



Nursing Education Department Newsletter – June 2014

Volume 1, No. 1

What's New

Welcome to the first edition of the BON Education Department Newsletter. In response to rapid changes in nursing education in Texas, the Education Consultants plan to regularly send education newsletters to stay in touch and update program directors and faculty. Regular sections of the newsletter will include:

- Recent Rule changes that affect nursing programs
- Coming events
- Responses to common questions received in the Board office
- Announcements
- Bits and pieces of information helpful to nursing programs

Please forward newsletters to your faculty or post where all can read.

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Program Directors

Please check the contact information for your program on the BON web page and let us know if there are corrections.

[Board of Nursing - Education Programs](#)

Board Approval for Curriculum Changes

The enactment of statutes during the 83rd Session of the Texas Legislature placed a 60 semester credit hour limit on associate degrees awarded by community colleges. While education entities determine how to align with this law, it is important to note that state system associate degree nursing education programs will need to submit a request for approval of a major curriculum change to the Texas Board of Nursing, as outlined in Rule 215.9(k).

Proposed changes to Rule 215, appropriate to all professional nursing education programs, approved at the April 2014 Board meeting incorporate the following two new descriptors to major curriculum changes:

- 1) revisions in program hours; and
- 2) addition/reduction of course(s) in the program of study.

Summer 2014 Coming Events

- June 13, 2014 (10:00 am – 3:00 pm) Task Force to Study Implications of Growth of Nursing Education Programs in Texas. This is an open meeting. Location: Austin, Hobby Bldg, 333 Guadalupe St, Room 102
- June 26, 2014 (8:30 am – 3:00 pm) NCSBN NCLEX Conference in Austin at the University of Texas JJ Pickle Research Campus. Registration is limited. Please email jackie.ballesteros@bon.texas.gov for details and available seating.
- August 22, 2014 (9:00 am – 4:00 pm) New Deans / Directors / Coordinators Orientation. A registration announcement will be coming soon.



Protecting Individual Identities

Please be aware that all documents submitted to the Board are considered to be government records, subject to the Texas Public Information Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 552. All materials received in the Board office are potentially open records and may be available to the public upon written request. Therefore, Board staff advise that you de-identify or redact individual student names, which is also mandated by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Use only a numerical identification or other legend to separate one individual's information from another.

Full information detailing the process for approval of a major curriculum change for all vocational and professional nursing education programs is provided on the Board website, www.bon.texas.gov. From the homepage, select Education, then Education Guidelines, and, finally, scroll to Section 3.7.1.a to review the standard in its entirety. The presentation of side-by-side comparisons of current and proposed curricular plans, as well as rationales for initiating the changes, will assist Board staff during the review of requests for major curriculum changes.

Employment Opportunities

The BON education team is seeking a new nursing consultant for education.

This is an excellent opportunity for an experienced nurse educator to contribute to nursing education quality statewide! Please visit: http://www.bne.state.tx.us/about_careers.asp for more details.

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Education Issues / Questions?
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