

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status
From Initial Approval to Full Approval
Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the proposed change in approval status for Abilene Christian University (ACU) Baccalaureate Degree Nursing (BSN), in Abilene, Texas from Initial Approval to Full Approval based upon the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate and compliance with Rule 215.

Historical Perspective:

- The ACU BSN Program in Abilene, Texas was approved by the Board in January 2013.
- ACU had previously been a member of the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing consortium.
- Becky Hammack, EdD, RN, Dean, has been the Program Director since the program began.
- The NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates for the past two (2) years are included in the table below:

NCLEX Examination Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2016	Initial	81.82%	36/44
2015	Initial - Self-Study Required	79.17%	38/48

- Due to the 2015 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate of 79.17%, the Program Director and faculty were required to submit a Self-Study Report (SSR) that would evaluate factors that may have contributed to the graduates' performance on the NCLEX-RN® examination and a description of the corrective measures to be implemented.
- The faculty identified factors in the SSR that may have contributed to the decline in the pass rate and designed corrective measures to be implemented that included:
 - Providing individual mentor for each student to monitor student progress;
 - Reviewing and revising policies related to admission criteria;
 - Providing faculty development in test construction;
 - Reviewing and revising curriculum;
 - Reconsidering adequacy of clinical learning experiences; and
 - Revising clinical evaluation tools.
- The NCLEX® examination pass rate for 2016 improved to 81.82%.

Rationale for Recommendations:

The program is in compliance with Rule 215.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status for the Abilene Christian University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas from Initial Approval to Full Approval based upon the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate and compliance with Rule 215, as indicated in the attached letter and Board Order (See Attachment #1).

Draft Letter

January 23, 2017

Becky Hammack, EdD, RN, Dean and Director
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program
Abilene Christian University
ACU Box 29103
Abilene, TX 79699-9102

Dear Dr. Hammack:

At the January 19-20, 2017 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status for the Abilene Christian University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas, based upon the NCLEX® examination pass rate for 2016 and compliance with Board rules.

Based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Abilene Christian University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas, from Initial Approval to Full Approval as indicated in the attached Board Order. Congratulations upon this achievement. The program will be issued a certificate of approval following the 2017 Board Meeting.

If you have any questions or if we may be of assistance, please contact Board Staff at Janice.hooper@bon.texas.gov.

Sincerely

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

Copy: Dr. Phil Schubert, President, ACU
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Abilene Christian University
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program
In Abilene, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on January 19, 2017, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status for the Abilene Christian University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupation Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 215, based upon the NCLEX® examination pass rate for 2016 and compliance with Board rules.

After review and due consideration of the materials presented by Staff and filed by Abilene Christian University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program in Abilene, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status of the Abilene Christian University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas, from INITIAL APPROVAL to FULL APPROVAL.

Entered this 19th day of January, 2017

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