

Report on Communication Activities With Nursing Education Programs

This report describes the activities of the Nursing Consultants for Education to promote communication with Texas pre-licensure nursing education programs and stakeholders.

Informal Informational Session

On October 2, 2018, Virginia D. Ayars, EdD, MS, RN, CNE presented a two-hour informational session for individuals interested in starting a pre-licensure nursing education program in Texas in Room 102 of the William P Hobby Building in Austin, Texas. The purpose of the informal information session is to discuss the process to establish a new pre-licensure nursing education program and to outline the essential components of the proposal. Dr. Ayars presented an overview of the Board functions, a brief review of Board Education Rules 214 and 215, and the proposal process in detail. Attendee feedback was appreciative of the information session. Information sessions are usually scheduled two or three times each year depending upon interest.

Deans, Directors, and Coordinators Orientation

Board Rule 214 Vocational Nursing Education and Rule 215 Professional Nursing Education require that a newly appointed dean, director, interim dean or director, or coordinator of a nursing education program attend a face-to-face orientation provided by Board Staff. When new directors are approved, Board Staff send them an electronic version of the *Nursing Education Program Director Orientation Module*, which provides basic content regarding Rules 214 and 215. Completion of this module is encouraged prior to attendance at the face-to-face orientation workshop.

A face-to-face New Director Orientation Workshop was held in the Hobby Building in Austin, Texas on September 21, 2018. Dr. Kristin Benton welcomed the visitors and provided an update of Board events. The education consultants reviewed all aspects of the rules for the attendees, allowing them to ask questions and voice concerns about their new roles. Francely Rogers from the Exam Department and Tony Diggs from Enforcement also presented information related to student applications for licensure. The day concluded with an engaging question and answer period. Participants were awarded Continuing Education hours for attending the full-day orientation.

New directors often bring others from their campuses, including administrators. Some of the comments from the attendees on the evaluations stated “great information, very helpful”. Three face-to-face orientation sessions will be scheduled for 2019.

Presentations to Director/Faculty Groups

Army Practical Nurse Annual Training Event

LTC William Amsink, Director of the Army Practical Nurse Program (APNP), invited Board Staff to attend the APNP Annual Training Event on August 22, 2018 at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Director of Operations Mark Majek and Education Consultant Virginia Ayars offered presentations about the role of the Board, the NCLEX, and the Criminal Background Check. The sessions were attended by 31 participants, representing program directors and faculty from the six locations at which the Army Practical Nurse Course is offered.

Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators (TAVNE)

Janice Hooper will speak on October 26, 2018 at the meeting of TAVNE in Houston, Texas. Learning objectives focus on current issues from the Board, research and the Next Generation NCLEX, clinical judgment and critical thinking, teaching strategies in clinical judgment, and recent documents related to vocational nursing education and practice.

Texas Association of Deans and Directors of Professional Nursing Programs (TADDPNP)

Board Staff attended the fall meeting of TADDPNP at the Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark on October 12, 2018. Kristin Benton, DNP, RN provided an update from the Board of Nursing; Jan Hooper spoke on using the practice NCLEX exams from NCSBN, current NCSBN research on quality indicators and red flags, and updates related to the next generation NCLEX; Mark Majek provided the current process of the examination application (including information about the criminal background checks), and the graduate nurse rules. Education consultants also attended to network with program directors. Reports were also given by the other state regulating agencies.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This is an informational report. No action is required.