



BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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DATE: August 1, 2015

TO: Board Members

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

SUBJECT: Education Division Report

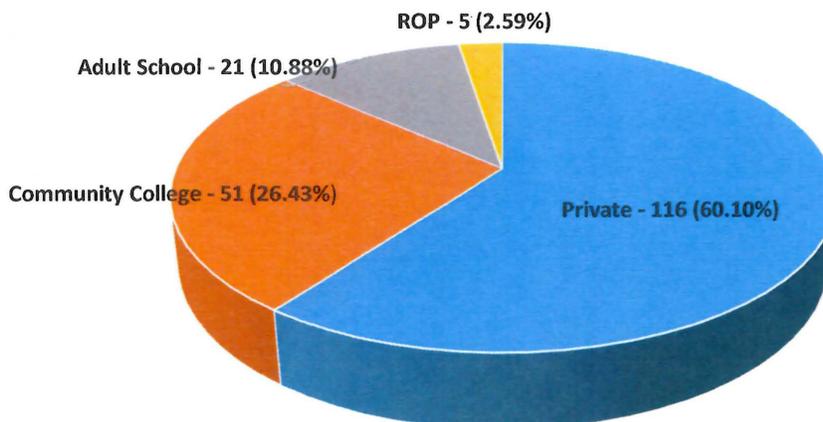
A. Division Update.

1. Program Statistics.

	VN Program	PT Program	Totals
# Approved Programs	145	14	159
# Provisionally Approved Programs	22	1	23
# Pre - Approved Programs	9	1	10
Sub Total Programs:	176	16	192
# Proposed Programs	21	3	24
TOTAL PROGRAMS (Approved, Preapproved, Proposed)	197	19	216

Currently, a total of 193 programs are approved to offer educational programs leading to vocational nurse (VN) and psychiatric technician (PT) licensure. Of the total programs, 60.10% are proprietary programs; 26.43% are community college based programs; 10.88% are based in adult schools; and 2.59% are based in regional occupational centers.

VN AND PT PROGRAM CLASSIFICATION

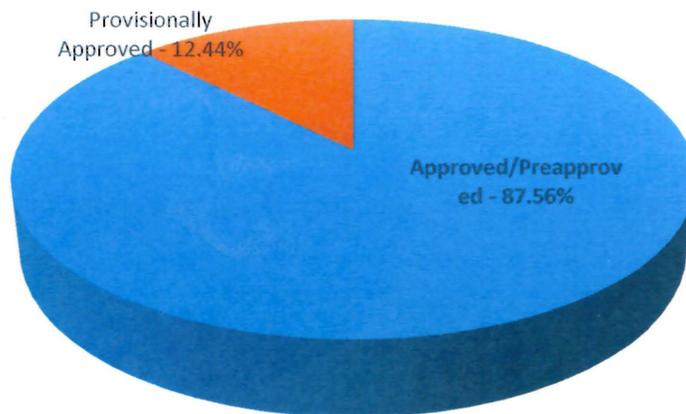


Pursuant to the Education Code, proprietary programs are required to hold approval issued by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE) in addition to approval by the Board. As reported at the May 2015 Board meeting, of the total Board – approved proprietary programs, BPPE confirmed that 95.69% hold current BPPE approval; 4.31% do not hold current BPPE approval. The BPPE has confirmed receipt of applications requesting approval from three (3) of the five non – BPPE approved programs.

Analysis of information provided by BPPE and existing Board – approved VN and PT programs confirmed that seven (7) proprietary programs were operating with an expired BPPE approval. On June 12, 2015, correspondence was sent to twelve (12) programs operating proprietary VN and PT programs that lacked current approval by BPPE. Those programs were requested to submit documentation substantiating current BPPE approval by July 17, 2015. The Board has received documentation substantiating current BPPE approval from four (4) programs (33.33%); eight (8) programs (67%) have failed to comply. Investigation and action for those noncompliant programs is in progress.

Of the total Board – approved programs, 91.71% are VN programs; 8.29% are PT. Of the total VN and PT programs, 87.56% are approved or preapproved programs; 12.44% are provisionally approved programs.

Approved/PreApproved Programs vs Provisionally Approved Programs



To date, 95.83% of the total provisionally approved programs are VN programs and 4.17% are PT programs.

a. Approved/Preapproved VN Programs.

Of the total VN programs, 167 (94.89) are approved/provisionally - approved by the Board. The remaining 9 (5.11%) are preapproved programs.

Based on published examination statistics for Quarter 2 - 2015, the **quarter** pass rate for first – time candidates from approved VN programs is **70.91%**; the **average annual** pass rate is **73.83%**.

b. Provisionally Approved VN Programs.

Effective August 3, 2015, the number of VN programs on provisional approval totals 22. Of the total provisionally approved programs, **16 (69.57%)** have had on – site inspections. Based on published examination statistics for Quarter 2 - 2015, the **quarter** pass rate for provisionally approved VN programs is **64.91%**; the **average annual** pass rate is **58.60%**.

c. Approved/Preapproved PT Programs.

Of the total PT programs, 15 (93.75%) are approved/provisionally – approved programs. The remaining program (6.25%) is preapproved.

Based on published examination statistics for Quarter 2 - 2015, the **quarter** pass rate for approved PT programs is **74.74%**; the **average annual** pass rate is **77.88%**.

d. Approved/Preapproved Program Pass Rate Statistical Comparison.

▪ **VN Programs.**

Overall, the **quarter** pass rate for all first – time candidates from **California VN** programs who completed the NCLEX/PN® during Quarter 2 - 2015 was **69.36%**. The **average annual** pass rate for first – time **VN** program candidates during Quarter 2 - 2015 was **71.65%**.

By comparison, the **National** pass rate for first – time VN program candidates who completed the NCLEX/PN® during Quarter 2 - 2015 was **79.69%**. The **average annual** pass rate for first – time VN program graduates during Quarter 2 – 2015 was **81.28%**.

▪ **PT Programs.**

Overall, the **quarter** pass rate for all first – time candidates from **California PT** programs who completed the California Psychiatric Technician Licensure Examination during Quarter 2 - 2015 was **63.93%**. The **average annual** pass rate for first – time **PT** program candidates during Quarter 2 - 2015 was **78.02%**.

The Education Division continues to provide assistance to all programs for whom deficiencies have been identified. Prior to placement on provisional approval, the goal is identification of problems negatively impacting student achievement and the development and implementation of effective strategies for resolution of identified problems.

After placement on provisional approval, the Education Division prepares and mails the official notice advising the program director of specific areas of noncompliance and requirements for correction, as specified by the Board. Additionally, consultants continue to provide assistance in identifying program elements that negatively impact student comprehension. Strategies are recommended to maximize student achievement.

e. **Program Complaints.**

From June 1, 2015 through July 31, 2015, the Education Division has received complaints from faculty and students alleging misconduct by eighteen (18) programs. Irrespective of origin, each complaint is thoroughly analyzed and investigated by a NEC relative to regulatory authority and compliance, adequacy for the enrolled and projected student populations, and other factors based on the allegation. Upon completion, the NEC forwards a response to the complainant and informs the program of the complaint and requests a response.

On July 13, 2015, the Board received information confirming the sudden closure of Four – D College, Colton and Victorville campuses. In addition to other programs, both schools offered vocational nursing programs. Per Board records, the **Four - D College, Victorville, VN Program** was approved to admit four (4) full – time classes (45 students/class) and three (3) part – time classes (30 students/class). The **Four - D College, Colton, VN Program** was approved to admit four (4) full – time classes (60 students per class) and three (3) part – time classes (45 students/class). **Total Maximum VN Enrollment [Victorville and Colton Campuses]: 645**

The Board and BPPE have responded to numerous telephonic and email complaints regarding these programs. To ensure maximum dissemination of information, the Board placed an alert on the website (see attached). Additionally, the Board prepared information disseminated during informational meetings conducted by BPPE.

f. **Program Requests.**

From June 1, 2015, to date, the Education Division processed **38** major requests from VN and PT programs. Those requests include, but are not limited to, program approvals, major curriculum revisions, approval to admit students, approval to alter class size, and other critical program elements. Each request was analyzed to ensure compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and established professional standards.

From June 1, 2015, through July 31, 2015, the Education Division processed **386** requests for approval of new faculty and **248** requests for approval of new clinical facilities for existing and proposed VN and PT programs. Each request was evaluated relative to regulatory compliance, consistency with the Board – approved curriculum, and adequacy for the enrolled and projected student populations.

g. Program Inspections.

Since February 1, 2015, the Education Division completed an inspection of **29** programs (On – Site Inspections – 2; Program Record Surveys – 27). Of the total on – site inspections, 1 program was inspected prior to completion of the initial class; one program was inspected as a result of deficiencies and submitted complaints. The purpose of inspections per Program Record Surveys is to determine the program’s compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and required corrections specified by the Board. Such inspections serve to identify existing and potential program deficiencies, elements negatively impacting student achievement, and strategies for correction.

h. Program Annual Report.

On June 25, 2015, the Education Division disseminated correspondence to all approved, provisionally approved, and pre – approved VN and PT programs requesting completion of the 2015 Annual Report. The deadline for submission of completed reports is September 25, 2015.

i. Meetings.

To facilitate resolution of critical programmatic issues, the Education Division continues to hold meetings onsite in addition to teleconference, thus maximizing our responsiveness to program issues and concerns. Since June 1, 2015, the Education Division has conducted meetings and teleconferences with representatives of **106** existing programs. Of the total meetings, 106 were conducted via teleconference.

Additionally, the Education Division continues to meet and consult with representatives of DCA’s Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) relative to VN and PT programs that are also under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

j. Correspondence.

Since June 1, 2015, the Education Division has responded to **3,336** inquiries per email, fax, U.S. Postal Service and FedEx received from programs, licensees, and consumers. Of those, 1,771 required a response. **Written responses** totalled **927**; **telephone responses** totalled **844**.

➤ **Proposed Programs.**

On February 28, 2014, the Board authorized a moratorium on the analysis of new proposals until February 28, 2015. Additionally, the Board authorized staff to send follow – up letters to those non – responsive proposed programs advising that the Board would remove them from the queue effective April 18, 2014. At that time, 146 requests for commencement of new vocational nursing and psychiatric



Attention Four-D College Vocational Nursing Students

The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) has received information relative to the sudden closure of Four – D College, Colton and Four – D College, Victorville. In addition to other programs, both schools offered vocational nursing programs.

The following options are available to vocational nursing students enrolled at the time of program closure.

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

To assist students, the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education has scheduled informational meetings in Apple Valley and Riverside at the following locations on **Friday, July 17, 2015.**

➤ **Apple Valley Location**

James Woody Community Center Auditorium
13467 Navajo Road
Apple Valley, CA 92307

Time: 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

➤ **Riverside Location**

3737 Main Street
Arlington Room
Riverside, CA 92501

Time: 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

These meetings will present options for you, including:

- 1) Applications for the Student Tuition Recovery Fund.
- 2) Information regarding federal student loan discharge.
- 3) Information on how to obtain financial aid documents, transcripts, and additional school records.

Additionally, a list of Board – approved vocational nursing programs that are within a 100 mile radius of the Four-D sites will be provided. In selecting a new program, you are advised to consider the distance of the program from your base or home location, the program's pass rates, and other variables specific to your needs. Program pass rate data is available at http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov/education/vn_stats.shtml.

Please contact the Board to let us know of your concerns or questions. You can reach the Board's Education Division by email at bvnpt@dca.ca.gov and listing Four-D Concern in the title of your email. You may also call the Education Division at (916) 263-7843. If you call, please slowly and clearly state your name, phone number, address, and that you are calling about the closure of Four – D College.