

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status  
 From Full Approval with Warning to Conditional Approval  
 Kaplan College - San Antonio in San Antonio, Texas  
 Vocational Nursing Education Program**

**Summary of Request:**

Consider the change in approval status for the Kaplan College - San Antonio Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program in San Antonio, Texas, from Full Approval with Warning to Conditional Approval based upon the 2014 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate, review of the 2014 Nursing Education Program Information Survey, and areas of noncompliance with Board Rule 214.

**Historical Perspective:**

- The Kaplan College - San Antonio VN Education Program was established in 1996.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past five (5) years are provided in the following table:

<b>NCLEX Examination Year</b>	<b>BON Approval Status</b>	<b>NCLEX-PN® Examination Pass Rate</b>	<b>Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)</b>
2014	Full with Warning (April 2014 Board Meeting)	67.65%	46/68
2013	Full	72.73%	32/44
2012	Full	65.38% (Self-Study Report)	85/130
2011	Conditional (April 2011 Board Meeting)	83.51%	162/194
2010	Full with Warning (July 2010 Board Meeting)	76.02%	187/246

- The program submitted a Self-Study Report in 2013 due to the 2012 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate of 65.38%. Although the program implemented measures to improve the performance of students on the national licensing examination, the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate has continued to be below 80%. Self-Study Reports are required when a program experiences a one time pass rate below 80%. The annual NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates report for VN education programs is presented to the Board at the annual April meeting. Letters requiring Self-Study Reports are sent to programs following the April meeting with a due date that allows the program about two (2) months for development.
- The Kaplan College - San Antonio VN Self-Study Report was received in the Board office in June 2013 and provided a comprehensive analysis and evaluation.
- The Self-Study Report identified the following four (4) major contributing factors that may have led to the below 80% 2012 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate: (1) students failed to participate in remedial education opportunities; (2) 48% of the first-time test-takers who failed the NCLEX-PN® were re-entry students; (3) students were inconsistent in their use of the testing and remediation portion of the Kaplan Test Prep Integrated Testing Package;

and (4) faculty concerns about percentages that were given to tests, quizzes, homework, and projects resulting in students who passed a course yet were not prepared to be successful on the NCLEX-PN®.

- Corrective measures were timely implemented, including: (1) improved NCLEX-PN® readiness plan; (2) more rigorous polices for progression, advisement, and remediation; (3) provision of faculty with tools for analysis and student support; (4) early identification of “at-risk” students; and (5) fuller utilization of the Kaplan Test Prep Integrated Testing Package.
- Currently, ninety (90) students are enrolled in the program, as follows:

Quarter	Cohort Graduation Date	Number Enrolled
Five	04/14/2015	12
Four	06/30/2015	13
Three	09/15/2015	20
Two	12/01/2015	17
One	02/23/2016	28
- Alexandria Garza, MSN, RN was appointed to serve as Interim Director of the VN Education Program in December 2013, then appointed as Director in July 2014. Ms. Garza meets all requirements of Board Rule 214 to serve in the nursing leadership position.
- Board Staff conducted a survey visit on September 23, 2014, as mandated in the April 2014 Board Order; a report of the site visit was considered and accepted at the October 2014 Board meeting.

**Rationale for Staff Recommendation:**

Rule 214.4(c)(3)(B)(i) states: “A program may be placed on conditional approval status if the pass rate of first-time NCLEX-PN® candidates ... is less than 80% for three (3) consecutive examination years.”

**Staff Recommendation:**

Move to change the approval status of the Kaplan College - San Antonio Vocational Nursing Education Program in San Antonio, Texas from Full Approval with Warning to Conditional Approval based upon the 2014 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate, review of the 2014 Nursing Education Program Information Survey, and areas of noncompliance with Rule 214, and issue the conditions and requirements in the attached Board Order (Attachment #1).

**DRAFT LETTER**

April 20, 2015

Alexandria Garza, MSN, RN, Director  
Vocational Nursing Education Program  
Kaplan College - San Antonio  
6441 NW Loop 410  
San Antonio, TX 78238

Dear Ms. Garza:

At the April 16-17, 2015 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) discussed the approval status of the Kaplan College - San Antonio Vocational Nursing Education Program in San Antonio, Texas. Members of the Board wish to thank you and XXXXXXXX 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 Kaplan College - San Antonio Vocational Nursing Education Program in San Antonio, Texas, from Full Approval with Warning to Conditional Approval based upon the 2014 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate, review of the 2014 Nursing Education Program Information Survey, and areas of noncompliance with Rule 214, as indicated in the attached Board Order.

If you have questions or if we may offer assistance, please contact Board Staff at [virginia.ayars@bon.texas.gov](mailto:virginia.ayars@bon.texas.gov) or (512)305-7660.

Sincerely,

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN  
Executive Director

copy: Liza Canchola, Executive Director, Kaplan College - San Antonio  
Texas Workforce Commission

**BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**

\*\*\*\*\*

**In the Matter of:**

Kaplan College - San Antonio  
Vocational Nursing Education Program  
San Antonio, Texas

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on April 16, 2015, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of Kaplan College - San Antonio Vocational Nursing Education in San Antonio, Texas, based upon the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2014, review of the 2014 Nursing Education Program Information Survey, and areas of noncompliance with Rule 214, 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 Kaplan College - San Antonio in San Antonio, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status of the Kaplan College - San Antonio Vocational Nursing Education Program in San Antonio, Texas, from FULL APPROVAL WITH WARNING to CONDITIONAL APPROVAL and hereby imposes the following conditions and requirements:

1. The program shall not enroll students while on conditional approval status.
2. The program will remain on conditional approval status until the program demonstrates a pass rate for first-time candidates of at least 80% on the 2015 NCLEX-PN® examination. The NCLEX-PN® examination year is January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.
3. The program must demonstrate full compliance with Rule 214 prior to consideration of a change in approval status.

Entered this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN  
Executive Director  
On Behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing