

**Notification of Closure of Nursing Education Program
Central Texas College in Brady, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary:

Rule 214.3(d) related to Closing a Program states that "A program shall notify the Board office in writing of their intent to close the program." A notification form is provided in Education Guideline 3.1.5.a. Board staff have received notification that Central Texas College (CTC) will close its vocational nursing education program in Brady, Texas, effective September 1, 2011.

Historical Perspective:

- CTC Vocational Nursing Program in Brady, Texas, has been in operation since 1951.
- Even though the Brady program has used essentially the same curriculum as the CTC vocational program in Killeen, Texas, they have chosen to remain a separate program.
- Martha Williams, RN, has been the program coordinator since 1989 and has provided tireless service in maintaining the integrity of this program.
- Their enrollments have ranged from 6 to 12, but the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate has traditionally been well above the required 80%.
- One might surmise that the Brady program has produced about 600 vocational nurses for the rural community since it began.

Requirements of Notification of Closure:

Rule 214.3(d) requires that a program planning closure will submit a written plan which includes the following:

- Reason for closing the program: The notification reports three reasons for closure:
 - Budgetary cut-backs secondary to legislative fiscal restraints prevent continuation of an extension program serving 10-12 students per academic year.
 - Mrs. Williams will retire as program coordinator in August 2011. Faculty replacement is nearly impossible in a rural setting.
 - With small enrollments in the program, those students would be better served through the training tools and facility in place at the new nursing classroom building on Central Campus.
- Date of intended closure: September 1, 2011.
- Academic provisions for students to complete the nursing education program:
 - The program will complete and graduate the current class of Brady extension vocational nursing students August 2011.
 - If a current student is not successful, he/she will be able to transfer to the Central Campus program for completion of the vocational program.
- Provisions made for access to and safe storage of vital school records, including transcripts of all graduates:
 - Storage of vital student school records will be located at the CTC Department of Nursing, Central Campus, Killeen, Texas.
 - Transcripts are and will continue to be managed and maintained by the CTC Systems Registrar on Central Campus.
- Methods to be used to maintain requirements and standards until the program closes:
 - All quality assurance practices currently in place will remain in effect until the final closure of the Brady Extension Program.
 - Oversight of the programs remains with the Department Chair of Nursing (Sandra Thomason, MSN, RN) and Central Campus administration.
 - The program is in compliance with Rule 214.
 - Students enrolled in the program's last semester will receive the same high quality education as all of CTC's students elsewhere.
 - All academic and administrative support remains available and unchanged until the final closure of the Brady vocational nursing program.

Staff Recommendation:

Accept the notification of closure of the Central Texas College Vocational Nursing Educational Program in Brady, Texas, and extend sincere gratitude and recognition to Martha Williams, Vocational Nursing Program Coordinator since 1989 as indicated in the attached letter.

DRAFT LETTER

Sandra Thomason, MSN, RN
Chair, Department of Nursing
Central Texas College
P. O. Box 1800
Killeen, Texas 76540-1800

Dear Ms. Thomason:

At the July 21-22, 2011, meeting of the Board of Nursing, Board members acknowledged and accepted the Notification of Closure of the Central Texas College Vocational Nursing Education Program at Brady, Texas, effective September 1, 2011. The program is in compliance with all requirements in Rule 214.3(d) Closing a Program. The Board wishes to acknowledge sixty years of successful operation of the extension program in Brady and the commitment of the faculty who have served the program, the nursing students and the community.

The Board also wishes to extend appreciation and congratulations to Martha Williams for her dedicated service to the program since 1989. Best wishes to Ms. Williams in her retirement.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN
President

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