

Agenda Item #9.J.



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR

BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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DATE: September 3, 2009

TO: Board Members

FROM: Cheryl C. Anderson, M.S., R. N.
Nursing Education Consultant

SUBJECT: Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program –
Reconsideration of Provisional Accreditation (Director: Judith Sheinin, Colton,
San Bernardino County, Private)

Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program is presented to the Board for reconsideration of its provisional accreditation. The program's status was changed to provisional accreditation on February 1, 2008. That action was taken due to the program's noncompliance with Section 2530 (I) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations, which 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 accredited vocational nursing schools for the same period.

(1) Failure to maintain the required yearly average minimum pass rate for two years or eight consecutive quarters may be cause to place a program on provisional accreditation."

The following table shows the variance of the program's pass rates from the state average annual pass rates of first time graduates of accredited vocational nursing programs for the past 15 quarters. This data substantiates the program's continued noncompliance with Section 2530(I) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Pass Rates			
Quarter	State Average Annual Pass Rate	Program Average Annual Pass Rate	Variance from State Average Annual Pass Rate
Oct – Dec 2005	81%	63%	-18
Jan - Mar 2006	79%	56%	-23
Apr - Jun 2006	79%	54%	-25
Jul - Sep 2006	79%	57%	-22
Oct - Dec 2006	78%	59%	-19
Jan - Mar 2007	77%	62%	-15
Apr –Jun 2007	77%	61%	-16
Jul - Sep 2007	76%	57%	-19
Oct – Dec 2007	76%	53%	-23
Jan – Mar 2008	75%	50%	-25
Apr – Jun 2008	74%	52%	-22
Jul – Sep 2008	74%	56%	-18
Oct – Dec 2008	73%	58%	-15
Jan – Mar 2009	72%	58%	-14
Apr – Jun 2009	70%	60%	-10

History of Prior Board Actions

- In March 1995, the Board approved Summit Career College’s request to commence a vocational nursing program on April 3, 1995. The initial class began with 57 students.
- On March 22, 1996, the Board approved full accreditation for the Summit Career College Vocational Nursing Program. Additionally, the Board approved the program’s request to admit a class of 34 students on March 25, 1996, and May 27, 1996. Admissions were contingent upon approval of adequate clinical facilities.
- On May 24, 1996, the Board approved the program’s request to admit a class of 34 students on September 23, 1996.
- On November 15, 1996, the Board approved the program’s request to admit a class of 34 students on January 6, 1997. The program was directed to submit a plan to reduce attrition and improve the pass rates on the licensure examination.
- On April 4, 1997, the Board approved the program’s request to admit a class of 34 students on April 7, 1997. The program was directed to submit a written report addressing faculty hires and terminations, student utilization of the remediation program for each class, an evaluation of students' ability to achieve objectives in the clinical facilities to which they are assigned, and attrition.
- On June 27, 1997, the Board approved the program’s request to admit a class of 34 students on August 4, 1997. The program was directed to submit a written report addressing faculty hires and terminations and student utilization of the remediation

program for each class for the period May 1997 through August 1997, an evaluation of students' ability to achieve objectives in the clinical facilities to which they are assigned, and attrition.

Additionally, the school was requested to submit a detailed explanation of how students who required remediation were identified and remediated (from March 1997 to the present). The school was asked to describe how student vocational nurses are assisted to proficiently and safely perform manual and technical skills within the standards of nursing practice and how student vocational nurses are assisted to safeguard patient/client health and safety.

- On September 19, 1997, the Board approved the program's request to admit a class of 48 students on November 3, 1997. The program was directed to submit a written report by October 3, 1997, addressing faculty hires and terminations for the period September 4, 1997, through October 3, 1997. The director was also requested to submit student attrition data to the Board to include attrition due to theory and clinical failure.
- On January 30, 1998, the Board approved the program's request to admit 48 students on February 16, 1998 only. A follow-up report on attrition and examination statistics was scheduled for presentation at the September 1998 Board meeting.
- On April 17, 1998, the Board approved the program's request to admit a class of 48 students on May 1, 1998. The program's request for an August 10, 1998, class was scheduled for consideration at the June 1998 Board meeting. The program's request for a November 2, 1998, class was scheduled for consideration at the September 1998 Board meeting.
- On June 26, 1998, the Board approved the program's request to admit 48 students on August 10, 1998.
- On August 17, 1998, the Board was notified by school administration that the director of the vocational nursing program was no longer employed by the school.
- **On August 20, 1998, a new program director was approved.**
- On September 11, 1998, the Board approved the program's request to admit 48 students on November 2, 1998.
- On January 22, 1999, the Board approved the program's request to admit 60 students on February 22, 1999, and ratified authorizations effective October 30, 1998, for revisions of the Grading, Attendance and Remediation Policies.
- On April 16, 1999, the Board approved the program's request to admit 60 students on May 24, 1999.

- On June 25, 1999, the Board approved the program's request to admit 60 students on August 23, 1999.
- On September 17, 1999, the Board approved the program's request to admit 60 students on November 22, 1999 only, with grave reservations. The Board directed the program to perform a detailed analysis of all program elements to determine causes of poor student performance on the licensure examination and identify written solutions, goals and timelines to ensure improvement of examination pass rates by December 1, 1999.
- On November 19, 1999, the Board deferred action on the program's request to admit 60 full-time students on March 6, 2000, to the February 2000 Board meeting.
- On February 4, 2000, the Board approved the program's request to admit 60 students on March 6, 2000.
- On April 14, 2000, the Board approved the program's request to admit 60 students on May 22, 2000, and the program's request to exceed 50% evening hours for clinical experience. The Board requested the director to submit a written report to the Board which evaluates the program's utilization of more than 50% evening hours for clinical experience by July 15, 2000. The report was to include a comparison of patient census with the number of students per clinical day per facility, assessment of the adequacy of patient diagnosis as they relate to student clinical objectives for the specific clinical day per facility, and assessment of student attrition caused by failure in the clinical area.
- On June 16, 2000, the Board denied the program's request to admit 60 students on September 5, 2000, and directed that a subsequent request for admission of a class be considered at the September 2000 Board meeting. Subsequent to the meeting, the program director submitted a request to meet with the Board to discuss its decision to deny the program's request. The meeting was held at the Board's Sacramento office.
- On September 29, 2000, the Board approved the program's request to **replace** graduating students with 60 full-time students on October 2, 2000, one time only.
- On November 17, 2000, the Board approved the program's request to **replace** graduating students with 60 full-time students on December 4, 2000, only.
- On February 2, 2001, the Board approved the program's request to **replace** graduating students with 60 full-time students on March 12, 2001, only.
- On April 27, 2001, the Board approved the Summit Career College Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 60 full-time students on May 21, 2001; and postponed consideration of the program's request to admit 60 full-time students on September 10, 2001, until the September 2001 Board meeting.

- On September 7, 2001, the Board approved the program's request to admit 60 full-time students on September 10, 2001 only.
- **On October 1, 2001, a new program director was approved.**
- On November 16, 2001, the Board approved the program's request to admit 60 full-time students on December 10, 2001, only.
- On February 8, 2002, the Board approved the program's request to admit 70 full-time students on March 25, 2002, only.
- On June 28, 2002, the Board ratified the Executive Officer's action to approve **replacement** of students who graduated June 17, 2002, with 70 students, commencing May 20, 2002.
- On September 6, 2002, the Board approved the program's request to admit 70 students on September 9, 2002 only, **replacing** the class that graduated on September 16, 2002; approved the program's request to begin a part-time weekend program with 70 students on October 2, 2002, only; and denied the program's request for ongoing admissions.
- On November 8, 2002, the Board approved the program's request to admit 70 full-time students on December 2, 2002 only, **replacing** students who graduated on December 16, 2002.
- On February 21, 2003, the Board approved continued full accreditation for the four-year period from February 21, 2003, through February 20, 2007, and issued a certificate accordingly; approved the program's request to admit 72 full-time students on March 10, 2003 only, **replacing** the class that graduated on March 31, 2003; and denied the program's request to begin a second part-time weekend class with 72 students on March 5, 2003.
- On April 11, 2003, the Board approved the program's request to admit 72 full-time students on June 9, 2003 only, **replacing** the class that graduated on June 16, 2003; and approved the program's request to begin a second part-time weekend class with 72 students on April 14, 2003 only, graduating on December 1, 2004.
- On June 20, 2003, the Board approved the program's request to admit 72 full-time students on September 8, 2003 only, **replacing** the class that graduated on September 15, 2003; directed Summit Career College Vocational Nursing Program to perform a detailed analysis of all program elements to determine the cause of declining student performance on the licensure examination; in addition, develop a plan identifying goals and a timeline for improving NCLEX-PN[®] licensure examination pass rates no later than October 3, 2003.

- On September 19, 2003, the Board denied the recommendation to permit the program to begin a third part-time class of 72 students commencing September 22, 2003, and graduating April 27, 2005. The Board directed the program to perform a detailed analysis pertaining to the discrepancy between the number of students admitted to each class and the number of students who take the NCLEX-PN® examination and to develop a plan identifying goals and a timeline for improving the number of students who take the NCLEX-PN® examination after completing the program. This information is to be added to the analysis requested by the Board at the June 20, 2003, Board meeting and shall be presented to the Board no later than November 7, 2003. The Board directed the program to perform a review of all clinical objectives for relevancy and currency as well as establish a method by which the program will monitor how and when clinical objectives are being met; presenting this information to the Board no later than November 7, 2003.
- **On November 7, 2003, the program rehired its former director who was instrumental in delivering the program's higher pass rates over the period from April 2001 to October 2001. With the rehire of the former director, the current director assumed the position of assistant director.**
- On November 12, 2003, the Board received the requested detailed analysis and plan pertaining to the discrepancy between the number of students admitted to each class and the number of students who take the NCLEX-PN® examination after completing the program. The response also included a review of how, when and where the clinical objectives were being met. The response was reviewed and found to be comprehensive and complete.
- On November 19, 2003, the Executive Officer approved the admission of 72 full-time students on December 1, 2003, only, **replacing** students who graduated December 14, 2003. The Executive Officer also approved the program's request to begin a third part-time class of 72 students starting November 17, 2003 only, and graduating June 20, 2005. Admission of this class reflected an increase in frequency of admission.

After reviewing the detailed analysis response, the Board requested the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program to submit progress reports from the quarterly curriculum review committee meetings and from the advisory Board meetings starting in March of 2004. The Board also requested the program to submit an evaluation of its strategic plan to increase number of test takers in March of 2005, after completion of the first class that receives instruction during an entire program cycle with the strategic plan in place.

- On February 20, 2004, the Board approved Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time class of 72 students starting on March 8, 2004 only, **replacing** students who graduated March 15, 2004.

- **In April 2004, the Board was notified of a change of director.**
- On May 14, 2004, the Board approved Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 72 full-time students on June 7, 2004, **replacing** students who graduated on June 14, 2004.

The Board approved the program's request to admit 72 part-time students on May 24, 2004, **replacing** students who graduate on May 19, 2003.

The Board approved on-going admissions to **replace** graduating classes only, for the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program with the stipulation that no additional classes are to be added to the program's current pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's current pattern of admissions includes four full-time classes and four part-time classes per year. Each full-time and part-time class admits 72 students.

- On September 10, 2004, the Board approved continued full accreditation for the Summit Career College Vocational Nursing Program for the four-year period from February 21, 2003, through February 20, 2007, and issued a certificate accordingly.

The Board denied the program's request to admit 72 part-time students commencing on March 5, 2003 only, and graduating on October 13, 2004. This would result in an increased frequency of admissions in the part-time program.

- On February 4, 2005, the Board approved Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 72 students into an additional full-time class starting on March 14, 2005.

The Board also approved the program's request to admit 72 students into an additional part-time class starting February 22, 2005.

- On September 16, 2005, the Board approved the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program's request to increase student enrollment in the full-time and part-time classes from **72 to 96** students per class.

- **On February 6, 2006, the Board was notified of a change of director.**

- On August 9, 2006, the Board granted continued full accreditation for the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program for the four-year period from February 20, 2007, through February 19, 2011, and issued a certificate accordingly.

- On September 18, 2006, the Board notified Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program that their annual pass rate had fallen more than ten percentage points below the state annual average pass rate for the past four (4) quarters.

- **On September 26, 2006, the Summit Career College Vocational Nursing Program, Colton, notified the Board of a change in directors.**
- **On October 11, 2006, the Board was notified of a change of director.**
- On November 1, 2006, the director submitted a pass rate improvement/strategy plan.
- On December 12, 2006, the Board notified Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program that their annual pass rate had fallen more than ten percentage points below the state annual average pass rate for the past five (5) quarters.
- On February 16, 2007, the program submitted a revised plan of Improvement.
- On March 21, 2007, the Board notified Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program that their annual pass rate had fallen more than ten percentage points below the state annual average pass rate for the past six (6) quarters.
- On April 11, 2007, the director submitted an update to the plan of improvement for pass rates.
- On May 31, 2007, the Board notified Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program that their annual pass rate had fallen more than ten percentage points below the state annual average pass rate for the past seven (7) quarters.
- On August 8, 2007, the Board notified Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program that their annual pass rate had fallen more than ten percentage points below the state annual average pass rate for the past eight (8) quarters. Therefore, the program would be considered for provisional accreditation at the February 2008 Board meeting.
- On December 3, 2007, the director submitted a report analyzing the improvement plan and summarizing what the director and faculty have observed to be successful.
- **On December 17, 2007, the Academic Dean of the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program requested Board approval of Sybil Damon for the position of director of the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program. Dr. Damon was reinstated as Director on December 17, 2007.**
- On February 1, 2008, the Board placed the program on provisional accreditation for the two-year period from February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2010, and issued a notice to the program identifying specific areas of non-compliance and requirements for corrections referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of

Regulations. **The program was placed on the agenda for the September 2009 Board meeting for reconsideration of the program's accreditation status.**

- On March 12, 2008, the Board issued the program a notice identifying areas of non-compliance and requirements for corrections. (See Attachment A)
- **On May 12, 2009, a new director was approved.**
- On June 3, 2009, the assigned consultant met with the campus director, new program director, and education specialist relative to the program's status.
- On June 24, 2009, the Board forwarded correspondence to the program advising that the Board would reconsider its accreditation status at the September 11, 2009 meeting. A comprehensive report was requested by July 17, 2009.
- On July 20, 2009, the Board received the program's comprehensive report.

Enrollment

The program offers a 52-week full-time and a 66-week part-time class and is approved to admit 96 students per class to replace graduating classes only provided no additional classes are added to the current pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. Currently, the program's pattern of admissions includes four full-time classes and four part-time classes per year. The pattern of admissions for current and projected classes is seen in the enrollment table below.

The following table represents **current and projected** student enrollment based on current and proposed class starts and completions. The table indicates a **maximum enrollment of 619 students** for the period from April 2008 through May 2010.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Completed			
4/08 (PT)		44	23	23
7/08 (FT)		63	48	23 + 48 = 71
10/08 (PT)		76	55	71 + 55 = 126
10/08 (FT)		92	72	126 + 72 = 198
11/08 (PT)		91	48	198 + 48 = 246
2/09 (FT)		96 + 8	85	246 + 85 = 331
3/09 (PT)		69	50	331 + 50 = 381
5/09 (FT)		96 + 7	89	381 + 89 = 470
	6/09 (11/08 PT Class)		- 48	470 - 48 = 422

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Completed			
	7/09 (7/08 FT Class)		- 48	422 - 48 = 374
8/09 FT (projected)		96		374 + 96 = 470
11/09 FT (projected)		96		470 + 96 = 566
	11/09 (10/08 FT Class)		- 72	566 - 72 = 494
12/09 PT (projected)		96		494 + 96 = 590
	12/09 (4/08 PT Class)		- 23	590 - 23 = 567
	2/10 (2/09 FT Class)		- 85	567 - 85 = 482
2/10 FT (projected)		96		482 + 96 = 578
	5/10 (10/08 PT Class)		- 55	578 - 55 = 523
5/10 PT (projected)		96		523 + 96 = 619

Licensing Examination Statistics

The following statistics, furnished by the 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 October 2005 through June 2009, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical (Vocational) Nurses (NCLEX-PN®).

NCLEX-PN [®] Licensure Examination Data						
Quarterly Statistics					Annual Statistics*	
Quarter	# Candidates	# Passed	% Passed	State Quarterly Pass Rate	Program Average Annual Pass Rate	State Average Annual Pass Rate
Oct - Dec 2005	85	51	60%	79%	63%	81%
Jan - Mar 2006	57	24	42%	80%	56%	79%
Apr - Jun 2006	96	55	57%	76%	54%	79%
Jul - Sept 2006	102	63	62%	79%	57%	79%
Oct - Dec 2006	109	71	65%	77%	59%	78%
Jan - Mar 2007	100	63	63%	77%	62%	77%
Apr - Jun 2007	85	46	54%	74%	61%	77%
Jul - Sept 2007	101	43	43%	76%	57%	76%
Oct - Dec 2007	162	84	52%	76%	53%	76%
Jan - Mar 2008	93	49	53%	75%	50%	75%
Apr - Jun 2008	97	58	60%	70%	52%	74%
Jul - Sept 2008	63	43	68%	74%	56%	74%
Oct - Dec 2008	139	77	55%	73%	58%	73%
Jan - Mar 2009	64	32	50%	70%	58%	72%
Apr - Jun 2009	73	53	73%	71%	60%	70%

*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.

Based on the most recent data available (April–June 2009), the program's average annual pass rate is 60%. The California average annual pass rate for graduates from accredited vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN[®] for the first time during the same period is 70%. The average annual pass rate for the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program is ten (10) percentage points **below** 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 38, including the program director. The director has 100% administrative duties. Of the total faculty, 33 are approved to teach in the clinical area.

Based on a maximum enrollment of 619 students, 42 instructors are needed. Therefore, the number of current faculty is **inadequate** for the current and projected enrollment.

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.”

The program has clinical facilities that are adequate as to type and variety of patients treated to enable current and proposed students to meet clinical objectives, in accordance with Section 2534(b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

Other Considerations

Examination statistics furnished by the 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,” substantiates that Summit Career Colton, Vocational Nursing Program has failed to achieve an annual average pass rate on the NCLEX-PN[®] that is within 10 percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for the period October 2005 through March 2009. As such, the program was in violation of section 2530(I) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations for 15 quarters.

On September 18, 2006, the Board notified the director that pass rates for the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program had fallen more than 10 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for four (4) quarters. The director was requested to complete an analysis of the program, identify factors negatively impacting student achievement, and develop a written plan for improving program pass rates.

On September 26, 2006, the Summit Career College, Colton Academic Dean notified the Board of a change in directors for the vocational nursing program.

On November 1, 2006, the director submitted a plan to improve program pass rates. The director advised that a committee had been formed to address the following issues.

1. Research a new entrance examination.
2. Revise the admissions process.
2. Develop and implement improved strategies to teach students test-taking.
3. Improve adherence to grading and attendance policies.
4. Identify and implement new teaching strategies including the development of power point presentations and increased utilization of audio visual aids.

On December 12, 2006, the Board notified the director that the pass rates for the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program had fallen more than ten

percentage points below the state average annual for the past five (5) quarters. Documentation was requested verifying that elements of the program's plan of correction had been implemented, the plan's effectiveness, and an update of any new strategies which had been implemented.

On February 16, 2007, the director submitted an update of the program's Plan of Improvement. The following interventions were detailed.

- a. On March 12, 2007, all lecture classes would be reduced in size to no more than 30 students per class.
- b. A Comprehensive Review for the NCLEX-PN® was distributed to all students.
- c. The number of students being admitted was reduced from 90 to 60 beginning with the March 2007 class start.

On March 21, 2007, the Board notified the director that the pass rates for the program had fallen more than 10 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for the last six (6) quarters.

On April 11, 2007, the director submitted an analysis of the program's correctional plan indicating elements that have been effective in improving student performance.

- a. Implementation of the Health Education Systems Inc., (HESI) diagnostic exam at the beginning of Term IV as a requirement for graduation.
- b. Mandatory tutoring for students who are in academic peril (requiring a minimum of two sessions or more).
- c. A change from the Wonderlic entrance exam to the Career Program Assessment Test (CPAT).

On May 31, 2007, the Board notified the director that the pass rates for the program had fallen more than 10 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for the last seven (7) quarters.

On August 8, 2007, the Board notified the director that the pass rates for the program had fallen more than 10 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for the last eight (8) quarters and that the program would be considered for provisional accreditation. The Board also requested a summary of what has been implemented in the plan of improvement to be submitted by December 1, 2007.

On December 3, 2007, the director submitted a report analyzing the improvement plan and summarizing observations of the director and faculty relative to successful interventions. The consultant recommended that the personalized Extended Learning Program (ELP) be made mandatory for students who are unsuccessful in passing any final exam and the exit exam. Previously, it was optional.

On February 1, 2008, the Board changed the program's status to provisional accreditation. **The program was placed on the agenda for the September 2009**

Board meeting for reconsideration of the program's accreditation status. On March 12, 2008, the Board issued the program a notice identifying areas of non-compliance and requirements for corrections. (See Attachment A)

On May 12, 2009, a new program director was approved.

On June 3, 2009, the assigned consultant met with the campus director, new program director, and education specialist relative to the status of the program and critical issues impacting student achievement. Given the number of students enrolled in the program, the consultant strongly recommended that an assistant director be hired to assist the program director. Additionally, the consultant recommended that the program director complete a comprehensive analysis of the program to include the following:

1. Admission Criteria.
2. Screening and Selection Criteria.
3. Terminal Objectives.
4. Curriculum Objectives.
5. Instructional Plan.
6. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
7. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
8. List of Textbooks.
9. Attendance Policy.
10. Remediation Policy.
11. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
12. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
13. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.

Program representatives were advised that the Board would reconsider the program's status at the September 2009 Board meeting.

On July 20, 2009, the Board received correspondence from the director advising that the following actions had been taken subsequent to the June 3, 2009 meeting.

1. Faculty

An assistant director was hired

2. Admission Criteria.

The program revised its admission criteria as follows.

- a. Individuals seeking admission are required to complete a 32-hour prerequisite course that includes:
 - 1) Anatomy & Physiology – 13 Hours;
 - 2) Basic Math – 12 Hours;

- 3) Medical Terminology – 5 Hours; and
- 4) Vocational Nursing Role and Professionalism – 2 Hours.

b. All applicants are required to complete the HESI entrance examination prior to admission.

3. Evaluation Methodology for Student Progress.

- a. The program revised its grading procedure. Students are awarded a grade in theory and a clinical grade. Clinical performance is graded on a pass/fail basis and is supported by a detailed evaluation.
- b. The program administers HESI specialty examinations at the end of Terms 1–3. The results are utilized by the faculty and students to identify those with deficits in theory and clinical performance. Based on the results, intensive remediation will be undertaken for each student.

4. Curriculum Analysis.

A comprehensive analysis of the curriculum is in progress.

5. LVN Learning Academy.

The school created a LVN Learning Academy. As described, the academy is staffed with a team of professionals who specialize in adult learning achievement. These professionals provide assistance to the program director in the analysis of the program and the development of relevant interventions.

To date, the program's average annual pass rates have risen ten (10) percentage points since the program's placement on provisional accreditation. Program performance statistics for April–June 2009 specify the program's average annual pass rate is 60%. As such, the average annual pass rate for the Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program is ten (10) percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for the current quarter.

Recommendations:

1. Extend provisional accreditation of Summit Career College, Colton, Vocational Nursing Program for the one-year period from September 17, 2009 through September 30, 2010, and issue a notice to the program to identify specific areas of non compliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of Regulations (see Attachment A Draft).
2. Require the program to show documented progress by submitting a follow-up report in 10 months. The report must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken to improve program pass rates, timeline for implementation,

and the effect of employed interventions. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis:

- a. Current Student Enrollment.
 - b. Admission Criteria.
 - c. Screening and Selection Criteria.
 - d. Terminal Objectives.
 - e. Curriculum Objectives.
 - f. Instructional Plan.
 - g. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
 - h. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
 - i. Textbooks.
 - j. Attendance Policy.
 - k. Remediation Policy.
 - l. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
 - m. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
 - n. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
 - o. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
3. Rescind ongoing admissions for full-time and part-time classes effective immediately. The program must obtain prior Board approval to admit future classes.
 4. Require the program to comply with all accreditation standards in article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code section 2880, and article 5 of the Board's regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 2525.

Rationale: The program has not demonstrated full compliance with Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations. To be fully accredited, the program must 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 accredited vocational nursing schools for the same period.

The program director has implemented significant interventions to address program deficiencies and the lack of student achievement. However, additional time is required to determine their effectiveness relative to improved pass rates. By September 2010, the Board will have four (4) additional quarters of data to assess the program's status.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rate quarterly, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing accreditation surveys every four years.