment numbers cannot be overlooked as another possible contributing factor.
- Administrative turnover may be an additional contributing factor.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status of Kaplan College in Corpus Christi, Texas Vocational Nursing Education Program from Full to Full with Warning and authorize Board staff to conduct a survey visit as indicated in the attached letter (Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

May 2, 2011

M. Clarissa Lopez-Briseno, MAA, BSN, RN
Interim Director
Kaplan College – Corpus Christi
1620 S. Padre Island Drive, Suite 620
Corpus Christi, TX 78416

Dear Ms. Lopez-Briseno:

At the April 28-29, 2011 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status of the Kaplan College – Corpus Christi Vocational Nursing Education Program based upon the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2010, review of the 2010 NEPIS, and compliance with Rule 214. Members of the Board wish to thank you and <<**INSERT AS NEEDED**>> 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 Kaplan College – Corpus Christi Vocational Nursing Education Program from Full to Full with Warning and authorize a survey visit in 2011. Board staff will contact you to schedule the survey visit.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact Board staff at (512) 305-7658.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN
President

Paul R. Waller, PhD, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: TWC