

**Consideration of Follow-Up Report of Closure of Programs
 Career Point College in Austin and San Antonio, Texas**

Summary of Request:

Consider this follow-up report of the details and update of the October 16, 2016 closure of all Career Point College (CPC) campuses that included the Vocational Nursing (VN) and Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Programs in Austin and San Antonio, Texas. This written report provides additional information presented briefly as a verbal report at the October 2016 Board meeting.

Historical Perspective:

- Career Point College was licensed by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS), and approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to offer nursing educational programs in Texas. CPC was also authorized to grant Applied Associate Degrees in Administrative Assistant, Legal Administrative Assistant, Medical Administrative Assistant, Medical Assistant, and Network Support Specialist. At the time of closing, these accreditations and approvals were in effect.

VN Programs:

- The first CPC VN Program in San Antonio, Texas was approved by the Board in April 2008 and began enrolling students in September 2008. The first VN students graduated in 2009.
- A VN extension site in Austin was approved in August 2014.
- Over the past five (5) years, the CPC VN program has had ten (10) Program Directors. The directors in place at the time of closure had only been appointed within in the last five (5) months.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past five (5) years are presented in the table below.

Examination Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-PN® Examination Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2015	Full	94.04%	205/218
2014	Full	93.67%	207/221
2013	Full	94.67%	142/150
2012	Full	92.61%	163/176
2011	Full	86.41%	89/103

ADN Programs:

- The ADN Program at CPC in San Antonio, Texas was approved by the Board in January 2013. The program was developed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) to ADN mobility program.
- The program accepted two (2) cohorts of students in 2013 with twenty-four (24) students admitted in March 2013 and twenty-four (24) students admitted in October 2013.

- An extension site in Austin was approved April 2015.
- The first ADN students in San Antonio graduated Spring 2014. The first class of ADN students in Austin had eighteen (18) students who were scheduled to graduate December 2016.
- Over the past five years, CPC ADN program has had ten (10) Program Directors. The directors in place at the time of closure had only been appointed within the last four (4) months.
- The NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates since the program began are presented in the table below.

Examination Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2016	Full – Self-Study Report Required	61.54%	40/65
2015	Full	76.67%	23/30
2014	Initial	100.00%	9/9
2013	New Program		

CPC also offered a Registered Nurse (RN) to Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (BSN) program on the San Antonio campus.

Notification of Closure

- On October 16, 2016, the media announced that CPC unexpectedly ceased operation of all campuses.
- Beginning on the morning of October 17, numerous calls from distraught students were addressed by Board Staff.
- Austin VN Program Director, Carol Vetter, RN, BSN, CI, contacted the BON via email on October 17, 2016. A telephone conference followed with the BON Director of Nursing, Education Consultants, and Larry Earle, Owner and CEO to confirm the media reports of closure and to provide information about the requirements for teach out following closure.
- Following Board Staff request, Joyce Mullen, CPC Chief Operations Officer; sent a formal notification of the closure, which was received in Board offices October 21, 2016 (See Attachment #1).
- In addition, numerous conversations were held between Board Staff and various CPC former employees. Since the campuses were closed, Board staff were challenged with spasmodic communication from CPC administration.
- At the October 27, 2016 Board meeting, a verbal report was provided by Board Staff about the closure and the uncertain future for the students. The Board voted to accept the voluntary closure of Career Point College Vocational and Associate Degree Nursing Education Programs in San Antonio, Texas and Austin, Texas, effective October 15, 2016.
- Board Staff sent a Board Order to this effect to the program representative (See Attachment #2).

Implications for Students:

- The enrollment of students in the CPC program had grown exponentially since its beginning.
- At the time of closure, no academic provisions by CPC were made for students.
- On October 18, 2016, the total number of students enrolled at various levels in the CPC VN and ADN Education Programs in San Antonio and Austin, Texas, identified by Randy L. Bullis, Director of Regulatory Affairs, totaled one thousand five hundred seventy (1570) students. Information about the breakdown of students indicated the following enrollments:

Location	Program	Number of Students
San Antonio	VN	819
San Antonio	ADN	291
Austin	VN	364
Austin	ADN	96

- There were a number of students who expected to graduate during Fall 2016:

Location	Program	Number of Students
San Antonio	VN	80
San Antonio	ADN	37
Austin	VN	34
Austin	ADN	22

- Board staff participated in many conference calls with representatives of TWC; THECB; Department of Education (DOE); and accreditation organizations in an effort to provide CPC nursing students an avenue to complete their education programs. A number of Texas nursing education programs considered transferring CPC students into their programs where possible.
- Information has been posted on the BON website for CPC nursing students seeking transfer options, providing contact information for TWC, THECB, and the DOE, and sharing information regarding obtaining transcripts.
- Board Staff have been readily available to speak with CPC students and to guide them as they seek resolution for this problem.
- National American University with administrative offices in Rapid City, South Dakota, offered to develop and implement a teach out plan for the CPC students in Texas. (See Board Report 3.2.13. requesting affirmation of the agreed upon teach out plan).

Staff Recommendation:

Accept the follow-up report of the details and update of the October 16, 2016 closure of all Career Point College (CPC) campuses that included the Vocational Nursing (VN) and Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Programs in Austin and San Antonio, Texas as noted in the attached letter and Board Order (See Attachment #2).



October 21, 2016

Susan Lee, PhD, RN
Texas Board of Nursing
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460
Austin, Texas 78701-3942

Dear Dr. Lee:

It is with profound regret that I write to inform you that Career Point College has ceased operations at both its San Antonio and Austin campuses. The last day of classes was October 15.

The college is actively seeking opportunities for other institutions to teach out the student body and will keep you apprised of our progress. Thank you for your willingness to help us explore options that will enable students to continue their education. Taking care of our students is our highest concern. I very much appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

Very truly yours,

Joyce Mullen

Joyce Mullen
Chief Operations Officer

October 27, 2016

Joyce Mullen, Chief Operating Officer
Career Point College
4522 Fredericksburg Road, Suite A-18
San Antonio, Texas 78201

Dear Ms. Mullen:

At the October 27-28, 2016 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the notification from Career Point College of the voluntary closure of all Career Point College educational programs, including the Vocational and Associate Degree Nursing Education Programs in San Antonio and Austin, Texas, effective October 15, 2016.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to accept the voluntary closure of Career Point College Educational Programs, including the Vocational and Associate Degree Nursing Education Programs in San Antonio, Texas and Austin, Texas, and impose the conditions/requirements in the attached Board Order.

If you have any questions, please contact Board Staff at susan.lee@bon.texas.gov or (512) 463-4631.

Sincerely,

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

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Career Point College
Vocational and Associate Degree Nursing Education Programs
In San Antonio, Texas and Austin, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on October 27, 2016, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the voluntary closure of Career Point College Vocational and Associate Degree Nursing Education Programs in San Antonio, Texas and Austin, Texas, based upon the October 21, 2016 notification from Career Point College of the intent to voluntarily close all Career Point College programs.

After review and due consideration of the filed materials, including currently being on full approval, the Board hereby ACCEPTS the voluntary CLOSURE of the Career Point College Vocational and Associate Degree Nursing Education Programs in San Antonio, Texas and Austin, Texas, and imposes the following condition/requirement:

1. The programs may not reapply for approval of a new proposal for nursing education programs until at least twelve (12) months from the date of this order have elapsed.

Entered this 27th day of October, 2016

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