

**Notification of Closure of Nursing Education Program  
Childress Regional Medical Center in Childress, 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. On June 21, 2011, notification was received by Board Staff that Childress Regional Medical Center Vocational Nursing Education Program would close on August 31, 2011.

**Historical Perspective:**

- Childress Regional Medical Center opened the vocational nursing program in 1998.
- The NCLEX examination pass rate for 1999 was 100% (8/8).
- The program has graduated over 100 students since it began.
- The administration is closing the program as Childress Regional Medical Center. However, Clarendon College is establishing an extension of their vocational nursing program in Childress to accommodate future students.
- The last students at Childress completed the program on August 12, 2011.

**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: Planned consolidation with Clarendon College Vocational Nursing Program.
- Date of intended closure: August 31, 2011.
- Academic provisions for students to complete the nursing education program: All enrolled students completed the program.
- Provisions made for access to and safe storage of vital school records, including transcripts of all graduates: School records will remain the property of Childress Regional Medical Center and will be maintained in secure location in hospital medical records department.
- Methods to be used to maintain requirements and standards until the program closes: All standard were maintained while students completed the program.

Board Staff participated in a conference call with representatives from Clarendon College and Childress Regional Medical Center. Clarendon College already has a campus in Childress and the last director serving the program at Childress will be a faculty at Clarendon College.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Accept the notification of closure of the Childress Regional Medical Center Vocational Nursing Education Program in Childress, Texas, and acknowledge their notification in the attached letter.

Allison Hightower, BSN, RN  
Director of Nursing  
Childress Regional Medical Center  
Vocational Nursing Program  
901 Hwy 83 N Box 1030  
Childress, Texas 79201

Dear Ms. Hightower:

At the October 27-28, 2011, meeting of the Board of Nursing, Board members acknowledged and accepted the Notification of Closure of the Childress Regional Medical Center School of Vocational Nursing Education Program at Childress, Texas, effective August 31, 2011. The program is in compliance with all requirements in Rule 214.3(d) Closing a Program. The Board wishes to acknowledge thirteen years of successful operation of the vocational nursing program in Childress, as well as the commitment of the faculty who have served the program, the nursing students and the community.

The Board also wishes to extend appreciation to you for your dedicated service to the program. Best wishes in the future.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN  
President

Robin Caldwell, PhD, RN, CLNC  
Nursing Consultant for Education