

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status
From Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning
Brazosport College in Lake Jackson, Texas
Associate Degree Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the proposed change in approval status for Brazosport College Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Program in Lake Jackson, Texas from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning based upon the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate, findings in the 2016 Self-Study Report, and areas for improvement to align with Rule 215.

Historical Perspective:

- The ADN Program at Brazosport College in Lake Jackson, Texas was approved by the Board on July 17, 2008.
- Brazosport College also offers a vocational nursing (VN) education program that began in 1974.
- Karen Loraine Rowland, MSN, RN, CEN, was appointed Program Director in July 2015.
- The NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates for the past five (5) 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	Full	74.19%	23/31
2015	Full - Self-Study Required	75.00%	24/32
2014	Full	85.71%	24/28
2013	Full – Self-Study Required	70.59%	24/34
2012	Full	96.67%	29/30

- Due to the 2015 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate of 75.00%, 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:
 - Involving faculty in student selection during admission process;
 - Reviewing and revising policies related to admission, readmission, and progression of students; and ensuring adherence to policies;
 - Implementing measures to retain faculty: promoting collaboration among faculty; engaging faculty in decision-making at regular faculty meetings; supporting faculty

- development; establishing agreement among faculty about grading policies for classroom and clinical experiences;
 - Providing simulation experiences that relate to simultaneous didactic content;
 - Ensuring integration of the *Differentiated Essential Competencies* throughout the curriculum;
 - Incorporating the NCLEX® Test Plan into the curriculum review;
 - Reviewing text books for adequacy and currency;
 - Reviewing and revising the curriculum;
 - Re-evaluating the use of standardized examinations;
 - Seeking additional clinical sites;
 - Effectively using the Total Program Evaluation Plan; and
 - Planning measures to deal with faculty stress.
- The program has provided a response to the Board with updates of their corrective measures (See Attachment #1).

Rationale for Recommendations:

Rule 215.4(c)(3)(A) states: “A warning may be issued to a program when the pass rate of first-time NCLEX-RN® candidates ... is less than 80% for two (2) consecutive years...”

The Education Guideline for writing a Self-Study Report requires that “The effects of the corrective measures should be evaluated as a part of the Total Program Evaluation Plan.”

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status for the Brazosport College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Lake Jackson, Texas from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning based upon the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate, findings in the 2016 Self-Study Report, and areas for improvement to align with Rule 215, and impose the conditions and requirements in the attached letter and Board Order (See Attachment #2).

Dr. Hooper,

Thank you for the opportunity to include a letter to be attached to the board report you have prepared for the January meeting.

The Brazosport College Nursing Program has undergone a significant amount of change since the summer of 2015. Faculty turnover was significant that year with three new full time instructors being hired to replace outgoing personnel. A number of factors thought to contribute to the falling pass rate of the program were identified by faculty and measures instituted to address those factors.

The LVN to ADN Curriculum Track was placed on hiatus to allow curriculum renovation to increase rigor. This new plan was included in the Brazosport College Self-Study and approved by the Board of Nursing. The newly revamped curriculum track begins in January, with applications currently being reviewed. A full time instructor has been hired for this program.

Some measures not mentioned in the attached report include the adoption of Kaplan resources and review for NCLEX preparation throughout the course of the program. This program was instituted at the beginning of the Fall 2016 semester, and results look very promising.

Course syllabi and clinical evaluation tools have been revised and a uniform grading policy adopted in an effort to increase rigor.

Faculty is using Nurse Tim to further their education on successful classroom instruction.

Communication among faculty, administration, and students is considered of paramount importance to the success of the program. The college administration has been open and supportive of our proposed changes.

It is the goal of each faculty member to foster a positive work and learning environment. Program improvement is an ongoing effort. Each new measure is evaluated for effectiveness and fine - tuned as needed.

We look forward to Dr. Hooper's visit this Spring and are anxiously awaiting the May 2017 NCLEX results.

Respectfully,
Karen Rowland
Interim ADN Coordinator
Brazosport College

Draft Letter

January 23, 2017

Karen L. Rowland, MSN, RN, CEN, Director
Associate Degree Nursing Education Program
Brazosport College
500 College Dr.
Lake Jackson, Texas 77566

Dear Ms. Rowland:

At the January 19-10, 2017 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) discussed the approval status for the Brazosport College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Lake Jackson, Texas, based upon the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate, findings in the 2016 Self-Study Report, and areas for improvement to align with Rule 215.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status for the Brazosport College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Lake Jackson, Texas from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning and impose the conditions and requirements 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 A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director

Copy: Dr. Millicent Valek, President

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Brazosport College
Associate Degree Nursing Education Program
In Lake Jackson, 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 of the Brazosport College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Lake Jackson, Texas, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 215, based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2016, findings in the Self-Study Report, and areas for improvement to align with Rule 215.

After review and due consideration of the materials presented by Staff and filed by the Brazosport College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Lake Jackson, Texas, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status for the Brazosport College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Lake Jackson, Texas from FULL APPROVAL to FULL APPROVAL WITH WARNING and imposes the following conditions/requirements:

1. In accordance with Rule 215.4(a)(3)(A), a program survey visit will be conducted by Board Staff during 2017.
2. An evaluation of the effectiveness of the corrective measures outlined in the 2016 Self-Study Report is to be submitted by the program to Board Staff no later than June 1, 2017, per Education Guideline 3.2.1.a.

Entered this 19th day of January, 2017

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