

**Consideration for Change in Approval Status from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning
 Western Texas College in Snyder, Texas
 Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the proposed change in approval status for Western Texas College Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program in Snyder, Texas, from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning based upon the 2013 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate, review of the 2013 Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS), and areas of noncompliance with Rule 214 identified in the 2013 Self-Study Report.

Historical Perspective:

- Western Texas College VN program has been in operation since 1972.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past five (5) years are included in the table:

NCLEX Examination Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-PN® Examination Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2013	Full	73.33%	11/15
2012	Full	60.00% (Self-Study)	9/15
2011	Full	83.33%	15/18
2010	Full	61.11%	11/18
2009	Full	100%	15/15

- The program submitted a Self-Study Report in 2013 due to the 60.00% 2012 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate.
- The Self-Study Report was written by a Program Director who had directed the program for many years. She and one faculty member both retired in August 2013.
- Eva Culp, BSN, RN was approved and appointed Interim Director beginning September 1, 2013, with a new faculty member, Richard Schulze, RN to serve as Coordinator.
- Ms. Culp assessed the program and submitted an improvement plan to Board Staff.
- The 2013 NEPIS indicates that the program has two (2) full-time and one (1) part-time nursing faculty. The faculty are engaged in decision-making regarding program changes.
- Ms. Culp reported that there are limitations in the opportunities for patient-care clinical activities in Snyder and she proposes that the scope of actual clinical exposure be broadened by traveling to larger hospitals where there will be a higher level of patient acuity and patient care.
- She also plans for students to use the long term care setting which can provide a consistent patient population with varied daily living needs, and is considering possible evening and weekend clinical experiences.
- The program usually admits ten (10) students twice a year but they only took one (1) admission this year to provide more time for program improvement.
- Board Staff have spoken with Western Texas College administration who are very supportive of the program and offer assistance in making improvements.

Pros and Cons:Pros:

- The program has new leadership with vision and determination to bring the program to a successful outcome.

Cons:

- The NEPIS indicates that the program does not use simulation or computer activities.
- There is a lack of sufficient clinical learning activities in the local community.
- Making lasting improvements takes time and resources.

Rationale for Recommendation:

Rule 214.4(c)(3)(A) states "A warning may be issued to a program when the pass rate of first-time NCLEX-PN® candidates... is less than 80% for two (2) consecutive examination years..." In addition, the program has undergone a change in leadership and direction.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status for Western Texas College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Snyder, Texas, from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning and impose the condition in the attached Board Order. (Attachment #1.)

DRAFT LETTER

April 18, 2014

Eva Culp, BSN, RN, Interim Director
Vocational Nursing Education Program
Western Texas College
6200 College Avenue
Snyder, TX 79549

Dear Ms. Culp :

At the April 16-17, 2014 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) discussed the approval status of Western Texas College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Snyder, Texas, based upon the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2013, review of the 2013 Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS), and information in the 2013 Self-Study Report. Members of the Board wish to thank you and Richard Schulze, RN, for being present at the meeting to answer questions.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Western Texas College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Snyder, Texas, from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning and impose the condition in the attached Board Order.

If you have any questions or if we may be of any assistance, please contact Board Staff at janice.hooper@bon.texas.gov or (512) 305-6814.

Sincerely,

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director

copy: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Western Texas College President

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Western Texas College
Vocational Nursing Education Program
in Snyder, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on April 16, 2014, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of the Western Texas College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Snyder, Texas, based upon the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2013, review of the 2013 Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS), and information in the 2013 Self-Study Report, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 214.

After review and due consideration of the filed materials, as well as the presentation by representatives from Western Texas College in Snyder, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status of the Western Texas College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Snyder, Texas, from FULL APPROVAL to FULL APPROVAL WITH WARNING and imposes the following condition/requirement:

1. A program survey visit is to be conducted by a Consultant for Nursing Education during 2014.

Entered this 18th day of April, 2014

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director