

Agenda Item #7.B.



BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND HOUSING AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR

BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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DATE: August 4, 2015

TO: Board Members

FROM: John Brooks
Acting Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Acting Executive Officer's Report on Decisions for Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technician Programs

The following is a summary of the Acting Executive Officer's (AEO) decisions for Vocational Nursing (VN) and Psychiatric Technician (PT) programs.

Effective June 9, 2015

1. **Butte Community College VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Susan Craig - Butte, Butte County, Community College)**

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' visits or inspections shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

A Program Records Survey was completed by the Butte Community College VN Program on April 15, 2015. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. No violations were identified.

The AEO continued approval of the Butte Community College VN Program for the period from June 5, 2015, through June 4, 2019, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of the program's pattern of ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions will include admission of one (1) class of 30 full-time students two (2) times per year, only; **and**
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students; **and**

- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (l) of the Code.

Rationale: The program's average annual licensure pass rate is currently 89%. This is **18** percentage points **above** the state average annual licensure pass rate.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient resources to support the number of students in its current pattern of admissions. Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rates quarterly.

2. **Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Fresno, VN Program – Consideration of Request to Increase Enrollment (Director: Larisa Revzina, Modesto, San Joaquin County, Private)**

The Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Fresno, VN Program is requesting approval to admit 50 day students on July 6, 2015, graduating July 29, 2016, to **replace** the day students that are scheduled to graduate on July 31, 2014.

Additionally the program is requesting approval to admit 50 evening students on July 7, 2014, graduating July 31, 2014, to **replace** the evening class that is scheduled to graduate on July 18, 2014.

Note: There is a **three (3) week overlap** of the new class before the outgoing class graduates. The outgoing students are in NCLEX review during this time period.

The AEO denied the Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Fresno, VN Program request to admit 50 day students on July 6, 2015; graduating July 29, 2016. This class would **replace** the day students that are scheduled to graduate on July 31, 2015. The AEO approved the program's admission of 40 day students on July 6, 2015, **only**; graduating July 29, 2016, to **replace** the day students that are scheduled to graduate on July 31, 2015.

Additionally, the AEO approved the program for ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating students with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's approved pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions includes four (4) classes, two (2) day classes of 40 students and two (2) evening classes of 40 students, admitting in January and July per year; and,
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students; and,
- c. The program's average annual pass rates remain compliant with regulatory requirements.

Rationale: The program's average annual licensure pass rates have been within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for the most last 12 consecutive quarters. The program's current quarter pass rate is 71% and the average annual pass rate is 82%. Decreasing the number of students requested to 40 will allow the program time to initiate an increase in number of students while focusing on the additional work load of the increased student enrollment and the impact on the teachers and resources while maintaining the program's licensure pass rates. Since the quarter licensure pass rate is 71%, it is advised to wait and see what the impact of the additional ten (10) students does to the licensure pass rates before allowing more students per class.

3. Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Modesto, VN Program – Consideration of Request to Increase Enrollment (Director: Larisa Revzina, Modesto, San Joaquin County, Private)

The Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Modesto, VN Program is requesting approval to admit 50 day students on July 6, 2015, graduating July 29, 2016, to **replace** the day students that are scheduled to graduate on July 31, 2014.

Additionally the program is requesting approval to admit 50 evening students on July 7, 2014, graduating July 31, 2014, to **replace** the evening class that is scheduled to graduate on July 18, 2014.

Note: There is a **three (3) week overlap** of the new class before the outgoing class graduates. The outgoing students are in NCLEX review during this time period.

The AEO denied the Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Modesto, VN Program's request to admit 50 **day** students on July 6, 2015, graduating July 29, 2016, to **replace** the day students that are scheduled to graduate on July 31, 2014; **and** approved the program's admission of 40 **day** students on July 6, 2015, graduating July 29, 2016, only, to **replace** the day students that are scheduled to graduate on July 31, 2014. Additionally, the EO denied the program's request to admit 50 **evening** students on July 7, 2014, graduating July 31, 2014, to **replace** the evening class that is scheduled to graduate on July 18, 2014; **and** approved the program to admit 40 **evening** students on July 7, 2014, graduating July 31, 2014, only, to **replace** the evening class that is scheduled to graduate on July 18, 2014; **and** continued approval of the program's current pattern of ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating students with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's approved pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions includes four (4) classes, two (2) day classes of 36 students and two (2) evening classes of 36 students, admitting in January and July per year; and,
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students; and,

- c. The program's average annual pass rates remain compliant with regulatory requirements.

Rationale: Since January 2011, (17 consecutive quarters) the program's licensure pass rates have been within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate. The program's current average annual pass rate is 78%. The current quarter licensure pass rate is **54%**.

Based on this data, denial of the request to increase the program's enrollment ongoing is recommended; however, approval of a one (1) time only class of 40 students to be admitted on July 6, 2015 is recommended. The program director would be advised to investigate the cause(s) of the recent quarter drop in licensure pass rates and identify and implement a plan to correct the problem(s).

4. **Porterville College PT Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval** (Director: Kim Behrens, Tulare County – Community College)

In accordance with Section 4532 of the PT Rules and Regulations, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or review all psychiatric technician schools in California. Written reports of the representatives' visits or inspections shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the PT Rules and Regulations.

On March 27, 2015, the Board received a completed Program Records Survey requesting continued approval of the Porterville College PT Program. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the PT Rules and Regulations. No violations were identified.

The AEO continued approval of the Porterville College PT Program for the period June 20, 2015 through June 19, 2019, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of the program's ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions will include admission of one (1) class of 45 students two (2) times per year, only, in the fall and spring.
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (l) of the Code.

Rationale: The program's current average annual pass rate is **62%**. This is 17 percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate. The program's prior four (4) quarters have been within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient resources to support the number of students in its current pattern of admissions. Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rates quarterly.

Effective June 19, 2015

5. Atascadero State Hospital/Cuesta College PT Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Karen Boriac, Atascadero, San Luis Obispo County, Hospital Based)

In accordance with Section 4532 of the PT Law, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect all psychiatric technician schools in California. Written reports of the representative's visits shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the PT Rules and Regulations.

A Program Records Survey was completed by the Atascadero State Hospital/Cuesta College PT Program in March 27, 2015. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the PT Rules and Regulations. No violations were noted.

The AEO continued approval of the Atascadero State Hospital/Cuesta College PT Program for a four-year period from June 19, 2015 to June 18, 2019, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of the program's 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 Board approval. The program's current pattern of admissions includes admission 30 students three (3) times each year; **and**,
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
- c. The program's average annual pass rates remain no more than ten (10) percentage points below the state average annual pass rate.

Rationale: The program has demonstrated compliance with Article 5 of the Psychiatric Technician Rules and Regulations.

Currently, the program's average annual pass rate is 91%. This is twelve (12) percentage points **above** the state average annual pass rate.

Board staff will continue to closely monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, attrition rates, the program's licensure examination pass rates quarterly, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing approval surveys every four (4) years.

6. **Blake Austin College, Vacaville, VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Jennifer Cannon, Vacaville, Solano County, Private)**

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or review all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' inspections shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

On July 18, 2014, the Board received correspondence from Blake Austin College VN Program regarding continued program approval. A Program Records Survey was attached. In addition, curriculum revisions were mentioned. However, as noted by the program, formatting of the documents was still in progress. A subsequent submission by the program in September 2014 indicated the curriculum revision was still in progress. In addition, complete evaluation by Board staff was delayed. The program subsequently determined to resubmit documents related to the Program Record Survey and to pursue curricular revisions after program approval. Final documents related to this current survey of the program were received on April 29, 2015. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. A violation related to the absence of clinical rotations in the care of sick children was identified.

The AEO required the program to submit verifiable plans for clinical placements for Pediatric Nursing for the 23 students who began the program August 2014 and are scheduled to graduate August 2015, no later than **July 15, 2015**; and required the program to submit verifiable plans, in accordance with the Board-approved Instructional Plan, for clinical placements for Pediatric Nursing for 31 students scheduled to graduate December 2015 and for 30 students scheduled to graduate April 2016, no later than **September 1, 2015**. Contingent on compliance with recommendations #1, 2, the AEO continued approval for the Blake Austin College VN Program for the period September 16, 2014 through September 15, 2018, and direct staff to issue a certificate accordingly; and rescinded the program's ongoing admissions, effective immediately; and required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of students.

Rationale: The Blake Austin College VN Program has been compliant with regulations related to program pass rates for the past four (4) years. The current average annual pass rate is **83%**. The program's pass rate is 12 percentage points **above** the state average annual pass rate.

The recent Program Record Survey identified one violation related to inadequate clinical facilities for Pediatric Nursing, specifically the care of sick children. As the program works to identify adequate clinical facilities, the submitted placement plans for students expected to graduate in August 2015 are not consistent with the Board-approved Instructional Plan and include a clinical facility that will not be available to the program in the future.

As such, the recommendation is to continue approval of the program but require the program to document adequacy of resources, specifically faculty and clinical facilities, prior to the admission of students.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rates quarterly, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, evaluating admission requests, and performing accreditation surveys every four (4) years.

7. Carrington College, Sacramento, VN Program - Report of Violations; (Director: L. Casey-Evans – Sacramento, Sacramento County, Private)

The Carrington College, Sacramento, VN Program is presented for consideration of violations identified in the course of evaluating complaints received by the Board.

On June 7, 2012, the program received ongoing approval for a four (4) year period, approval for ongoing admissions of three (3) classes of 36 students per year to **replace** graduating students, and approval of a major curriculum revision.

Between June 6, 2014 and April 24, 2015, the Board received a series of complaints from an anonymous individual regarding issues at the program. The most recent documentation requested of the program, received on April 30, 2015, identified violations of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. Additional documentation submitted by the program on May 22, 2015 identified another violation.

The AEO required the Carrington College, Sacramento, VN Program to submit verifiable plans for clinical placements for Maternity Nursing for currently enrolled students, no later than **June 30, 2015; and** required the program to submit verifiable plans for clinical placements for Pediatric Nursing for currently enrolled students, no later than **June 30, 2015; and** required the program to submit for approval a revised Remediation Policy such that the need for remediation or removal from the program is clearly defined. Due no later than **June 30, 2015**. The AEO required the program to submit documentation confirming the evaluation of students consistent with the Remediation Policy by **July 15, 2015; and** required the program to submit a written policy and plan that ensures notification to this Board within 10 days of faculty termination. Due no later than **June 30, 2015**. Effective immediately, the AEO rescinded approval for ongoing admissions and require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of any students. The program must document adequacy of faculty and facilities to support the objectives of the program prior to the admission of students.

Rationale While the program has consistently maintained licensure examination average annual pass rates that exceed state average annual pass rates, complaints regarding the program have led to the identification of critical violations of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations and the Vocational Nurse Practice Act, as noted, above. Currently, the program lacks adequate clinical facilities for the current enrollment and the program lacks adequate faculty for the projected enrollment. Therefore,

it is reasonable to require the program to document the adequacy of resources to support the students and the objectives of the program prior to the admission of students.

8. Career Development Institute VN Program – Consideration of Request to Admit Students (Director: Ladonne Easton, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, Private)

On May 29, 2015, the Board received correspondence from the director of Career Development Institute VN Program requesting approval to admit thirty-three (33) students into a full-time day class commencing August 3, 2015, and graduating September 21, 2016, to **replace** the class that will graduate July 10, 2015.

The AEO approved the Career Development Institute VN Program's request to admit **thirty-three (33)** students into a full-time day class commencing August 3, 2015, **only**, graduating September 21, 2016, to **replace** the class that graduating in July 2015; **and** continued to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class; **and** continued to require the director to document that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.

Rationale: Although the program has a 100% annual pass rate on the NCLEX-PN®, the Board notes with concern that the number of graduates who have taken the licensure examination has been low and there was a significant attrition rate when examining admitted students and graduates of the program. The program instituted changes to increase the numbers of students who would be able to pass the program's exit examination and then take the licensure examination. Since those changes, the attrition rate has decreased from 57% to the more recent rate of 32%.

The program has documented resources sufficient to support the requested students. Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rate each quarter, the number of graduates taking the licensure examination, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the director, and performing approval surveys every four years.

9. Charles A. Jones Skills and Business Education Center, VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Laarni Gallardo, Sacramento, Sacramento County, Adult School)

The Charles A. Jones Skills and Business Education Center VN Program requests approval to admit a class of 20 students on August 10, 2015, to graduate on March 1, 2016. This is not a replacement class.

The AEO approved Charles A. Jones Skills and Business Education Center, VN Program's request to admit a class of 20 students on August 10, 2015, **only**, with a projected graduation date of May 17, 2016; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: The program's current average annual pass rate is 71%, which is equal to the state average annual pass rate. The program has provided

documentation and materials that confirm adequate resources to administer the program, meet student learning and program objectives, and achieve the educational objective of the program.

Board staff will continue to closely monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

10. College of Nursing and Technology VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Paul Peters, Reseda, Los Angeles County, Private)

The College of Nursing and Technology VN Program requests Board approval to admit 30 students into a part – time evening/week-end (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday) class commencing July 9, 2015 and graduating November 29, 2016. This class will **replace** students that graduated on February 18, 2015.

The AEO approved the College of Nursing and Technology VN Program's request to admit 30 students into a part – time evening/week-end (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday) class commencing July 9, 2015 and graduating November 29, 2016, to **replace** students that graduated on February 18, 2015; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.

Rationale: The program's pass rates have been within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for the last twenty-one (21) consecutive quarters. The program's current average annual pass rate is 71%. As such, it is equal to the state average annual pass rate. Based on the compliant licensure pass rate, approval of the requested class is recommended.

11. Concorde Career College, Woodland Hills, VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Cheri Almond, North Hollywood, Los Angeles County, Private)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the findings shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

A Program Records Survey was completed of the, Concorde Career College, Woodland Hills, VN Program on May 18, 2015. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. No violations were identified.

The AEO continued approval of the Concorde Career College, Woodland Hills, VN Program for the period April 10, 2015 through April 9, 2019, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** required the program director to investigate the cause(s) of the high attrition rates of graduates versus those that take the licensure examination

and submit a written report which includes identification of problems or causes of the increased rate of attrition, a plan and timeline for correction. That report is due to the Board **by June 30, 2015**. Further, the AEO continued approval of the program's ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes; only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions will include admission of one (1) class of 30 students every 84 weeks, only. No more than one (1) class in session at a time; and
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students; and
- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (I) of the Code.

Rationale: The program is currently compliant with all sections of Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations and has demonstrated that it has the resources to support the number of students in its current pattern of admissions.

The program's average annual pass rate is 100%. It must be noted that the statistic is based on the results of one (1) candidate. From, Quarter 1 - 2013 through Quarter 1 – 2015, 14 program graduates have completed the NCLEX/PN®. Of the total tested, 13 program graduates passed.

It is further noted that the program has experienced a significant increase in the rate of attrition. For the class graduated **August 2011**, **75.87%** of the total admitted population **graduated**; **24.13%** failed to graduate. For the class graduated **September 2013**, **50.00%** of the total admitted population **graduated**; **50.00%** failed to graduate.

The foregoing information supports the continued approval of the program. However, it is strongly recommended that the program director complete a comprehensive analysis to identify issues contributing to the increased attrition rate, develop a plan to address identified issues, and a timeline for implementation.

Board staff will continue monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rate quarterly.

12. Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Concord, VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey (Director: Larisa Revzina, Concord, Contra Costa County, Private)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or visit all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' inspections or visits shall be made

to the Board. Such inspections or visits determine program compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

A Program Records Survey was completed by the Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Concord VN Program on May 1, 2015. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. No violations were noted.

The AEO continued approval for the Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Concord, VN Program for the four-year period from August 1, 2015, to July 31, 2019, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued the program's ongoing admission pattern with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's current pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's new pattern of admissions includes four (4) full-time classes of 36 students each calendar year to **replace** graduating students only.
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities are available to support each admitted class of students.
- c. The program's average annual pass rate remains no more than ten (10) percentage points below the state average annual pass rate.

Rationale: The program is currently compliant with all sections of Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations and has demonstrated that it has the resources to support the number of students in its current pattern of admissions. Board staff will monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rate quarterly.

13. Marian College, Los Angeles, VN Program – Consideration of Request to Admit Students (Director: Lynette Ferro Mutia: Los Angeles, Los County, California; Private)

Marian College, Los Angeles, VN Program requests approval to admit 15 students into a part-time class commencing July 23, 2015, graduating on March 25, 2017, to **replace** the class scheduled to graduate June 27, 2015.

Additionally, the program requests approval to admit 15 students into a full-time class starting August 24, 2015 graduating on November 30, 2016, to **replace** the class graduating August 21, 2015.

The AEO approved Marian College, Los Angeles, VN Program's request to admit 15 students into a part-time class commencing July 23, 2015, **graduating** March 25, 2017; **only**, to **replace** the class graduating June 27, 2015.; **and** approved the program's request to admit 15 students in to a full-time class commencing August 24, 2015, **graduating** November 30, 2016; **only**, to **replace** the students graduating August 21, 2015; **and** required the program to continue obtaining Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: As previously noted, the program has been compliant with regulatory requirements regarding program pass rates for seven (7) consecutive quarters from July 2013 through March 2015. However, it is noted that the average annual pass rate has substantially dropped over the last two (2) most recent quarters (Quarter 4, 2014, and Quarter 1, 2015,) from 10 percentage points **above** the State in Quarter 3, 2014, to the most recent Quarter 1, 2015, of 10 percentage points **below** the state. The program's **current** average annual pass rate is **61%**.

The director conducted an analysis of the program to identify causative factors **resulting** in the drop in NCLEX-PN® pass rates, and instituted an action plan with time line to address the identified factors. The program has adequate resources, including faculty and facilities, to support the proposed enrollment. Approving the requested classes will allow the director time to implement and evaluate the effectiveness of the action plan regarding the program's NCLEX-PN pass rate.

Board staff will continue to monitor closely the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, resources, and the program's quarterly annual average pass rates.

14. Southwestern College VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Cathy McJannet, Chula Vista, San Diego County, Community College)

On April 28, 2015, the Board received a request to admit students from the program director. The director has requested to admit one (1) class of **thirty (30)** students to begin on August 10, 2015, graduating on December 16, 2016. This would **replace** the class that graduated on May 29, 2015.

The AEO approved the Southwestern College VN Program's request to admit 30 students on August 10, 2015 with a graduation date of December 16, 2016 to **replace** students who graduated on May 29, 2015; **and** continued to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class. Additionally, the EO required the program director to submit a comprehensive analysis of the program **no later than March 1, 2016**. 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, including consideration of the licensure examination pass rates of the most recently graduated class. 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.

Rationale: The program's quarterly and average annual pass rates are of significant concern. The changes implemented for the class that very recently graduated (May 29, 2015) cannot be assessed until the graduates have taken the licensure examination. Examination of licensure pass rates by graduating class, as noted in the table, above, indicates that there was some improvement in the 2013 graduates. The pass rate for that class was 62%.

The program has continued the improvements made in 2013 and added to the improvements for the 2014 graduating students. For the proposed students, new improvements put into place are summarized above. Given that the program has adequate faculty, adequate clinical facilities, well-resourced skills and simulation laboratories available to the diverse student population, and that the program is continuing to build on the improvement plans, it is reasonable to admit a group of students. This will allow the program the opportunity to implement the new improvement plans, assess the impact of earlier improvements on the very recently graduated students, and maintain faculty, clinical facilities, and program resources. In addition, major curriculum revisions are now in process. However, improvement in licensure examination pass rates will be expected to be noted for the most recently graduated class. The pass rates of that class will be available prior to consideration of a future admission in January 2017.

Board staff will continue to closely monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rate quarterly, by consulting with the program director and lead faculty, and by reviewing the major curriculum revision that is in process.

15. Summit Career College, Colton, VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Renee Sheehan, Colton, San Bernardino County, Private)

Summit Career College, Colton, VN Program has requested approval to admit the following classes:

1. One (1) full-time class of 60 students beginning August 3, 2015, graduating July 29, 2016. The program states this admission is to **replace** the class that graduated March 6, 2015. However, that class was **replaced** with the class that was admitted May 4, 2015.

2. One (1) part-time class of 60 students beginning August 31, 2015, graduating April 9, 2017. The program states this admission is to **replace** the class that graduated June 7, 2015. However, that class was an **unapproved admission** in October 2013.
3. One (1) full-time class of 60 students beginning November 2, 2015, graduating October 28, 2016, to **replace** the class that graduated June 5, 2015.

The AEO approved the Summit College, Colton, VN Program's request to admit **one** full – time class of **sixty (60)** students to start August 3, 2015, ending July 29, 2016, **only; and** approved the Summit College, Colton, VN Program's request to admit one part-time class of **sixty (60)** students to start August 31, 2015, ending April 9, 2017, **only; and** approved the Summit College, Colton, VN Program's request to admit one full – time class of sixty (60) students to start November 2, 2015, ending October 28, 2016, **only; and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class; **and** continued to require the director to document that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.

Rationale: The program's average annual pass rates on the licensure examination have been compliant with regulatory requirements for the past two (2) years. The program's current average annual pass rate of 69% is **two (2)** percentage points **below** the State average annual pass rate.

The program has documented adequate resources to support the current and proposed students. The program's accrediting body has removed all enrollment limitations. The Bureau for Private Post-Secondary Education confirmed approval of the vocational nursing program at the Summit College, Colton campus, in April 2015.

16. Trinity School of Health and Allied Sciences, VN Program – Request for Continued Approval (Director: Mark Acedo, Gardena, Los Angeles County, Private)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or review all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' visit or inspections shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with standards prescribed in Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

The Trinity School of Health and Allied Sciences, also known as Trinity Vocational Center VN Program, inspection was completed on June 17, 2015. The program was analyzed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. No violations were identified.

The AEO continued approval of the Trinity School of Health and Allied Sciences, VN Program for the four – year period from June 21, 2015 through June 20, 2019, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.

Rationale: The analysis conducted by Board staff of the Program Record Survey provided by the director, substantiates the program has maintained full compliance of Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations. The program has confirmed possession of the resources, faculty and facilities, required to achieve the program's educational objectives.

Based on published examination statistics the program's most current Quarter 1, 2015 average annual average pass rate is 69%, which is two (2) percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate for first time test takers.

Board staff will continue to monitor closely the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, resources, and the program's quarterly annual average pass rates.

Effective July 30, 2015

17. **Annenberg School of Nursing VN Program - Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval** (Director: Marie Fagan, Reseda, Los Angeles County, Private)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or review all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' inspection or review shall be made to the Board. Such inspections or reviews determine program compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

A Program Records Survey was completed by the Annenberg School of Nursing, VN Program in July 2015. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. No violations were noted.

The AEO continued approval of the Annenberg School of Nursing VN Program for the period August 1, 2015 through July 31, 2019, and directed staff to issue a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of the program's ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions will include admission of one (1) full-time class of 24 students once per year to replace the graduating class.
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students; **and**,
- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (l) of the Code.

Rationale: The Annenberg School of Nursing VN Program is currently compliant with all sections of Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rates quarterly, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing approval surveys every four (4) years.

18. Blake Austin College, Vacaville, VN Program – Consideration of Request to Admit Students (Director: Jennifer Cannon, Vacaville, Solano County, Private)

On June 19, 2015, after the identification of a violation during the Program Record Survey, the Blake Austin College, Vacaville, VN Program's approval of ongoing admissions was rescinded and correction of the violation was required prior to granting continued approval of the program.

On July 16, 2015, documentation of correction of the violation was received by the Board and the program was granted continued approval for the period September 16, 2014 through September 15, 2018.

The program is now requesting to admit **35** students to a full-time class beginning August 24, 2015 and graduating August 21, 2016.

The AEO approved the Blake Austin College Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit **thirty-five (35)** students into a full-time day class commencing August 24, 2015, **only**, graduating August 21, 2016; **and** continued to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class; **and** continued to require the director to document that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.

Rationale: The Blake Austin College VN Program has corrected the violation identified in the recent Program Record Survey. Board approval of the program has been continued through September 15, 2018.

The program's average annual pass rate has consistently been **above** the state average annual pass rate. With a current average annual pass rate of 88%, the program's pass rate is now 16 percentage points above the state's average annual pass rate.

The program has now demonstrated adequate resources to support the current and proposed students. Approval of the program's request to admit students is warranted at this time.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rates quarterly, assessing program resources when requesting to admit students, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing accreditation surveys every four years.

19. **Carrington College, Pleasant Hill (formerly Antioch), VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Adam Riner, Contra Costa County, Private)**

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or review all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' inspections or reviews shall be made to the Board. Such inspections or reviews determine program compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

A Program Records Survey was completed by the Carrington College, Pleasant Hill, VN Program in July 2015. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. A total of four (4) violations were identified.

The AEO continued approval of the Carrington College, Pleasant Hill, VN Program for a four-year period from April 11, 2015 to April 10, 2019, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and**, effective immediately, rescinded approval for ongoing admissions and required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of any students. The program must document adequacy of faculty and facilities to support the objectives of the program prior to the admission of students.

Rationale: Since the last Program Record Survey, the program has implemented a new curriculum, moved to a new location, and had a total of five (5) program directors. In the process of this year's Program Record Survey, a total of four (4) violations were identified.

The current director, in place since March 9, 2015, has described implementation of corrective actions and the program has provided documentation that corrects three (3) of the identified violations. The uncorrected violation, non-compliant program pass rates, is of significant concern. The program average annual pass rate has been greater than 10 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for the past three (3) quarters and is now **42** percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate. While the program has submitted an improvement plan, the significant variance from the state average annual pass rate warrants closer monitoring of the program.

The program currently has adequate faculty and facilities to support the current and projected students and has adopted actions and policies to prevent reoccurrence of three (3) of the violations so ongoing approval is warranted at this time. However, the significant decrease in program pass rates and the instability of program administration warrants rescinding ongoing admissions and close monitoring of adequacy of program resources to support the students and close monitoring of the program's efforts to improve the pass rates on the licensure examination.

20. **Community Enhancement Services (CES) VN Program – Request to Admit Students** (Director: Oleg Khilkevich, Burbank, Los Angeles County, Private).

The Community Enhancement Services (CES) VN Program requests Board approval to admit a day class of 20 full-time students, commencing on September 10, 2015, graduating December 21, 2016. This class will **replace** students that are scheduled to graduate on August 7, 2015.

The AEO denied the Community Enhancement Services (CES) VN Program's request for approval to admit a class of 20 full-time day students commencing on September 10, 2015, graduating December 21, 2016 only, to **replace** the students that graduate on August 7, 2015; **and** required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of additional students.

Rationale: Published examination data demonstrate the program's difficulties maintaining compliant annual average pass rates. Statistics confirm the program's compliance for one (1) and noncompliance for eight (8) of the previous nine (9) consecutive quarters. Board files substantiate prior efforts to achieve sustained improvement.

While the program does have adequate resources to offer the program, and the director has implemented a plan to increase pass rates, prior to admitting further students into the program, it is prudent to wait for the results of the licensure pass rates of students who graduated in April 2015.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

21. **Homestead Schools VN Program - Request to Admit Students** (Director: Mila Rose Reyes, Torrance, Los Angeles County, Private)

On June 22, 2015, the Board received from the Homestead Schools VN Program a request to admit three (3) classes of students:

- a. A class of 30 students to a full-time day class beginning on August 10, 2015, graduating August 12, 2016, to **replace** the class that graduated May 29, 2015.
- b. A class of 30 students to a full-time evening class beginning on August 10, 2015, graduating August 12, 2016, to **replace** the class that graduated June 12, 2015.
- c. A class of 30 students to a part-time class beginning August 15, 2015, graduating April 2, 2017, to **replace** the class that graduated June 21, 2015. (However, the class that graduated June 21, 2015 was an additional class, rather than a replacement class. That class was approved to start on September 21, 2013 and it began on November 2, 2013.)

The AEO denied the Homestead Schools VN Program's request to admit a class of 30 students to a full-time day class beginning on August 10, 2015, graduating August 12, 2016, to **replace** the class that graduated May 29, 2015; **and** denied the program's request to admit a class of 30 students to a full-time evening class beginning on August 10, 2015, graduating August 12, 2016, to **replace** the class that graduated June 12, 2015; **and** denied the program's request to admit a part-time class beginning August 15, 2015, graduating April 2, 2017; **and** required the program to submit placement plans for all currently enrolled students that are consistent with the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations and the Board-approved Instructional Plan no later than **October 1, 2015**; **and** continued to require the program to admit classes on the date approved, only; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: The current licensing examination average annual pass rate for the program is **68%**, which is **four (4)** percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate. The most recent quarter demonstrates a significant decrease to a **quarterly** pass rate of **44%** for the program. The program is consistently **below** the state average annual pass rate but has not remained greater than 10 percentage points below the average annual pass rate for more than three (3) consecutive quarters over the course of the program's history. For the past 14 quarters, represented above, the program has been below the state average annual pass rate for 12 quarters. Further, the program has been greater than 10 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for five (5) of those 12 quarters.

Also of serious concern is the number of students who complete program hours but fail to meet all exit requirements. This was documented in a report provided by the program in December 2014.

The documentation submitted by the program in support of the current request to approve the admission of students is inconsistent with the VN Rules and Regulations with a total of four (4) violations identified. The documentation indicates inadequate resources to support proposed students. The documentation also indicates inadequate resources to support the current students. As such, denial of the requests to admit students is warranted at this time.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its corrective actions, licensure examination pass rates, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing approval surveys every four years. The program's documentation for the Program Record Survey is due on August 30, 2015.

22. **Integrity College of Health VN Program – Request to Admit Students; Request to Modify Admissions Pattern (Director: Bea Martin, Pasadena, Los Angeles County, Private)**

The director of Integrity College of Health VN Program requests approval to admit a full time day classes of 30 students commencing on September 15, 2015, graduating November 2016, only, this is not a replacement class.

Additionally, the director requests approval to increase the program's ongoing admission of 30 students three (3) times each year to **replace** graduating classes only, to 30 students four (4) times each year to **replace** graduating classes only.

The AEO denied the program's request to admit one (1) full time day class of 30 students to commence on December 2, 2014 **only**; graduating on January 25, 2016 to **replace** students graduating on November 29, 2014; **and** denied the program's request to increase ongoing admissions of 30 students from three (3) times each calendar year to **replace** graduating students only, to four (4) times each calendar year to **replace** graduating students only; **and** required the program to secure clinical facilities and submit for Board approval clinical facility applications sufficient to provide clinical experiences for the enrolled students that are sufficient to afford a variety of clinical experiences that are consistent with competency-based objectives and presented theory by **August 31, 2015**; **and** rescinded the program's ongoing approval for class admissions, effective immediately; **and** required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: As previously noted, the program has been compliant with regulatory requirement regarding pass rates for ten (10) consecutive quarters from January 2013 through June 2015. The most recent Quarter 2, 2015, is 16 percentage points **above** the state. The current average annual pass rate is 88%.

However, submitted documents and materials confirm that the program does not have adequate clinical sites to afford a variety of clinical experiences consistent with competency-based objectives and theory being taught for the enrolled or projected student enrollment.

The Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

23. Medical Allied Career Center VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Alfie Ignacio, Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County, Private)

The Medical Allied Career Center VN Program requests Board approval to admit a part-time class of 20 students commencing September 14, 2015, with a projected graduation date of May 13, 2016. This is not a replacement class.

The AEO approved the Medical Allied Career Center VN Program's request to admit 20 part – time students commencing September 14, 2015, graduating May 13, 2017, **only**. This is not a replacement class. Further, the AEO continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: Based on the most recent data available (April through June 2015), the program's average annual pass rate is 73%, which is (one) 1 percentage points above the state. From January 2013, through July 2014, the program remained compliant with section 2530(l) for six consecutive quarters. As described previously, the program director recognized a drop in the quarterly pass rates, developed, and implemented an improvement plan. On April 7, 2015, the program director submitted to the Board the improvement plan. The two most recent quarterly pass rates, January through June 2015, are 100% representing six (6) students.

The program has the resources, faculty and facilities, adequate to deliver the approved program at the current enrollment.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

24. North West College, Long Beach, VN Program - Request to Admit Students (Director: Kimberly Floyd, Long Beach, Los Angeles County, Private)

North West College, Long Beach, VN Program requests approval to admit 30 students into a full - time class commencing August 24, 2015, graduating on November 24, 2016, to **replace** the class graduating August 2015.

Additionally, the program requests approval to admit a full - time evening class of 30 students commencing November 23, 2015, graduating of March 2, 2017. This is **not a replacement** class.

The AEO approved the North West College, Long Beach, VN Program's request to admit 30 full-time students to a day class commencing August 24, 2015, and graduating November 24, 2016 **only to replace** the class scheduled to graduate August 8, 2015; **and** approved the program's request to admit 30 full-time students to an evening class commencing November 23, 2015, graduating of March 2, 2017. This is **not a replacement** class. Further, the AEO required the program to admit no additional classes unless approved by the Board.

Rationale: The director has demonstrated sufficient resources to achieve the program's objectives. The program has been compliant with regulatory requirements for seven (7) of the eight (8) most recent quarters. However, during the last four (4) reported quarters (July 2014 – June 2015) no program candidates were tested.

The program has demonstrated adequate resources to afford a variety of clinical experiences consistent with competency-based objectives and theory being taught.

The Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

25. Porterville College VN Program – Program Closure. (Director: Kim Behrens, Tulare County – Community College)

On June 29, 2015, the Board received written correspondence, dated June 18, 2015, from – the Director of the Porterville College VN Program advising of the college's decision to close the program. The director cited limited resources and a prioritization of programs based on community need as the basis of the college's decision.

Board records confirm the program was granted initial approval in 1961. Based on published examination statistics, no graduates from Porterville College VN Program have taken the NCLEX-PN® licensure examination for the last seven (7) quarters. There are no students currently enrolled in the program and no students will be displaced.

The AEO accepted the request to close the Porterville College VN Program; **and** removed the Porterville College Vocational Nursing Program from the Board's *List of Approved Vocational Nursing Schools*, effective immediately.

Rationale: The director requested to close the Porterville College VN Program due to limited resources and programs were prioritized based on community need. There are no students enrolled in the program.

26. Unitek College, Fremont, VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Samantha Manlosa Sanchez, Fremont, Alameda County, Private)

The Unitek College, Fremont, VN Program requests approval to admit a day class of 36 students starting August 31, 2015 that would graduate on August 5, 2016, to meet community needs. This is **not a replacement** class.

The AEO approved the Unitek College, Fremont VN Program's request to admit an evening class of 36 students starting August 31, 2015, **only** that would graduate on August 5, 2016. This is **not a replacement** class. Additionally, the AEO continued approval of the program's 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 Board approval. The program's current pattern of admissions includes admission of four (4) full-time day classes per year, 36 students per class, and admission of one evening class of 36 students every 66 weeks to **replace** graduating students only.
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.

- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (l) of the Code.

Rationale: The director has demonstrated sufficient resources to achieve the program's educational objectives. The program's Quarter 2, 2015, annual average pass rate is 72%, equal to the current state average annual pass rate. The program has remained compliant with requirements specified in California Code of Requirements Section 2530(l) for 17 consecutive quarters.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking the program's licensure examination pass rate each quarter, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing approval surveys every four (4) years.

27. Unitek, College, Sacramento, VN Program – Request to Admit Students; (Director: Samantha Manlosa Sanchez, Sacramento, Sacramento County, Private).

The Unitek College, Sacramento, VN Program requests Board approval to admit a full - time day class of 36 students commencing August 17, 2015 that will graduate July 22, 2016 to meet community needs. This is **not a replacement** class.

The AEO approved Unitek College, Sacramento VN Program's request to admit a full – time day class of 36 students commencing August 17, 2015, **only** that will graduate July 22, 2016. This is not a replacement class. Further, the AEO continued approval of the program's ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions will include admission of one (1) full-time class of 36 students four (4) times per year in March, June, October and November, only; **and**, one (1) part – time evening class of 36 students every 66 weeks, only; **and**,
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students; **and**,
- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (l) of the Code.

Rationale: The program has demonstrated full compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. The program's average annual pass rates for Quarter 2 – 2015 is 16 percentage points above the state average annual pass rate. The program has been compliant with regulatory requirements for thirteen (13) consecutive quarters.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter and performing approval surveys every four (4) years.

28. **Unitek College, San Jose (formerly Santa Clara), VN Program – Consideration of Request to Admit (Director: Samantha Sanchez, San Jose, Santa Clara County, Private)**

The Unitek College, San Jose, VN Program is requesting approval to admit a day class of 36 students on August 24, 2015; graduating July 29, 2016 to meet community needs. This is **not a replacement** class.

The AEO approved the Unitek College, San Jose, VN Program's request to admit a class of 36 day students on August 24, 2015, **only**, graduating July 29, 2016; **and** continued approval of the program's ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's current pattern of admissions includes four (4) classes of thirty – six (36) students per year.
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (l) of the Code.

Rationale: The program's current (Quarter 2 - 2015) average annual pass rate is 80%, eight (8) percentage points above the state. The program has maintained an average annual pass rate on the NCLEX-PN® above the state average annual pass rate for the last 13 consecutive quarters, April 2012 through June 2015.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient faculty, facilities, and other necessary resources to support the current and proposed enrollment. Board staff will continue to closely monitor the program's licensure examination pass rates quarterly, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing approval surveys every four (4) years.