

Agenda Item #13.B.5



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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DATE: February 6, 2013

TO: Board Members

Pam Henckley

FROM: *for* Suellen Clayworth, M.N., R.N.
Nursing Education Consultant, Retired Annuitant

SUBJECT: Oikos University Vocational Nursing Program - Consideration of Request to Admit Students and Consideration of Request for Major Curriculum Revision (Director: Ellen Cervellon, Oakland, Alameda County, Private)

On May 11, 2012, Oikos University Vocational Nursing Program was placed on Provisional Approval for the period from May 11, 2012, through May 31, 2014. The program was required to come to the full Board to request admission of additional students.

Provisional approval was imposed due to the program's noncompliance with regulatory requirements relative to program pass rates. Reconsideration of the program's status was scheduled for May 2014.

On September 17, 2012, the Board received electronic correspondence from the director requesting approval to admit 30 students into a full-time class commencing on March 11, 2013, and graduating on July 12, 2014, to **replace** the class graduating on January 26, 2013. The director also asked for approval of the program's major curriculum revision.

History of Prior Board Actions

(See Attachment A, History of Prior Board Action, August 13, 2008 – May 11, 2012)

Enrollment

The program offers a full – time course of instruction over 47 weeks. Board approval is required prior to the admission of all classes.

The following table represents current and projected enrollment based on the current class starts and completions. The table indicates a **maximum enrollment of 30 students** for the period of **February 2012 to March 2013**.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Complete			
2/6/12		10	8	8
	1/26/13 (2/6/12 Class)		-8	8 - 8 = 0
3/11/13		30 (proposed)		0 + 30 = 30

Licensing Examination Statistics

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 October 2010 through December 2012, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of Oikos University 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 Average Quarterly Pass Rate	Program Average Annual Pass Rate	State Average Annual Pass Rate
Oct-Dec 2010	11	7	64%	77%	58%	76%
Jan-Mar 2011	4	1	25%	80%	52%	77%
Apr-Jun 2011	7	3	43%	71%	52%	76%
Jul-Sep 2011	2	0	0%	74%	46%	76%
Oct-Dec 2011	4	3	75%	74%	41%	75%
Jan-Mar 2012	2	1	50%	77%	47%	74%
Apr-Jun 2012	1	0	0%	72%	44%	74%
Jul-Sep 2012	3	2	67%	74%	60%	74%
Oct-Dec 2012	5	3	60%	70%	55%	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 recent data available (October - December 2012) the program's average annual pass rate is **55%**. The California average annual pass rate for graduates of approved vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time during the same period is 74%. The pass rate for the Oikos University Vocational Nursing Program is **19** 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 program's number of approved faculty totals 15, including the program director. The director has 75% administrative and 25% teaching responsibilities. Fifteen (15) instructors are approved to teach in the clinical area.

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."

Based on a maximum enrollment of 30 students, two (2) instructors are needed. Therefore, the number of current faculty is adequate for the current enrollment.

Curriculum Revision

The proposed curriculum revision changes the program offering from three terms to four, dividing medical-surgical nursing between Terms II and III. Each term is 15 weeks long, thus increasing the program length from 47 weeks to 60 weeks. There will be two-week breaks between terms. The proposed curriculum will adhere to the university's academic calendar allowing students to obtain an Associate Degree in Nursing if they desire.

The director states that the proposed curriculum integrates nursing concepts throughout the program in order to help students master those concepts and integrate them into practice.

The proposed hours for the new curriculum are as follows:

CONTENT	THEORY HOURS	CLINICAL HOURS
Anatomy & Physiology	72	
Nutrition	11	
Psychology	23	
Normal Growth & Development	20	
Nursing Fundamentals	74.5	240
Nursing Process	8	
Communication	8	
with pts with psychological disorders	2	
Patient Education	11.5	
Pharmacology	108	
Medical/Surgical Nursing	148.5	480
Communicable Disease	16	
Gerontological Nursing	5	
Rehabilitation Nursing	7	
Maternity Nursing	28	56
Pediatric Nursing	24.5	49
Leadership	5	135
Supervision	10	
Ethics & Unethical Conduct	3	
Critical Thinking	2	
Culturally Congruent Care	10	
End-of-Life Care	8	
Total Hours	605	960

Total Theory Hours: 605

Total Clinical Hours: 960

Total Program Hours: 1565

Other Considerations

On May 11, 2012, the Board placed the program on provisional approval for the two-year period from May 11, 2012, through May 31, 2014. At that time, the program's average annual pass rate was 47%, 27 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate.

For the most recent reporting period, October - December 2012, the program's quarterly pass rate is 60%; its average annual pass rate is 55%. As such, the program's average annual pass rate is 19 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate indicating incremental improvement in the program's pass rate.

The curriculum revision discussed above is a major part of the program's plan for improvement of the licensure examination pass rates. This curriculum, if approved, will be implemented with the next class start.

Recommendations:

1. Approve the Oikos University Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 30 students into a full-time class commencing on March 11, 2013, **only**, and graduating on July 12, 2014, to **replace** the class graduating on January 26, 2013.
2. Continue to require the program to request admission of any additional students.
3. Approve the requested curriculum revision with the new program hours as follows: Theory Hours = 605; Clinical Hours = 960; and Total Program Hours = 1565.
4. Approve the revised program length as 60 weeks.

Rationale: As noted previously, the Board placed the program on provisional approval for the two year period from May 11, 2012, through May 31, 2014 due to noncompliance with regulatory requirements relative to program pass rates. At that time, the program's average annual pass rate was 47%.

It is important to note that although the program's average annual pass rate has improved since placement on provisional approval, it is still significantly below the state average annual pass rate. The proposed curriculum is designed to assist students in mastering program content with the goal of increasing the program's licensure examination pass rate. The revision meets the Board's curriculum requirements and warrants approval.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient resources, including faculty and facilities, to support the current and proposed enrollment. Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the program's follow-up reports, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

Attachment A: History of Prior Board Actions

Attachment B: Request for copies of pertinent documents for Board members, dated December 19, 2012.

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Agenda Item #13.B.5, Attachment A

History of Prior Board Actions

- On August 13, 2008, the Executive Officer approved Oikos University's request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial full-time class of 30 students on January 20, 2009, only.

The program curriculum was approved for 1611 hours, including 657 theory, and 954 clinical hours.

- On September 28 – 29, 2009, the assigned consultant completed an inspection of the Oikos University Vocational Nursing Program. Four (4) violations were identified.
- December 2, 2009, the Executive Officer approved initial full accreditation for the Oikos University Vocational Nursing Program for the period of December 2, 2009 through December 1, 2013, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and**, approved the program's request to admit a class of 30 students on February 1, 2010, only, to **replace** students graduating on January 30, 2010. That class is expected to graduate on January 29, 2011; **and**, approved the program's request to admit a class of 30 students on June 5, 2010, only. That class is expected to graduate on June 29, 2011.
- **On February 28, 2010, the director resigned.**
- **On June 1, 2010, the Board approved a new director.**
- On May 17, 2011, Board correspondence was forwarded to the director advising that the program's average annual pass rates had been more than ten (10) percentage points below state average annual pass rates for four (4) consecutive quarters. The program was requested to submit a written plan for improving the program's NCLEX-PN pass rates.
- On May 30, 2011, the director submitted a plan for improving program pass rates.
- **On August 22, 2011, the Board approved a new director.**
- On October 14, 2011, Board correspondence was forwarded to the director advising that the program's average annual pass rates had been more than ten (10) percentage points below state average annual pass rates for five (5) consecutive quarters. The program was requested to submit an updated evaluation of the program's plan to increase licensure pass rates.

- On November 1, 2011, the director submitted an updated evaluation of the program's plan to increase licensure pass rates.
- On March 15, 2012, Board correspondence was forwarded to the director advising that the program was out of compliance with Section 2530 (l) related to pass rates below the required 10 points of the state average pass rate.
- On May 11, 2012, the Board approved the following recommendations:
 1. Place Oikos University Vocational Nursing Program on provisional approval for the two-year period from May 11, 2012, through May 31, 2014, and issue a notice to the program to identify specific areas of noncompliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of Regulations.
 2. 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 by **April 1, 2014**.
 3. Require the program to provide the Board with current enrollment information, current faculty and facility information, documentation demonstrating the clinical rotation schedules for all current classes and an analysis of the program's correctional plan submitted on May 30, 2011 and November 1, 2011 by **June 1, 2012**.
 4. Require the program to obtain approval by the full Board approval prior to the admission of any additional students.
 5. Require the program to submit follow-up reports in nine months, but no later than **February 1, 2013**, and 21 months, but no later than **February 1, 2014**. The reports 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.

- I. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
 - m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
 - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
 - o. Current Enrollment.
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. 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 approval.
 8. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.
 9. Place the program on the **May 2014** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

Agenda Item #13.B.5, Attachment B



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December 19, 2012

Ellen Cervellon
Director, Vocational Nursing Program
Oikos University School of Nursing
7850 Edgewater Drive
Oakland, CA 94621

Subject: Request to Admit Students and Consideration of Request for Major Curriculum Revision

Dear Ms. Cervellon:

On February 22, 2013, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) is scheduled to consider the following items relative to the ***Oikos University School of Nursing Vocational Nursing Program***.

- Request to Admit Students and Consideration of Request for Major Curriculum Revision

To ensure dissemination to individual Board members and relevant staff for timely consideration at the February 22, 2013 Board Meeting, please submit:

- Eighteen (18) copies of any pertinent documents 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 any information that you submit for the Board members on a compact disc (CD) for Board use. Again, please remember to redact any student names prior to copying information onto the CD.

To ensure dissemination and review by Board Members prior to the meeting, the deadline for submission of the requested documents and the CD is **Friday, January 11, 2013.**

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.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Board at (916) 263-7843 should you have questions.

Sincerely,

Suellen Clayworth

SUELLEN CLAYWORTH, M.S., R.N.
Nursing Education Consultant – Retired Annuitant

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: [Illegible text]

DATE: [Illegible]

[Illegible text]

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