

# Agenda Item #12.A.3

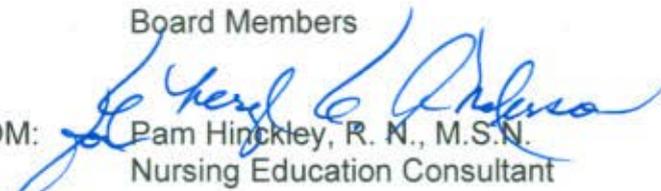


STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN, JR.  
**BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS**  
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DATE: August 17, 2012

TO: Board Members

FROM:  Pam Hinckley, R. N., M.S.N.  
Nursing Education Consultant

SUBJECT: Valley School of Allied Health, Vocational Nursing Program –  
Reconsideration of Provisional Approval; Request to Admit Students (Director:  
Norma Jones, Reseda, Los Angeles County, Private)

The Valley School of Allied Health is presented to the Board for reconsideration of its provisional approval<sup>1</sup>. On September 16, 2010, the Board placed the Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program on provisional accreditation for the two-year period from September 16, 2010, through September 30, 2012. The Board rescinded approval for the program's ongoing admissions and directed the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of additional students.

That action was taken due to the program's noncompliance with regulatory requirements relative to program pass rates. Reconsideration of the program's status was scheduled for September 6, 2012.

The following table shows the variance of the program's pass rates from state average annual pass rates of first time graduates of approved vocational nursing programs over the past sixteen (16) quarters. This data substantiates the program's compliance with Section 2530(l) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Pass Rates			
Quarter	State Annual Average Pass Rate	Program Annual Average Pass Rate	Variance from State Annual Average Pass Rate
Jul - Sep 2008	74%	56%	-18
Oct - Dec 2008	73%	45%	-28
Jan - Mar 2009	72%	50%	-22
Apr - Jun 2009	70%	43%	-27
Jul - Sep 2009	72%	50%	-22

<sup>1</sup> Prior to January 1, 2012, references in article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act and article 4 of the Psychiatric Technicians Law provided that the Board accredits all vocational nursing and psychiatric technicians programs. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 2883 and 4532 (Senate Bill 539, Chapter 338, Statutes of 2011), **accredit** was changed to **approve**. There was no change to the Board's authority or jurisdiction.

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Pass Rates			
Quarter	State Annual Average Pass Rate	Program Annual Average Pass Rate	Variance from State Annual Average Pass Rate
Oct – Dec 2009	73%	46%	-27
Jan – Mar 2010	74%	46%	-28
Apr – Jun 2010	75%	49%	-25
Jul - Sep 2010	75%	50%	-25
Oct – Dec 2010	76%	57%	-19
Jan – Mar 2011	77%	61%	-16
Apr – Jun 2011	76%	61%	-15
Jul - Sep 2011	75%	64%	-11
Oct – Dec 2011	75%	72%	-3
Jan – Mar 2012	74%	65%	-9
Apr – Jun 2012	74%	61%	-13

The Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program requests approval to admit a full-time class of 20 students on September 10, 2012, graduating October 20, 2013, to **replace** students who will graduate September 7, 2012.

### History of Prior Board Actions

- On November 2, 2006, the Executive Officer approved Valley School of Allied Health's request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial class of 15 students commencing November 27, 2006, only. The Board approved the program curriculum for 1,566 hours, including 605 theory and 961 clinical hours.
- In November 2006, the Executive Officer approved a postponement of the starting date for the first class from November 27, 2006 until January 8, 2007. The graduation date of this initial class will be February 1, 2008.
- On October 22, 2007, the Executive Officer approved full accreditation for Valley School of Allied Health, Vocational Nursing Program for the period October 22, 2007, through October 21, 2011, and issued a certificate accordingly.

The Executive Officer approved an additional full-time class of 20 students to start on November 12, 2007, with an expected graduation date of November 26, 2008. The Board also approved a full-time class of 20 students to start on February 25, 2008, with an expected graduation date of March 13, 2009.

The Executive Officer postponed action on the approval of additional full-time class requests for May 27, 2008; August 27, 2008; and December 8, 2008, pending demonstration of sufficient clinical facilities to afford the number, type, and variety of patients that will provide clinical experience consistent with competency-based objectives and the theory being taught; adequate numbers of instructors for the proposed increase in student enrollment; and demonstration of student success on the NCLEX-PN® licensure examination.

- On May 21, 2008, the Executive Officer approved the Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 20 students on May 27, 2008, only, with an anticipated graduation date of June 12, 2009.
- On August 13, 2008, the Executive Officer approved the Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 20 students on September 2, 2008, with an anticipated graduation date of October 2, 2009; **and** approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on December 8, 2008, with an anticipated graduation date of January 22, 2010.
- On October 8, 2008, the Executive Officer approved the program's request to admit a part-time class of 20 students on October 14, 2008, with an anticipated graduation date of July 13, 2010. The effect of approving this request will be a pattern of admissions consisting of four (4) full-time classes per year, to **replace** graduating classes, and one (1) part-time class every 18 months, to **replace** graduating classes.

The Valley School of Allied Health was approved for **ongoing** admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's current pattern of admissions without prior approval. The program's current pattern of admissions includes admission of three full-time classes of 30 students per year.
  - b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
- On August 19, 2009, the program was notified that its pass rates had fallen more than ten (10) percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for the past four (4) quarters. A written plan for improving the program's NCLEX-PN<sup>®</sup> was requested to be submitted by September 19, 2009.
  - On September 21, 2009, the Board received the program's written plan for improving program pass rates.
  - On December 29, 2009, the Board notified the director that the program's average annual pass rates had fallen more than ten (10) percentage points below state average annual pass rates for the past five (5) quarters.
  - On January 26, 2010, the Board notified the director that the program's average annual pass rates had fallen more than ten (10) percentage points below state average annual pass rate for the past six (6) quarters. The program was requested to submit documentation verifying implementation of the plan of correction submitted on September 21, 2009.
  - On February 10, 2010, the Board received the program's plan of correction to improve the program pass rates on the NCLEX-PN<sup>®</sup> licensure examination.
  - On May 20, 2010, the Board received requested program documentation.

- On August 5, 2010, the Board forwarded correspondence per certified and regular mail notifying the program that the program had been placed on the September 16, 2010 Board agenda for consideration of placement on provisional accreditation. The program was requested to complete and submit a current and projected enrollment form, list of current faculty, list of clinical facilities to which students are assigned, and effects of actions the program has taken to improve student pass rates by August 12, 2010.
- On August 12, 2010, the program submitted all requested documents related to the August 5, 2010 request.
- On September 16, 2010, the Board placed Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program on provisional accreditation for the two-year period from September 16, 2010, through September 30, 2012, and issued 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; **and** required the program to submit a follow-up report in 10 and 22 months but no later than July 1, 2011. 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. Admission Criteria.
  - b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
  - c. Terminal Objectives.
  - d. Curriculum Objectives.
  - e. Instructional Plan.
  - f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
  - g. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
  - h. Textbooks.
  - i. Attendance Policy.
  - j. Remediation Policy.
  - k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
  - l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
  - m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations
  - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
  - o. Current Enrollment Information.

The Board rescinded approval for the program's ongoing admissions. The program is required to admit no additional students unless approved by the Board. The program is required 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 2526. The Board placed the program on the September 2012 Board agenda for reconsideration of the program's provisional accreditation.

- On October 1, 2010, the Board forwarded to the program the Notice of Change in Accreditation Status, identifying violations and required corrections.
- On October 14, 2010, the Executive Officer approved Valley School of Allied Health's request to admit 20 students on October 18, 2010, and graduate November 24, 2011, only, to **replace** students scheduled to graduate October 15, 2010; and continued to require the program to request Board approval prior to the admission of additional classes.
- On December 21, 2010, the Executive Officer approved the program's request to admit 20 students on February 28, 2011, graduating May 7, 2012, to **replace** students graduating February 15, 2011 only; **and** denied the program's request to admit 20 students on May 9, 2011 and complete June 12, 2012, to **replace** students graduating May 7, 2011, at this time.
- On April 21, 2011, the Executive Officer approved Valley School of Allied Health's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on May 16, 2011, graduating June 12, 2012, only, to **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate May 13, 2011; and, require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On July 6, 2011, the Board received the program's comprehensive analysis.
- On August 19, 2011, the Executive Officer approved Valley School of Allied Health request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on August 22, 2011, graduating September 22, 2012, only, to **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate August 12, 2011; and, required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On November 21, 2011, the Executive Officer approved Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on November 28, 2011, graduating January 10, 2013, only, to **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate November 18, 2011; **and**, required the program to submit a written plan identifying a time table to perform evaluations of each instructor's theory and clinical presentations by December 22, 2011; **and**, required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On December 19, 2011, the program submitted the plan to evaluate instructor performance as required.
- On April 16, 2012, the Executive Officer approved Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on April 16, 2012, only, graduating May 15, 2013, to **replace** students who graduated March 9, 2011; and, approved the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On May 30, 2012, the Executive Officer approved Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on June 11, 2012 only, graduating July 20, 2013, to **replace** students who graduated June 8,

2012; **and**, continue the program's requirement to obtain approval by the Board prior to the admission of future classes.

- On July 24, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire Board members to consider by August 1, 2012.
- On August 1, 2012, the program director submitted eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider.

### Enrollment

The program offers a full-time class that is 54 weeks in length and a part-time class that is 90 weeks in length. Prior Board approval is required for the admission of all students. The pattern of admissions for current classes is seen in the enrollment table below.

The following table represents **current and proposed** student enrollment based on class starts and completions. The table indicates a **maximum enrollment of 61 students** for the period from **April 2010 through September 2012**.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Completed			
4/10		17	17	17
7/10		20	20	17 + 20 = 37
10/10		13	8	37 + 8 = 45
2/11		10	10	45 + 10 = 55
	5/11 (4/10 Class)		-17	55 - 17 = 38
5/11		9	10	38 + 10 = 48
	8/11 (7/10 Class)		-20	48 - 20 = 28
8/11		18	14	28 + 14 = 42
	11/11 (10/10 Class)		-8	42 - 8 = 34
11/11		14	16	34 + 16 = 50
4/12	5/13	10	11	50 + 11 = 61
	1/12 (11/11 Class)		-16	61 - 16 = 45
	6/12 (2/11 Class)		-10	45 - 10 = 35

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Completed			
	6/12 (5/11 Class)		-10	35 - 12 = 23
6/12	7/13	11		23 + 11 = 34
	9/12 (8/11 Class)		-14	36 - 14 = 22
9/12 (Proposed)	10/13	20		22 + 20 = 42

### 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 July 2008 through June 2012, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of Valley School of Allied Health 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
Jul – Sep 2008	5	2	40%	70%	56%	74%
Oct – Dec 2008	2	0	0%	73%	45%	73%
Jan – Mar 2009	7	4	57%	70%	50%	72%
Apr – Jun 2009	9	4	44%	71%	43%	70%
Jul – Sep 2009	16	9	56%	74%	50%	72%
Oct – Dec 2009	16	5	31%	76%	46%	73%
Jan – Mar 2010	14	7	50%	76%	46%	74%
Apr – Jun 2010	7	5	71%	74%	49%	75%
Jul-Sep 2010	13	8	62%	76%	50%	75%
Oct – Dec 2010	17	9	53%	77%	57%	76%
Jan-Mar 2011	12	8	67%	80%	61%	77%
Apr – Jun 2011	2	2	100%	71%	61%	76%
Jul – Sep 2011	11	8	73%	74%	64%	75%
Oct – Dec 2011	14	10	71%	74%	72%	75%
Jan – Mar 2012	19	10	53%	77%	65%	74%

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
Apr-Jun 2012	7	3	43%	72%	61%	74%

\*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 through June 2012), the program's average annual pass rate is 61%. The California average annual pass rate for graduates from accredited vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time is 74%. The average annual pass rate for Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program is **thirteen (13) 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 14, including the program director. The director has 100% administrative duties. Two (2) faculty members are adjunct faculty and two (2) are teacher assistants. Of the total faculty, ten (10) are approved to teach in the clinical area. For a maximum enrollment of 61 students, five (5) instructors are needed for clinical instruction. Therefore, the number of current faculty is adequate for the current and proposed 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. This information has been verified by the consultant.

## Other Considerations

On September 16, 2010, the Board placed the program on provisional approval for a two (2) year period from September 16, 2010, through September 30, 2012. **At that time, the program's average annual pass rate was 49%.** Further, the program's average annual pass rates had been more than ten (10) percentage points **below** state average annual pass rates for eight (8) consecutive quarters.

On October 1, 2010, the Board forwarded to the director the Notice of Change in Accreditation Status 2010 (see Attachment A). On October 10, 2010, the Board received the program's signed acknowledgement of Change in Accreditation Status. The document was signed on October 7, 2010.

On July 6, 2012, the Board received the program's comprehensive analysis. Included in that analysis were the following:

- Admission Criteria - Added English language proficiency as a requirement.
- Entrance Exam - Increased admission test requirement to 75%.
- Terminal Objectives – Remain the same.
- Curriculum Objectives, Term 4.
- NCLEX review course developed.

On July 18, 2012, the Board received the program's second comprehensive analysis. Included in the analysis were the following:

- Terminal Objectives – Added critical thinking and problem solving in the nursing care of the client.
- Maternity objectives were updated and have been implemented.
- A committee was formed to review the curriculum, lesson plans, tests, and ensure compliance with the NCLEX test plan. Additionally, this review will encompass an assessment of the community needs.
- Term 1 lesson plans are currently being reviewed and updated. A schedule was created with a time-line to complete the remaining terms. Anticipated review completion by the end of 2012.
- Faculty members are evaluated by the director twice a year. One faculty member terminated and student's attitudes have significantly improved.
- Students evaluate faculty every term.
- Remediation is strongly being enforced based when students' grades fall.

- Evaluation of clinical to ensure it is correlated to theory will be done once a year. To start in September 2012. Anticipated completion date November 2012.
- The current graduates are taking the new NCLEX review course that was developed in 2011.
- Director and administrators will be diligent in following up with graduates to ensure they take the licensure examination quickly after graduation.

Currently, the program's average annual pass rate is **61%** and the most recent quarter pass rate is **43%**. Since Quarter 1 of 2008, the program has had sixteen (16) quarters of licensure data recorded. Fourteen (14) of the sixteen (16) quarters have been more than ten (10) percentage points below the state average annual pass rate. The program was placed on Provisional Approval at the September 16, 2010, Board meeting for a two year period. Since that meeting the pass rates increased from 49% to 72% in quarter 4 of 2011. Subsequent to quarter 4 of 2011, the pass rates have fallen from 72% to 61%. This is 13 percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate.

On July 24, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire Board members to consider by August 1, 2012 (see Attachment B).

On August 1, 2012, the program director submitted eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider (see Attachment C). The elements of the plan are identified below:

- Revised the criteria for passing the NCLEX review course. "Any graduate not receiving a 55% on any test given that day of the scheduled review must come to school the next day....This will continue until a grade of 55% is achieved."

The review course is presented by World Link. World Link's minimum passing criteria is 60%.

- Any graduate who does not have an average of 60% at the end of the review course will continue to take the class until they receive 60%.
- Entrance Exam passing score was increased from 75% to 78%.
- Medical Terminology was formerly taught with Foundations of Nursing. Medical Terminology is now being taught with Anatomy and Physiology.
- Added a pre-requisite study skills course. The course will include:
  - How to read a textbook
  - How to study
  - Note taking

- Time management
- Basic math
- Test taking
- Listening/concentration
- Critical thinking and problem solving.

**Recommendations:**

1. Extend provisional approval of Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program for the two-year period from September 6, 2012 through September 30, 2014, 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 D).
2. Approve Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on September 10, 2012, only, graduating October 20, 2013, to **replace** students who will graduate September 7, 2012.
3. Require the program to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate for four (4) consecutive quarters.
4. Require the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violation. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's accreditation.
5. Require the program to show documented progress by submitting a follow-up report in nine (9) months, but no later than **June 1, 2013**, and 21 months, but no later than **June 1, 2014**. 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.

6. 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 2526.
7. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.
8. Continue the program's requirement to obtain approval by the Board prior to the admission of future classes.

**Rationale:** The program's average annual pass rate is **61%** and the most recent quarter pass rate is **40%**. The average annual pass rate represents a **decrease** of eleven (11) percentage points from Quarter 4 2011 and a decrease of four (4) percentage points from Quarter 1 2012.

The director verbalized that many changes have been implemented and she feels the most significant problem relates to students failing to take the licensure examination quickly upon completion of the program. Students, who recently graduated, attended a newly developed NCLEX review course. The director is optimistic that these graduates will do well on the licensure examination.

Extending the provisional approval for two (2) years will allow the director to continue to implement and evaluate the changes reported. Additionally, eight (8) more quarters of licensure data will be available to assess the effects of the reported changes and their impact on graduate's performance.

The program has demonstrated possession of sufficient resources for the proposed student population. 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.

Attachment A: Notice of Change in Approval Status, Dated October 1, 2010.

Attachment B: Board Correspondence, Dated July 24, 2012.

Attachment C: Program Correspondence and Documents, Dated July 27, 2012; Received August 1, 2012.

Attachment D: Draft Notice of Change in Approval Status.

# Agenda Item #12.A.3.Attachment A



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS  
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October 1, 2010

Norma J. Jones, M.P.H., R.N., Director  
Vocational Nursing Program  
Valley School of Allied Health  
18107 Sherman Way, Suite 101  
Reseda, CA 91335

**Subject: Notice of Change in Accreditation Status**

Dear Ms. Jones:

Pursuant to the action of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) on September 16, 2010, the status of the Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program has been changed from full accreditation to provisional accreditation for the two – year period from September 16, 2010, through September 30, 2012. Please sign and return the enclosed "Acknowledgement of Change in Accreditation Status" form by **Friday, October 15, 2010**.

## AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE [VIOLATION(S)]

In accordance with Section 2526.1(c) of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (Code),

"The Board may place any program on provisional accreditation when that program does not meet all requirements as set forth in this chapter and in Section 2526..."

Section 2530(l) of title 16 of the Code 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.

...

- (l) 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 pass rates of the Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program for the past eight (8) quarters are set forth in the following table.

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Quarter	State Annual Average Pass Rate	Program Annual Average Pass Rate
Jul - Sep 2008	74%	56%
Oct - Dec 2008	73%	45%
Jan - Mar 2009	72%	50%
Apr - Jun 2009	70%	43%
Jul - Sep 2009	72%	50%
Oct - Dec 2009	73%	46%
Jan - Mar 2010	74%	46%
Apr - Jun 2010	75%	49%

Based on this data, the program failed to meet the annual average pass rate requirement for eight (8) consecutive quarters.

**REQUIRED CORRECTION(S)**

1. The Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program must bring its licensure examination annual average pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State annual average pass rate for four (4) consecutive quarters.
2. The program must show documented progress by submitting follow-up reports in 10 and 22 months, but no later than **July 1, 2011, and July 1, 2012, respectively**. Each 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. Admission Criteria.
  - b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
  - c. Terminal Objectives.
  - d. Curriculum Objectives.
  - e. Instructional Plan.
  - f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
  - g. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
  - h. Textbooks.
  - i. Attendance Policy.
  - j. Remediation Policy.
  - k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
  - l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
  - m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
  - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
  - o. Current Enrollment Information.
3. The program shall comply with all accreditation standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code

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section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 2526.

4. The program's approval for ongoing admissions is rescinded, effective September 16, 2010.
5. The program shall not admit students unless approved by the Board.

Failure to take these corrective actions may cause the Board to revoke the program's accreditation. In the event additional violations of the accreditation standards are identified, such violations may result in further corrective action or revocation of provisional accreditation.

**FUTURE BOARD ACTION**

Your program will be placed on the **September 2012** Board Meeting agenda for reconsideration of your accreditation status. The nursing education consultant assigned to your program will ask you to submit documentation of the correction of your violation(s) by the fifteenth day of the second month prior to that Board meeting.

**OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please be advised that, pursuant to the Board's regulations, the program will not be authorized to admit new classes beyond the established pattern of admissions previously approved by the Board. The established pattern of admissions approved by the Board is as follows: **Prior Board approval is required to admit classes.**

In the event your program is required to submit any report(s) as a corrective action pursuant to this notice, such reports are required in addition to any other reports required pursuant to 2527 of the Board's regulations.

The program may no longer advertise that it has full accreditation, and should take steps to correct any ongoing advertisements or publications in that regard.

A copy of title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 2526.1, regarding provisional accreditation is attached for your reference. A complete copy of the Board's laws and regulations can be found on the Board's web site at [www.bvnpt.ca.gov](http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov).

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Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teresa Bello-Jones", written in a cursive style.

TERESA BELLO-JONES, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.  
Executive Officer

Enclosure

cc: Board Members

File



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR  
**BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS**  
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833-2945  
Phone (916) 263-7800 Fax (916) 263-7866 | Web www.bvnpt.ca.gov



**Acknowledgement of Change in Accreditation Status**

*edit*  
BVNPT Received  
on 10-11-10 with KR

I, NORMA J. JONES, director of VALLEY SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH,  
(Director's Name) Name of Program)

VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM, hereby acknowledge that this program's status was changed from full accreditation to provisional accreditation for the two – year period from September 16, 2010, through September 30, 2012. I understand that in accordance with Section 2526.1 (f) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations, the Board will consider any advertisement of full accreditation while on provisional accreditation as "material misrepresentation of fact". "Material misrepresentation of fact" may lead to revocation of the program's accreditation. Further, I understand the program's provisional accreditation status will be reflected on the Board's internet website.

Please complete and return this form to the Board by Friday, October 15, 2010.

*I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.*

*Norma J Jones RN MPH*  
(SIGNATURE, DIRECTOR)

10/7/2010  
(DATE)



# Agenda Item #12.A.3.Attachment B



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
**BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS**  
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833-2945  
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## **CERTIFIED MAIL**

July 24, 2012

Norma Jones  
Valley School of Allied Health  
Vocational Nursing Program  
18107 Sherman Way, suite 101  
Reseda, CA 91335

### **Re: Reconsideration of Provisional Approval; Request to Admit Students**

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Board is scheduled to consider **Valley School of Allied Health, Vocational Nursing Program's** relative to consideration of the program's Provisional Approval and request to admit students at its meeting scheduled September 6, 2012. That meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel LAX in Los Angeles, California.

To ensure dissemination and review by individual Board members and relevant staff for timely consideration prior to the February Board meeting, please submit the following written information by **Friday, August 3, 2012:**

- Eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents related to subsequent actions taken by the program to correct identified problems ***that you desire Board members to consider.*** Please remember existing statutes require that any document considered by the Board will become a public record. Accordingly, please redact all names of students.
- In addition, please provide information on a compact disc (CD) for Board use. Again, please remember to redact any student names prior to copying information onto the CD.

Although the primary purpose of this letter is to convey the Board's need for the copies, please be assured that, if timely submitted, any correspondence and attachments will be reviewed and, if appropriate, information submitted may be included in the report of the assigned consultant.

The Board strongly recommends that you plan to attend the meeting and be prepared to respond to questions from Board members relative to your program.

Please contact the Board at (916) 263-7843 should further clarification be needed.

Sincerely,

**PAM HINCKLEY, RN, MSN**

Nursing Education Consultant

Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians

2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205

Sacramento, CA 95833

(916) 263-7843 Phone

(916) 263-7866 Fax

[Pam\\_hinckley@dca.ca.gov](mailto:Pam_hinckley@dca.ca.gov)



## VALLEY SCHOOL of ALLIED HEALTH

*edu*  
BVNPT Received  
on 8-1-17 with KR

July 27, 2012

Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians  
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive – Suite 205  
Sacramento, CA 95833-2945

Dear Board Members,

The following is an update to the plan for Valley School of Allied Health, Reseda in relation to our “Provisional Accreditation.”

VSAH has taken the fact we are on Provisional Accreditation very seriously. We have increased our NCLEX scores since two years ago, but still have not met the Boards criteria continuously. The following is an updated plan:

1. New Criteria for Review Course for NCLEX
  - a. The review course remains the same as previously submitted.
  - b. Any graduate not receiving a 55% on any test given the day of the scheduled review must come to school the next day, from 8 am – 1 pm, review in their text the material tested on, practice test taking on the computer using the HESI examination, and then take another exam. This will continue until a grade of 55% is received.
  - c. Graduates will continue to attend the review also.
  - d. A graduate who does not have an average of 60% at the end of the review course will attend class Tuesday through Friday from 8am – 1 pm. They will continue the routine as presented in B above.
  - e. The graduate must have an overall average of 60% to apply for the NCLEX testing.
  - f. The Director of Nursing must be notified of scheduled date.
  - g. The Director / Administrator will set up a schedule to continue computer test taking questions until the day of taking the NCLEX.

With the above criteria VSAH has more control of graduates regarding the NCLEX. This should end the delays we have seen in taking the exam (some graduates cancel their appointments, and then reschedule. This is done several times). We know the longer time from graduation to the time of taking the exam has an influence on passing the exam.



# VALLEY SCHOOL of ALLIED HEALTH

## 2. Entrance Exam New Criteria

- a. The passing scores will be raised from 75% to 78%.
- b. The progress of the student will be compared at the end of Term 2 with the results from the entrance exam and also at graduation.
- c. This will aid us in evaluating the entrance exam and determining if the pass rate needs to be changed or use a different entrance exam.

## 3. Medical Terminology

In the past, we have been teaching medical terminology with Foundations and students and instructor have stated there is too much information to study and learn in the course. They also feel there is more relationship to Anatomy and Physiology.

Administration have reviewed their comments and researched the textbooks. It has been decided that with the next class, September 10th, Medical terminology will be implemented along with Anatomy and Physiology.

At the end of the term, we will analyze the results, take comments from instructor and students and make a final decision.

## 4. A Prerequisite of a Study Skills Course

VSAH has known for several years that most of our students are not academically prepared for the VN Program. During the year we are constantly working with them on test taking, note taking, time management, critical thinking and basically study skills. We will start the following:

- a. Two weeks before start of VN program VSAH will begin a study skills class course.
- b. The class will be scheduled Monday through Friday from 8 am to 1 pm.
- c. The class will begin in January 2013.
- d. The class will consist of:
  - How to read a textbook
  - How to study
  - Note taking
  - Time management
  - Basic math
  - Test taking
  - Listening / concentration
  - Critical thinking / problem solving



## VALLEY SCHOOL of ALLIED HEALTH

Although this is a very short time, it will give the students an idea of what is expected of them the day class starts. It will also give an idea of the weaknesses and strengths of each student.

The expectations of the administration and faculty are that the above changes will bring our passing scores on NCLEX above the BVNPT standards, be consistent and be in the 80% range.

Sincerely,

*Norma J. Jones m. PH RN*

Norma J. Jones, MPH, RN  
Director of Vocational Nursing

# Agenda Item # 12.A.3.Attachment D



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.

**BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS**

2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833-2945

Phone (916) 263-7800 Fax (916) 263-7859 Web [www.bvnpt.ca.gov](http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov)



September XX, 2012

Norma Jones  
Valley School of Allied Health  
Vocational Nursing Program  
18107 Sherman Way, Suite 101  
Reseda, CA 91335

***Subject: Notice of Change in Approval Status***

Dear Ms. Jones:

Pursuant to the action of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) on September 6, 2012, the provisional approval status of the Valley College of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program has been extended for the two – year period from September 6, 2012 through September 30, 2014.

The purpose of this letter is to explain the areas of non-compliance found and the corrections required of your program to avoid losing accreditation completely.

Once you have reviewed this letter, please sign and return the enclosed "Acknowledgement of Change in Accreditation Status" form by **Friday, September XX, 2012**.

**AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE VIOLATION(S)**

In accordance with Section 2526.1(c) of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations,

"The Board may place any program on provisional accreditation when that program does not meet all requirements as set forth in this chapter and in Section 2526..."

Section 2530(l) of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations 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..."

The program pass rates of the Valley College of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program for the past sixteen (16) quarters are set forth in the following table.

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Pass Rates			
Quarter	State Annual Average Pass Rate	Program Annual Average Pass Rate	Variance from State Annual Average Pass Rate
Jul - Sep 2008	74%	56%	-18
Oct - Dec 2008	73%	45%	-28
Jan - Mar 2009	72%	50%	-22
Apr - Jun 2009	70%	43%	-27
Jul - Sep 2009	72%	50%	-22
Oct - Dec 2009	73%	46%	-27
Jan - Mar 2010	74%	46%	-28
Apr - Jun 2010	75%	49%	-25
Jul - Sep 2010	75%	50%	-25
Oct - Dec 2010	76%	57%	-19
Jan - Mar 2011	77%	61%	-16
Apr - Jun 2011	76%	61%	-15
Jul - Sep 2011	74%	64%	-10
Oct - Dec 2011	75%	72%	-3
Jan - Mar 2012	74%	65%	-9
Apr - Jun 2012	74%	61%	-13

Based on this data, the program failed to meet the average annual pass rate requirement.

### REQUIRED CORRECTION(S)

1. Extend provisional approval of Valley School of Allied Health Vocational Nursing Program for the two-year period from **September 6, 2012 through September 30, 2014**, 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.
2. The program shall bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate for four (4) consecutive quarters.
3. The program shall show documented progress by submitting a follow-up report in nine (9) months, but no later than **June 1, 2013**, and 21 months, but no later than **June 1, 2014**. 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.
6. The program shall 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 2526.
  7. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.
  8. The program shall be required to obtain approval by the Board prior to the admission of future classes.
  9. In the event additional violations of the accreditation standards are identified, such violations may result in further corrective action or revocation of provisional accreditation.

#### **FUTURE BOARD ACTION**

Your program will be placed on the **September 2014** Board Meeting agenda for reconsideration of your approval status. If you have additional information that you wish considered beyond the required corrections listed on pages 2 and 3, you must submit this documentation by the fifteenth day of the second month prior to the Board meeting.

#### **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please be advised that, pursuant to the Board's regulations, the program will not be authorized to admit new classes beyond the established pattern of admissions previously approved by the Board. The established pattern of admissions approved by the Board is as follows: Prior Board approval is required to admit classes.

In the event your program is required to submit any report(s) as a corrective action pursuant to this notice, such reports are required in addition to any other reports required pursuant to 2527 of the Board's regulations.

The program may no longer advertise that it has full approval, and should take steps to correct any ongoing advertisements or publications in that regard.

A copy of title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 2526.1, regarding provisional accreditation is attached for your reference. A complete copy of the Board's laws and regulations can be found on the Board's web site at [www.bvnpt.ca.gov](http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov).

Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Board.

Sincerely,

**TERESA BELLO-JONES, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.**  
Executive Officer

Enclosure  
TBJ/ph  
cc: Board Members