

Report on Communication Activities With Nursing Education Programs

This agenda item is reserved to report the formal communication activities of the Nursing Consultants for Education with Texas pre-licensure nursing education programs and stakeholders.

Webinar on Nursing Education During a Pandemic

Board Staff presented two virtual webinars for nursing programs on September 17, 2021 presenting a clinical model for nursing education through partnerships between academia and practice. The agenda included:

- Introductions, New Issues, and Legislative Updates – Kristin Benton
- The Status of Clinicals Following COVID-19 Disruption – Beverly Skloss – See article about Survey below
- Parameters for Internships in Nursing Education – Jan Hooper
- Assisting License Candidates Educated Outside the US – Virginia Ayars
- BON Approval for Post COVID-19 Curriculum Changes – Gayle Varnell
- Questions and Answers

The attendance for the webinars was 68 attendees for VN webinar and 184 attendees for the RN webinar. Participants could post questions in the Chat box for the Question and Answer portion at the end of the webinars. Other participants emailed questions for a written response. The information covered in the webinars will be the features for the next Education Newsletter planned for October 2021.

Informal Information Session

On October 12, 2021, a virtual Informal Informational Session was offered for persons interested in establishing pre-licensure nursing education programs in Texas. Nineteen individuals representing eight potential new vocational, associate, and baccalaureate degree nursing education programs registered to attend the two-hour virtual workshop.

The purpose of the Informal Information Sessions, held every four to six months, is to present and discuss the essential elements of the proposal development process. Additionally, participants are provided an opportunity to visit with the Education Team, and network with other individuals in the process of proposal consideration and development. During the workshops, detailed information about Texas Board of Nursing Education Rule 214 Vocational Nursing Education and Rule 215 Professional Nursing Education, is explored. Question and answer sessions are conducted at the conclusion of each workshop.

Orientation for New Program Directors:

Board Staff presented an orientation to the education rules and the role of Program Director in an online format on October 14, 2021. The usual agenda for the required orientations was presented:

- Welcome and Introduction – Kristin Benton
- Board Overview, NEPIS & CANEP, Education Rules – Virginia Ayars
- Clinical Learning Experiences, Clinical Preceptors, Simulation – Beverly Skloss
- Program of Study, Total Program Evaluation – Jan Hooper
- Designing an Assessment Toolkit – Gayle Varnell
- Providing Successful Leadership – Jan Hooper
- Examination Application, Blue Card Process – Francely Rogers, Operations
- Petition for Declaratory Order – Skylar Caddell, Enforcement
- Questions and Answers – All

Survey to Programs Re: Clinicals

Board Staff emailed a survey to all Texas pre-licensure nursing programs requesting answers to 10 questions about the current clinical situation for Fall 2021. Questions centered around current clinical settings, percentages of hands-on and simulation experiences presently used, requirements for student vaccinations, partnerships with affiliating agencies, and challenges in securing clinicals for students. Responses to the survey were received from 43% of 218 programs and Beverly Skloss presented the highlights of the data during the webinars on September 17, 2021. Details of the data will be published in an article in the next Education Newsletter.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an informational report. No action is required.