

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status  
 From Conditional to Full Approval  
 El Centro College in Dallas, Texas  
 Associate Degree Nursing Education Program**

**Summary of Request:**

Consider the proposed change in approval status for El Centro College (ECC) Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Program in Dallas, Texas, from Conditional Approval to Full Approval based upon review of the preliminary 2018 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate and compliance with Board Rule 215.

**Historical Perspective:**

- Joan Becker, MA, RN has served as the ADN Program Dean since August 2008 and meets all qualifications set forth by Board Rule 215.6 *Administration and Organization*.
- The NCLEX-RN® pass rates for the past seven (7) years are provided in the table below:

<b>NCLEX Examination Year</b>	<b>BON Approval Status</b>	<b>NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rate</b>	<b>Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)</b>
2018	Conditional – recommend Full Approval	84.43% preliminary	179/212
2017	Conditional	69.89%	195/279
2016	Full with Warning	70.79%	223/315
2015	Full	75.66%	230/304
2014	Full	82.47%	254/308
2013	Full	81.21%	229/282
2012	Full	87.35%	297/340

- Due to the 2015 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate of 75.66%, the Program Director and faculty were required to submit a Self-Study Report (SSR) in 2016 to evaluate factors that may have contributed to the graduates' performance on the NCLEX-RN® examination and to provide a description of the corrective measures to be implemented.
- Despite efforts to correct areas for improvement, the pass rate for 2016 was 70.79% and the program's approval status was changed to Full Approval with Warning at the January 2017 Board meeting.
- Education Consultants Gayle Varnell, PhD, RN, CPNP-PC and Virginia D. Ayars, EdD, MS, RN, CNE conducted a focused survey visit to the ECC ADN Education Program on September 29, 2017. A survey visit report was included in the October 2017 Board Meeting agenda.
- Due to the continuing noncompliance with Rule 215 due to NCLEX-RN® pass rate and areas needing correction, the program was placed on Conditional Approval at the January 2018 Board Meeting.
- When programs are on Conditional Approval, they are prohibited from enrolling new students.

- ECC has made improvements to their program of study over the past two years that have significantly improved the performance of students.

**Rationale for Staff Recommendations:**

The program has demonstrated a preliminary pass rate for first-time candidates of 84.43% on the 2018 NCLEX-RN® examination and is currently in full compliance with Rule 215. The pass rate is designated “preliminary” since the Program Summary Report with all student names has not been provided to the Program Director. The possibility of an error in a student listed on the report is a slight possibility, but there is certainty that the pass rate will remain over 80% with any minor change. Conditional Approval is a severe status and Board Staff seek the earliest possible time to change the status. The change of approval status will allow the admission of new students. Though the Board usually addresses approval status changes for professional nursing education programs at the January Board when the previous year’s pass rates are officially reviewed, Board Staff recommend removal of a Conditional status at an early date. This action removes the severe penalty of not being able to admit new students to the program.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Move to change the approval status for the El Centro College Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Program in Dallas, Texas, from Conditional Approval to Full Approval based upon review of the 2018 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate and compliance with Rule 215, as indicated in the attached letter Board Order (Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

October 25, 2018

Joan Becker, MA, RN, Director  
Associate Degree Nursing Education Program  
El Centro College  
801 Main Street  
Dallas, Texas 75202-3604

Dear Ms. Becker:

At the October 25-26, 2018 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) discussed the approval status of El Centro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Dallas, Texas, based upon review of the preliminary 2018 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate and program compliance with Rule 215.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the El Centro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Dallas, Texas, from Conditional Approval to Full Approval as indicated in the attached Board Order. Congratulations on this achievement and the opportunity to move forward.

If you have any questions or if we may be of any assistance, please contact Board Staff at [gayle.varnell@bon.texas.gov](mailto:gayle.varnell@bon.texas.gov) or 512-621-5179.

Sincerely,

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

Copy: Jose Adames, EdD, El Centro College President  
Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing

**BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**

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**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

In the Matter of  
El Centro College  
Associate Degree Nursing Education Program  
In Dallas, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on October 25, 2018, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of the El Centro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Dallas, Texas, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 215, based upon review of the preliminary 2018 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate and program compliance with Rule 215.

After review and due consideration of the files materials, as well as the presentation by representatives from the El Centro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Dallas, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status of El Centro College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Dallas, Texas, from CONDITIONAL APPROVAL to FULL APPROVAL.

Entered this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018

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