

## AGENDA ITEM #5.E.III



BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR  
**Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians**  
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<b>DATE</b>	August 21, 2020
<b>TO</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Members <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Practice Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Officer Review
<b>FROM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Education and Practice Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Officer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SNEC
<b>REVIEWED BY</b>	Marie Cordeiro, MN, RN Supervising Nursing Education Consultant (SNEC)
<b>PREPARED BY</b>	Cindy Fairchild EdD, MSN, RN, PHN Nursing Education Consultant (NEC)
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Consideration of Provisional Approval; and Request to Admit Students;
<b>PROGRAM</b>	Institute of Technology, Clovis, Vocational Nursing Program (Program) (Director: Paula Richards, Clovis, Fresno County, and Private)

Please note: The NECs make recommendations. The recommendations are forwarded to one or more: the Executive Officer Review, the Education and Practice Committee or the full Board for action.

### **PROGRAM REQUEST:**

Admit one full-time class of 30 students commencing on November 9, 2020, graduating on December 10, 2021 to replace the December 11, 2020, graduating class.

### **Prior Board Decision:**

Reconsideration of provisional approval. The Program was placed on provisional approval for the two-year period starting August 24, 2018, due to NCLEX-PN® pass rates more than 10 percentage points below the state average.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Program was displaced from all clinical sites March 19, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program continues to conduct theory via an online format due to not having a classroom large enough for social distancing. On June 1, 2020, the students returned to the campus for skills lab and clinical simulation. Simulated clinical

experiences have been 60 percent in a clinical simulated environment, and 40 percent have been in a virtual environment.

Classes that started November 11, 2019, and March 16, 2020 returned to the clinical setting July 20, 2020, thereby 100 percent of clinical experiences are being conducted in a Board-approved clinical setting. The students who started July 2020 are not currently scheduled for hands-on clinical experience, however, in accordance with the instructional plan the students do not begin hands-on clinical experiences until September 28, 2020. The program has two Board-approved clinical sites that will allow students to return in October and two additional Board-approved clinical sites that will allow for the return of students in November.

### **STAFF ANALYSIS:**

The class that began in July 2020 is not scheduled for hands on clinical experiences in a board-approved clinical site. However, the class will not begin clinical experiences until September 2020.

The proposed class beginning November 2020 will not begin their clinical experience until February 2021.

The Program has maintained an average annual pass rate on the NCLEX- PN® above the state annual average pass rate for the past two quarters, with an annual NCLEX-PN® of 82 percent for the second quarter of 2020.

Continue to require the Program to comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Please note: These are not NEC decisions, rather the recommendations presented at the Executive Officer Review, the Education and Practice Committee and/or the full Board for action.

1. Extend the Program's provisional approval for a six-month period beginning August 21, 2020 and issue a certificate accordingly.
2. Place the Program on the Board's February 19, 2021 agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.
3. Deny the Program's request to admit a full-time class of 30 students commencing on November 9, 2020, graduating on December 10, 2021 to replace the December 11, 2020, graduating class.
4. Recommend that the Executive Officer approve the class at the October 2020 Executive Officer review, pending the program director's submission of confirmation

of clinical sites for the July 13, 2020 class and the proposed November 9, 2020 class.

5. Comply with all program requirements listed below.

**PROGRAM REUIREMENTS:**

1. Program director to submit documents demonstrating that the class which began July 13, 2020 has been scheduled for clinical experiences in Board approved clinical sites by September 1, 2020, to meet the term 1 program objectives.
2. Program director to submit the following documents by October 1, 2020 for the proposed class November 9, 2020:
  - a. Faculty and facility clinical assignments
  - b. Maternity faculty student clinical assignment
  - c. Pediatric faculty student clinical assignment
3. Program director to notify the NEC in the event a current class is displaced from clinical sites.
4. Program director to notify the NEC when a course is 50 percent complete, and submit an update related to clinical sites.
5. Obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.
6. When requesting approval to admit students, to:
  - a. Submit all required documentation in final form by the fifteenth day of the second month preceding the month of the Board meeting at which the changes will be considered.
  - b. Provide documentation that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
  - c. Maintain an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530(l) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.
7. Submit a report to the Board no later than November 1, 2020 and February 1, 2021. The report must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, timeline for implementation, and the effect of employed interventions. The elements below must be addressed in the analysis.
  - a. Terminal objectives
  - b. Evaluation of current curriculum including:
    - Instructional plan
    - Theory objectives for each term

- Clinical objectives for each term
  - Lesson plans for each term
- c. Student Policies including:
    - Admission policy
    - Screening and selection policy
    - Attendance policy
    - Remediation policy
    - Evaluation of student achievement
    - Credit granting policy
  - d. Evaluations of approved clinical facilities which determine adequacy in number and variety of patients to accommodate current and projected students.
  - e. Evaluations of faculty
  - f. Methodologies for:
    - Faculty meetings
    - Clinical evaluations
8. Comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16.
  9. Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.
  10. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the Board to revoke the program's approval.

## **RELEVANT PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

### **Enrollment**

Section 2530(k) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:

“(k) The program shall have prior Board approval to increase the number of students per class and/or increase the frequency of admission of classes. Criteria to evaluate a school's request to increase the number of students per class and/or increase the frequency of class admissions include but are not limited to: (1) Sufficient program resources as specified in Section 2530(a). (2) Adequacy of clinical experience as specified in Section 2534. (3) Licensure examination pass rates as specified in Section 2530(l).”

The program offers a full-time course of instruction that is 51 weeks in length. Currently, the program must obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class. The following table represents current and proposed student enrollment. The table indicates a maximum enrollment of 108 students for the period from July 2019 through November 2020.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Completed			
7/19 *(8/2020)		30	24	24
11/19 *(12/2020)		30	21	24 + 21 = 45
3/20 *(4/21)		30	27	45 + 27 = 72
7/2020 *(8/2021)		30	30	72 + 30 = 102
	8/20 (7/19)		- 24	102- 24 = 78
11/20 *(12/21) Proposed		30		78 + 30 = 108

\*Indicates projected graduation date

### **Licensing Examination Statistics**

California Code of Regulations Section 2530(l) states:

“The program shall maintain a yearly average minimum pass rate on the licensure examination that does not fall below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates of approved vocational nursing schools for the same period.”

The following statistics, furnished by Pearson VUE and published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing as “Jurisdictional Summary of All First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdiction” for the period July 2018 through June 2020, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of the Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical/Vocational Nurses (NCLEX-PN®) and the variance from state average annual pass rates

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Data							
Quarterly Statistics					Annual Statistics*		
Quarter	# Candidates	# Passed	% Passed	State Average Quarterly Pass Rate	Program Average Annual Pass Rate	State Average Annual Pass Rate [CCR §2530(l)]	Variance from State Average Annual Pass Rate
Jul - Sep 2018	7	4	57%	77%	59%	76%	- 17
Oct - Dec 2018	23	20	87%	79%	74%	79%	- 6
Jan -Mar 2019	1	0	0%	80%	77%	81%	- 4
Apr - Jun 2019	2	1	50%	83%	76%	81%	- 5
Jul - Sep 2019	No Tests			79%	81%	79%	+ 2
Oct- Dec 2019	25	18	72%	79%	68%	79%	- 11
Jan -Mar 2020	16	14	88%	78%	77%	79%	- 2
Apr - Jun 2020	8	8	100%	81%	82%	79%	+ 3

\*The Annual Pass Rate changes every quarter. It is calculated by dividing the number of candidates who passed during the current and previous three-quarters by the number of candidates who tested during the same period. If no data is available for the relevant period, the statistic is carried over from the last quarter for which data is available.

Based on the most current data available (April – June 2020), the program’s average annual pass rate is 82 percent. The California average annual pass rate for graduates from approved vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time during the same period is 79 percent. The average annual pass rate for the Program is three percentage points above the state average annual pass rate.

### **Faculty and Facilities**

Section 2534(d) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:

“For supervision of clinical experience, there shall be a maximum of 15 students for each instructor.”

The total number of Board approved faculty is 11 including the program director. The director has 80 percent administrative duties and 20 percent teaching duties. All instructors are designated to teach clinical. For a maximum enrollment of 108 students, eight instructors are needed for clinical supervision. The utilization of faculty at clinical facilities is such that clinical instruction is covered adequately.

Section 2534(b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:

“Schools shall have clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated, to provide clinical experience for all students in the areas specified by Section 2533. There must be available for student assignment, an adequate daily census of patients to afford a variety of clinical experiences consistent with competency-based objectives and theory being taught.”

Submitted documentation indicates the program has sufficient clinical facilities to afford the number, type and variety of patients that will provide clinical experience consistent with Board-approved competency-based objectives and theory being taught for two

cohorts. The third cohort is not scheduled at a clinical site; however, the class does not begin clinical experiences until September 28, 2020. The proposed class is not scheduled in Board approved clinical sites.

### **Other Considerations**

#### **Social Distancing Compliance:**

##### **Classroom configuration to allow for social-distancing**

###### **Theory Classroom:**

670 square feet, built out for 30 students  
Currently designed to serve 15 students with social distancing. Half of the computers are turned off and covered to close specific work stations and students are sitting one per table



###### **Theory Classroom:**

912 square feet, built out for 30 students  
Currently designed to serve 15 students with social distancing. Half of the computers are turned off and covered to close specific work stations and students are sitting one per table



###### **Skills Lab A:**

875 square feet, built out to serve 25 students  
Currently designed to serve 15 students with social distancing



###### **Skills Lab B:**

670 square feet, built out for 20 students  
Currently designed to serve 15 students with social distancing



### **Ongoing attempts to reestablish clinical sites:**

- The clinical coordinator has maintained weekly communication with all Board-approved clinical sites. The clinical sites have expressed interest in the return of students in the clinical site as soon as possible.
- The program director is being asked to supply PPE for the students. The program director states that the program will be able to supply student PPE.
- The program director and clinical coordinator continues to contact agencies, clinics, and doctor's offices in order to secure additional clinical sites

### **Faculty training for online education:**

- Faculty members received professional develop training in the following areas:
  - ATI Resources for Virtual Learning: How to Enhance Educational Opportunities with Simulation Solutions
  - NCSBN Policy Guidelines for the BON in Simulations
  - Best Practices for Moving Your Class Online
  - Best Practices in Online Instruction: Engaging Students
  - Moving Online: Response to COVID – 19
  - Online Clinical Plans
  - Proctario Training
  - Creative Ways to Teach Diverse Learners
  - Microsoft Teams training
  - OneNote Class – online platform training

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: History of Prior Board Actions



## AGENDA ITEM #5.E.III

### INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, CLOVIS VOCTIONAL NURSING PROGRAM

#### History of Prior Board Actions

- On October 10, 2014, the Executive Officer approved the following:
  1. Approve the Institute of Technology, Clovis, request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial full-time class of 30 students on January 5, 2015 only, and graduating January 4, 2016.
  2. Approve the program curriculum for 1575 hours, including 585 theory and 990 clinical hours.
  3. Require the program to obtain prior Board approval before admission of subsequent classes to maintain compliance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 2526(c) that states:  
*“c. A Board representative shall make a survey visit prior to graduation of the initial class. A program shall not commence another class without prior Board approval.”*
- On February 10 and 11, 2016, a Board representative conducted a scheduled program inspection. One (1) violation was identified and corrected.
- On February 17, 2016, the Institute of Technology, Clovis, Vocational Nursing Program was granted approval for the four – year period through February 16, 2020 and was approved to admit the second class on March 14, 2016.
- On June 9, 2016, the Institute of Technology, Clovis, Vocational Nursing Program was granted approval to admit one (1) class of 30 students beginning July 11, 2016 and graduating August 18, 2017.
- On March 24, 2017, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) considered the consultant’s report relative to the Institute of Technology Vocational Nursing Program – Request to admit 30 students on March 27, 2017 and consideration of approval of curriculum changes. The following decisions were rendered: **Approved** the Institute of Technology, Clovis, Vocational Nursing Program’s request to admit one (1) class of 30 students, beginning March 27, 2017 and graduating April 27, 2018. **Approved** the submitted curriculum changes. **Continue** to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class. **Continue** to monitor programs licensure examination pass rates.

- On July 27, 2017, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) considered the consultant's report relative to the Institute of Technology Vocational Nursing Program, Clovis – Request to admit 30 students on July 31, 2017.

The following decisions were rendered: **Approve** to admit a full-time class of 30 students, July 31, 2017 and graduating August 17, 1018. **Continue** to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class. **Continue** to monitor programs licensure examination pass rates.

- On May 11, 2018, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) considered the consultant's report relative to the Institute of Technology Vocational Nursing Program, Clovis – Request to Admit Students. **The Board Recommended that the following decisions be forwarded to the Education Committee for review. The following decisions were rendered: Place** program on provisional approval for the period May 18, 2018, to May 31, 2020.

**Approve** request to admit one class of 30 students beginning August 27, 2018, ending September 2, 2018 to replace the class graduating August 17, 2018.

Continue to require the program to obtain Board-approval prior to the admission of each class. **Continue** to monitor program's licensure examination pass rates.

**Require** the director to submit follow-up reports in 6 months, but no later than February 1, 2019, and 12 months after that. The reports must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken with implementation of the revisions to improve pass rates, and evaluation of the effect of the interventions. the following elements must be addressed in the analysis:

- Admission Criteria
- Screening and Selection Criteria
- Terminal Objectives
- Curriculum Objectives
- Instructional Plan
- Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course
- Lesson Plans for Each Course
- Textbooks
- Attendance Policy
- Remediation Policy
- Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty
- Evaluations of Theory Presentations
- Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations
- Evaluation of Student Achievement
- Current Enrollment

- On August 24, 2018, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, (Board) meeting, considered the consultant's report regarding Request for Consideration of Placement on Provisional Approval; Request to Admit Students. The following decisions were rendered: **Place** program on provisional approval for the two-year period starting August 24, 2018. **Approve** the program's request to admit one class of 30 students beginning August 27,

2018, ending September 2, 2019, to replace the class graduating August 17, 2018. **Continue** to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class. **Continue** to monitor program's licensure examination pass rates. **Require** the director to submit follow-up reports in 6 months, but no later than February 1, 2019, and 12 months after that. The reports must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken with implementation of the revisions to improve pass rates, and evaluation of the effect of the interventions. the following elements must be addressed in the analysis:

- Admission Criteria
  - Screening and Selection Criteria
  - Instructional Plan
  - Attendance Policy with summary of current students' attendance
  - Remediation Policy with summary of current students who have completed remediation
  - Evaluation of students' academic status in the current terms.
  - Current Enrollment
- On November 16, 2018, The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians considered the consultant's report regarding -Request to admit students. The following decisions were rendered: **Approve** the Institute of Technology, Clovis, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit one class of 30 students beginning November 26, 2018, ending January 17, 2020, to replace the class graduating August 17, 2018. **Continue** to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class. **Continue** to monitor the program's licensure examination pass rates. Require the director to submit follow - up reports in 6 months, but no later than June 1, 2019, and 12 months after that. The reports must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken the revisions to improve pass rates, and evaluation of the effect of the interventions. Require the program, when requesting approval to admit students, to:
    - a. Submit all documentation in final form, using the forms provided by the Board, no later than two months prior to the requested start date for the class.
    - b. Provide documentation that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
    - c. Ensure that the program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530(l) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.
    - d. Continue to require the program to comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16.
  - 1. On May 17, 2019, The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, at its meeting considered the consultant's report regarding -

Request to Admit Students. The following decisions were rendered: **Approve** request to admit a full-time class of 30 students, starting May 20, 2019, graduating June 26, 2020. **Approve** request to admit a full-time class of 30 students, starting July 15, 2019, and ending August 14, 2020, to replace the class that graduates September 2, 2019. **Continue** to require the program to obtain Board-approval prior to the admission of each class. **Require** the director to submit follow-up reports first one in 6 months, but no later than December 1, 2019. The reports should include; evaluation and analysis of findings of student academic progress, attendance, remediation and any actions taken as indicated.

2. On February 21, 2020, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, at its meeting, considered the consultant's report regarding - Request to Admit Students. The following decisions were rendered: **Approve** request to admit a full-time class of 30 students, starting March 16, 2020, graduating April 16, 2021. **Continue** to require the program to obtain Board-approval prior to the admission of each class. **Require** the director to submit follow-up reports, first one in 6 months, but no later than October 1, 2020. The reports should include; evaluation and analysis of findings of student academic progress, attendance, remediation and any actions taken as indicated.
- On May 20, 2020, the full Board approved the following
    1. Grant the director's request to admit a full-time class of 30 students, starting July 13, 2020, ending August 13, 2021, to replace the class that graduates August 17, 2020.
    2. Approve the modified instructional plan for the admission of 30 students starting July 13, 2020, during COVID-19 pandemic
    3. Continue to require the program to obtain Board-approval prior to the admission of each class.
    4. Require the director to submit follow-up reports, first one in 6 months, but no later than November 1, 2020. The reports should include; evaluation and analysis of findings of student academic progress, attendance, remediation and any actions taken as indicated.