

Agenda Item #14.A.



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR
BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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DATE: February 1, 2010

TO: Board Members

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

SUBJECT: Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc., Vocational Nursing Program –
Reconsideration of Provisional Accreditation (Director: Belen Malayang,
Palmdale, Los Angeles, Private)

Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc., 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 (l) 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 program's accreditation status was reconsidered on October 7, 2009. The program director alleged major inconsistencies between program performance statistics as reported by Pearson Vue and data maintained by the program. The Board rendered the following decisions.

1. Deny Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc., Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time class of 30 students commencing January 11, 2010.
2. Deny the program's request to admit a part-time class of 30 students commencing January 22, 2010.
3. Extend the program's provisional accreditation to February 28, 2010, and bring the program back before the Board for review on February 18, 2010.
4. If Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc., Vocational Nursing Program fails to bring the average annual pass rate of its first-time graduates on the NCLEX-

PN[®] to no more than ten percentage points below the State annual average pass rate by February 28, 2010, then:

- a. Revoke the program's accreditation, effective February 28, 2010.
 - b. Remove the program from the *List of Accredited Vocational Nursing Schools*.
5. If Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc., Vocational Nursing Program brings the average annual pass rate of its first-time graduates on the NCLEX-PN[®] to no more than ten percentage points below the State annual average pass rate by February 28, 2010, restore full accreditation in accordance with the notification dated March 28, 2008.

The program was issued a notice relative to the change in its accreditation status. The notice identified areas of non – compliance and requirements for correction. (See Attachment A)

A comprehensive review of program performance statistics has been completed by the Board's Licensing Division and psychometric staff of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). Per NCSBN records, the pass rate of first – time candidates from Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc., Vocational Nursing Program for the period July – September 2009 was 60%. The program's year – to – date pass rate (January 1, 2009 – September 30, 2009) is 38.1%. (See Attachment B) This data is consistent with prior data provided to the Board.

Recommendations:

1. Revoke Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc., Vocational Nursing Program effective February 28, 2010.
2. Remove the program from the *List of Accredited Vocational Nursing Schools*.

Rationale: The recommended action is consistent with Board decisions rendered at the October 7, 2009.

The program has failed to demonstrate compliance with California Business and Professions Code, Division 2, Chapter 6.5, Article 4 and California Code of Regulations, Division 25, Chapter 1, Article 5 for the past 16 quarters.

If the program's accreditation is revoked, 30 students approved by the Board on May 22, 2009 and admitted in August 2009 will remain. Their status is reflected in the table below.

| Students Remaining After 1/31/10 | |
|---|------------------------|
| Start Date (#) | Completion Date |
| August 2009 Full-time (15) | July 2010 |
| August 2009 Part-time (15) | February 2011 |

If the Board adopts recommendation #1, the following options are available for these students.

- a. Students may apply for admission to other programs, requesting transfer credit for previously completed theory and clinical instruction.
- b. Students with prior paid work experience may apply for vocational nurse licensure based on equivalent education and experience.

Attachment A: Notice of Change in Accreditation Status Dated December 17, 2009
Attachment B: NCSBN Correspondence Dated December 14, 2009