

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status  
From Full Approval with Warning to Conditional Approval  
Chamberlain College of Nursing in Houston, Texas  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program**

**Summary of Request:**

Consider the proposed change in approval status for the Chamberlain College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing (BSN) Education Program in Houston, Texas from Full Approval with Warning to Conditional Approval based upon the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate, findings in the 2014 Self-Study Report, and areas for improvement for alignment with Rule 215.

**Historical Perspective:**

- The Chamberlain College of Nursing BSN Program was approved at the January 2011 Board meeting and enrolled the first cohort of students in February 2011.
- The university is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. The BSN program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education through December 31, 2024.
- Leslie Pafford, PhD, RN, APRN, RNP-BC was approved on December 2, 2015 to serve as Program Director and meets all requirements of Board Rule 215.6.
- The NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates for the past five (5) years are included in the table below:

<b>Examination Year</b>	<b>BON Approval Status</b>	<b>NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rate</b>	<b>Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)</b>
2016	Full with Warning	78.40%	98/125
2015	Full	66.99%	69/103
2014	Full	78.26%	54/69
2013	Initial	87.50%	14/16
2012	Initial	New Program	

- Due to the 2014 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate of 78.26%, the Program Director and faculty were required to submit a Self-Study Report (SSR) in 2015 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 Program Director and faculty members identified four (4) issues in the SSR that may have contributed to the NCLEX-RN® pass rate falling below 80%:
  - Dependence on a vendor exit exam to identify student readiness for success on the NCLEX-RN®;
  - Insufficient full-time faculty to meet the needs of Chamberlain's Houston students;
  - Insufficient space for the Center for Academic Success; and
  - Insufficient student support staff for the Center for Academic Success.
- Although corrective measures were timely implemented, the 2015 NCLEX-RN® pass rate was 66.99% and the approval status of the program was changed from Full Approval to Full Approval with Warning at the January 2016 Board meeting.
- Board Contract Program Evaluator Beverly Skloss, MSN, RN conducted a site visit on May 24, 2016, as mandated in the January 25, 2016 Board Order.
- On December 14, 2016, 381 students were enrolled in the program with ten (10) students on Leave of Absence, as follows:

<u>Cohort Graduation Date</u>	<u>Number Enrolled</u>
12/18/2016	29
02/26/2017	8
04/23/2017	54
08/27/2017	35
12/17/2017	31
04/22/2018	48
09/02/2018	82
12/23/2018	104

**Rationale for Recommendations:**

Rule 215.4(c)(3)(B) states: "A program may be placed on conditional approval status if the pass rate of first-time NCLEX-RN® candidates . . . is less than 80% for three (3) consecutive examination years." Rule 215.4(a)(4) states that "Conditional approval is issued by the Board for a specified time to provide the opportunity to correct deficiencies. (A) The program shall not enroll students while on conditional approval."

**Staff Recommendation:**

Move to change the approval status for the Chamberlain College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas from Full Approval with Warning to Conditional Approval based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2016, findings in the 2014 Self-Study Report, and areas for correction for alignment with Rule 215, and impose the conditions/requirements in the attached Board Order (Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

January 23, 2017

Leslie Pafford, PhD, RN, APRN, RNP-BC  
Campus President  
Houston Chamberlain College of Nursing  
11025 Equity Drive  
Houston, TX 77041

Dear Dr. Pafford:

At the January 19-20, 2017 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) considered the approval status for the Chamberlain College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas. Members of the Board wish to thank you, Dr. Mary Yoho, and Dr. Tona Leiker for being present at the meeting to answer questions.

Based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2016, findings in the 2014 Self-Study Report, and areas for correction for alignment with Rule 215, the Board decided to change the approval status for the program from FULL APPROVAL WITH WARNING to CONDITIONAL APPROVAL and to issue the conditions/requirements 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: Susan Groenwald, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, President, Chamberlain College of Nursing  
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

**BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**

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**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

In the Matter of  
Chamberlain College of Nursing  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program  
In Houston, 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 Chamberlain College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, 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 2014 Self-Study Report, and areas for improvement for alignment with Rule 215.

After review and due consideration of the filed materials, as well as the presentation by representatives from Chamberlain College of Nursing in Houston, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status for the Chamberlain College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas from FULL APPROVAL WITH WARNING to CONDITIONAL APPROVAL and imposes the following conditions/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 2017 NCLEX-RN® examination. The NCLEX-RN® examination year is October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017.
3. The program must demonstrate full compliance with Rule 215 prior to consideration of a change in approval status.

Entered this 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017

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