

# Agenda Item #19.C.4.



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

**BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS**  
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## COVER SHEET

**SUBJECT: West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program – Consideration of Request to Admit Students** (Director: Hany Nashed, Beverly Hills, Los Angeles County, Private)

The West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program is presented for consideration of a request for approval to admit one (1) full-time evening class of 15 students to begin on November 8, 2016, graduating February 4, 2018. Approval of the requested class is recommended.

### Recommendations:

1. Approve West Coast Ultrasound Institute Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a class of 15 students to commence on November 8, 2016, graduating February 4, 2018.
2. Continue the program's requirement to admit no additional classes without prior approval by the full Board.
3. Continue the program's requirement to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than 10 percentage points below the State average annual pass rate.
4. Continue the program's requirement to submit a report to the Board within six (6) months, but no later than **November 30, 2016**, and 21 months, but no later than **February 1, 2018**. The report must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken to improve program pass rates, timeline for implementation, and the effect of employed interventions. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis.
  - a. Admission Criteria.
  - b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
  - c. Terminal Objectives.
  - d. Curriculum Objectives.
  - e. Instructional Plan.
  - f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
  - g. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
  - h. Textbooks.
  - i. Attendance Policy.

- j. Remediation Policy.
  - k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
  - l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
  - m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
  - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
  - o. Current Enrollment.
5. Continue the program's requirement to comply with all approval 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.
  6. Continue the program's requirement to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violations. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval.
  7. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.
  8. Continue the program's placement on the **May 2018** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.



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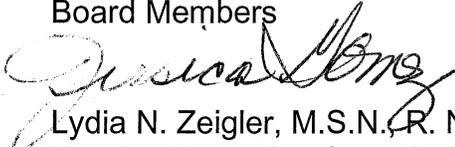
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DATE: October 24, 2016

TO: Board Members

FROM:   
Lydia N. Zeigler, M.S.N., R. N.  
Nursing Education Consultant

SUBJECT: West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program –  
Consideration of Request to Admit Students (Director: Hany Nashed, Beverly Hills,  
Los Angeles County, Private)

The West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program is presented for consideration of a request for approval to admit one (1) full-time evening class of 15 students to begin on November 8, 2016, graduating February 4, 2018. Approval of the requested class is recommended.

On March 7 and 8, 2016, an unannounced onsite program inspection was conducted. A total of six (6) violations were identified. However, as of today, three (3) remain uncorrected.

On May 13, 2016, with an annual average pass rate of 58% and a total of six (6) violations identified, in addition to pass rates that were not compliant with regulatory requirements, the Board placed the program on provisional approval for two (2) years from May 13, 2016 through May 31, 2018.

Further, on May 13, 2016, the Board denied the program's request to admit students.

## History of Prior Board Actions

(See Attachment A, History of Prior Board Actions)

## Enrollment

The program currently offers a 15-month full-time and an 18-month part-time course of instruction. Board approval is required prior to the admission of each class.

The following table represents **current and projected** student enrollment based on class starts and completions. The table indicates a **maximum enrollment of 34 students** for the period from **January 2012 through June 2016**. Currently, there is one (1) class enrolled.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		# Students Admitted	# Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Completed			
1/12 FT Eve Class		11	10	10
7/12 FT Day Class		13	12	10 + 13 = 23
1/13 FT Eve Class		19	10	23 + 10 = 33
	3/13 FT (1/12 Eve Class)		-10	33 - 10 = 23
4/13 FT Day Class		7	4	23 + 4 = 27
7/13 FT Eve Class		10	7	27 + 7 = 34
	9/13 FT (7/12 Day Class)		-12	34 - 12 = 22
9/13 FT Day Class		12	1	22 + 1 = 23
1/14 FT Day Class		9	3	23 + 3 = 26
	4/14 FT (1/13 Eve Class)		-10	26 - 10 = 16
	6/14 FT (4/13 Day Class)		-4	16 - 4 = 12
	9/14 FT (7/13 Eve Class)		-7	12 - 7 = 5
9/14 FT Eve Class		15	7	5 + 7 = 12
	12/14 FT (9/13 Day Class)		-1	12 - 1 = 11
1/15/FT Day Class		5	0	11 + 0 = 11
	4/15 FT (1/14 Eve Class)		-3	11 - 3 = 8
4/15 FT Eve Class		11	2	8 + 2 = 10
	12/15 FT (9/14 Eve Class)		-7	10 - 7 = 3
1/16 FT Eve Class	3/27/17	16	8	3 + 8 = 11
	3/16 FT (1/15 Day Class)		-0	11 - 0 = 11
	6/16 FT (4/15 Eve Class)		-2	10 - 2 = 8
10/16 Eve FT Proposed	12/17	15		8 + 15 = 23

### Licensing Examination Statistics

The following statistics, furnished by the Pearson Vue and published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing as "Jurisdictional Summary of All First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdiction" for the period January 2012 through June 2016, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of the West Coast Ultra Sound

Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical (Vocational) Nurses (NCLEX-PN®).

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Data							
Quarterly Statistics					Annual Statistics*		
Quarter	# Candidates	# Passed	% Passed	State Quarterly Pass Rate	Program Average Annual Pass Rate	State Average Annual Pass Rate [CCR § 2530(l)]	Variance From State Average Annual Pass Rate
Jan – Mar 2012	2	2	100%	77%	83%	74%	+9
Apr – Jun 2012	3	3	100%	72%	87%	74%	+13
Jul – Sep 2012	7	3	43%	74%	78%	74%	+4
Oct – Dec 2012	6	5	83%	70%	72%	74%	-2
Jan – Mar 2013	3	2	67%	75%	68%	73%	-5
Apr – Jun 2013	5	3	60%	78%	<b>62%</b>	73%	<b>-11</b>
Jul – Sep 2013	4	1	25%	75%	<b>61%</b>	74%	<b>-13</b>
Oct – Dec 2013	2	2	100%	76%	<b>57%</b>	76%	<b>-19</b>
Jan – Mar 2014	5	4	80%	74%	<b>63%</b>	76%	<b>-13</b>
Apr – Jun 2014	3	3	100%	66%	71%	73%	-2
Jul – Sep 2014	4	2	50%	72%	79%	73%	+6
Oct – Dec 2014	4	2	50%	72%	69%	72%	-3
Jan – Mar 2015	3	1	33%	73%	<b>57%</b>	71%	<b>-14</b>
Apr - Jun 2015	1	0	0%	69%	<b>42%</b>	72%	<b>-30</b>
Jul – Sep 2015	14	10	71%	73%	<b>59%</b>	72%	<b>-13</b>
Oct – Dec 2015	3	1	33%	75%	<b>57%</b>	72%	<b>-15</b>
Jan – Mar 2016	1	0	0%	73%	<b>58%</b>	73%	<b>-15</b>
Apr – Jun 2016	9	8	89%	75%	70%	74%	- 4
Jul – Sep 2016	2	1	50%	72%	67%	72%	-5

\*The Annual Pass Rate changes every quarter. It is calculated by dividing the number of candidates who passed during the current and previous three (3) 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.

California Code of Regulations Section 2530(l) states:

“The program shall maintain a yearly average minimum pass rate on the licensure examination that does not fall below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates of approved vocational nursing schools for the same period.”

This data substantiates the program’s non-compliance with regulatory requirements for nine (9) of the last 19 consecutive quarters.

Based on the most current data available (July through September 2016), the program’s average annual pass rate is **67%**. The California average annual pass rate for graduates from approved vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time during the same period is **72%**. The average annual pass rate for West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program is **five (5) 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."

Board - approved faculty for the program totals seven (7), including the director. The director has 80% administrative duties and 20% teaching duties. Of the total faculty, six (6) are approved to teach in the clinical area.

For a maximum enrollment of 34 students, four (4) instructors are needed. Therefore, the number of current faculty is **adequate** for the current and proposed enrollment.

Section 2534 (b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:

"Schools shall have clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated, to provide clinical experience for all students in the areas specified by Section 2533. There must be available for student assignment, an adequate daily census of patients to afford a variety of clinical experiences consistent with competency-based objectives and theory being taught."

The program has clinical facilities that are **adequate** as to type and variety of patients treated to enable current and proposed students to meet clinical objectives, in accordance with Section 2534 (b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. The consultant has verified this information.

## **Other Considerations**

Published examination statistics confirm the program's difficulties in maintaining compliance with regulatory requirements regarding program pass rates. Given this difficulty, from October 2013 to August 2015 the program was required to perform several program analyses to investigate root causes of the decline in the licensure pass rates.

An initial analysis was performed October 2013, with two (2) follow up reports, one in January 2014, and another in June 2014. Further, on October 30, 2015, a second comprehensive analysis was performed to identify the impact of the plan of correction implemented in April 2014.

The timeline for the implementation of the process to improve the program had been over a seven (7) month period. With the pass rate improvement plan in place, during Quarters 1 - 2015 through Quarter 1 - 2016, the program's average annual rates substantially declined.

With three (3) quarters of compliant pass rates, on April 27, 2015, the Executive Officer continued approval of the program for a four (4) year period, from July 9, 2015 through July 8, 2019, and continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.

On March 7 and 8, 2016, an unannounced onsite program inspection was conducted. The campus was found to have space adequate for the enrolled student population. The learning resource center, and classrooms, are well equipped, clean, and provide good lighting. The computer testing lab is set up with computers for students' use during proctored examinations. However, the lab lacks a partition between computers. The skills lab is stocked with adequate supplies, resources, and space to meet student learning objectives.

***Concerns with Students Who Complete the Program:***

From January 2013 through December 2015, 88 students enrolled in the program, and 34 students completed the program, or 39%. However, during the time period from January 2013 through June 2016, 47 students have taken the licensing exam, and of those candidates 31, or 66% have passed the exam.

***Current Status of Violations Identified During Onsite Inspection:***

The program has presented plans to correct the following six (6) violations:

1. Failure to obtain Board approval prior to provision of program instruction;
2. Lack of an approved program director;
3. Failure to ensure faculty accessibility to the instructional plan;
4. Failure to ensure correlation between theory and clinical instruction;
5. Failure to evaluate clinical facilities; and
6. Failure to maintain an average annual pass rate that does not fall below 10 percentage points of the state pass rate.

The following is a status on each violation based on the information provided by the program.

**Section 2529 (a) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:**

“A school shall submit qualifications of the proposed faculty members for approval by the Board prior to employment.”

**Violation #1:** Based on interviews with the school administration, current students, and a Licensed Vocational Nurse identified as the program's nursing department coordinator, the program utilizes an unapproved staff member to conduct skills lab make-up time in Nursing Fundamentals for the current students.

**Status #1:** This violation is **corrected**.

The director was requested to submit documentation confirming the following:

- Cease utilization and assignment of unapproved individuals to provide theory and clinical instruction to enrolled students.

- Development and implementation of a plan to ensure the assignment of approved faculty coverage for clinical make-up to include identification of approved faculty members who will conduct clinical and skills labs make-up time, and a process for last minute coverage of previously scheduled faculty.
- Only Board-approved faculty members are providing instruction to students. This would include the sign-in sheet for makeup time with student name, number of hours made up, and signatures of students and Board-approved faculty member conducting the make-up session.

The previous program director submitted a letter signed by the nursing department coordinator acknowledging that under no circumstances is she allowed to provide theory or clinical instruction in ongoing or makeup classes.

On July 31, 2016, the program submitted a schedule that lists four (4) instructor names with their assigned responsibilities in the program, including tutoring, skills lab make-up time, remediation, test retaking, and the specific day(s) each is scheduled for theory/clinical makeup.

The program submitted minutes from a nurse department meeting with six (6) agenda topics which showed all the program's six (6) faculty and director were in attendance. The agenda topic, policy of clinical/theory makeup time, states only approved instructors are allowed to facilitate makeup time with students.

On September 17, 2016 the program provided additional information in response to the violations. The updated response includes a process for last minute coverage of faculty that identifies three (3) current faculty and the director to cover for previously scheduled faculty.

In addition, the director provided the names of students who had makeup time by the unapproved instructor. The documentation included the dates with the number of hours missed, and content area missed for all students who had makeup time with the unapproved instructor. These students were not reinstructed by an approved instructor relative to the missed content due to their termination from the program.

**Section 2529 (b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulation states:**

“Each vocational nursing program shall have one faculty member, designated as director who meets the requirements of subsection (c)(1) herein, who shall actively administer the program. The director is responsible for compliance with all regulations in Chapter 1, Article 5 (commencing with Section 2525 et seq.)”

**Violation #2:** The program has failed to demonstrate consistent and active administration by a Board-approved director as confirmed by observations of the Board representative during the onsite program inspection, and the analysis of critical elements, documents and materials provided by the program, and program pass rates.

The Director is physically out of the state the majority of the time students are receiving instruction. Consequently, students lack the support and direction from a Board-approved program director. Additionally, program requirements and processes are not followed in her absence.

On March 7, 2016, during the onsite inspection, the Board representative conducted a class room visit with the Term 1 students, whose class commenced January 2016. The students did not recognize or know the director's name. The students identified the individual they go to whenever they have an issue and have been introduced as director is an unapproved faculty member. That unapproved faculty member was an LVN presenting a business card specifying her title as "Nursing Department Coordinator."

During April 2016, the instability in program administration continued. On April 1, 2016, the Board approved a new program director. On April 25, 2016, the new director was terminated. The program had three (3) new directors over a period one month.

**Status #2:** This violation is **corrected**.

On April 27, 2016, the Board approved a new program director. On June 30, 2016 the director submitted documentation of plans to correct all the violations as a part of the plans to actively administer the program. If implemented as presented, the submitted plans should ensure active administration and prevent future violations.

**Section 2530 (f) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:**

"The program's instructional plan shall be available to all faculty."

**Violation #3:** The instructional plan is not available to the faculty and is kept in a secured area for use by the director only. According to the administrator, the program's instructional plan was found in use at another college. School administration determined that faculty members have sold or provided the program's instructional plan to other colleges. The administrator advised that, to protect the college, faculty no longer had access to the instructional plan.

**Status #3:** The violation is **corrected**.

On June 30, 2016 the program director provided a document labeled "Learning Management System (LMS) information for access to the Beverly Hills Vocational Nursing instructional plan for levels 1-5." The document described directions on accessing the instructional plan on-line. The program provided documentation from all faculty of their acknowledgment of the directions on the accessing and applying the instructional plan, together with textbooks, to enhance student learning.

Further, the program provided minutes of a faculty meeting held on June 6, 2016 that states lesson plans are to match the instructional plan, and any curricular schedule changes due to holidays, must have prior program director approval before implementation of those changes. The minutes also stated the program's weekly course lesson plans must match the instructional plan.

**Section 2533 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:**

"Vocational nurse programs shall include theory and correlated clinical experience."

**Violation #4:** Board records confirm that the program has an approved curriculum that includes theory and correlated clinical content. Although the program offers theory and clinical with correlating objectives, information provided by the Nursing Department Coordinator, interviews of currently enrolled students in Term 1, and an analysis of student files confirmed students required to complete makeup of missed clinical classes are given assignments that lack correlation to presented theory instruction.

Program documentation confirmed that a student who missed skills lab hours in Term 1 Fundamentals was given a written assignment to write four (4) medication cards. The assignment did not correlate with the student's theory instruction nor tasks assigned during the missed skills lab. This student had not received theory instruction in pharmacology.

**Status #4:** This violation is **uncorrected**.

The director was requested to submit a detailed explanation and plan of correction that ensured the correlation of content and hours of theory and clinical makeup with missed instruction. Additionally, the director was required to:

1. Submit documentation that all clinical and theory makeup hours are completed, within two weeks of missed clinical or theory, or prior to completion of the current course, whichever comes first.
2. Submit copy of a revised remediation plan and attendance policy.
3. Provide copies of student remediation and attendance forms that:

- a. Specify specific makeup learning assignments.
- b. Indicate how the makeup assignments correlate with the content of the missed theory or clinical hours;
- c. Designate that clinical and skills lab makeup hours include nursing skills activities only, not written assignments.
- d. Present a faculty training that focuses on the requirement to maintain the correlation of instruction between theory, clinical, skills lab, and student makeup hours. Provide detailed minutes and faculty signatures in attendance

On September 29, 2016, the Board received the requested documentation. If implemented as presented, the submitted plan should prevent future violations.

**Section 2534 (c) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:**

“Schools are responsible for the continuous review of clinical facilities to determine if the student’s clinical objectives for each facility are being met.”

**Violation #5:** Board records confirm that the program has a methodology and procedure for evaluation of clinical sites. The Nursing Department Coordinator provided a blank form that would be used for clinical evaluation. However, no evidence of evaluation or completed forms were provided that confirmed the review and evaluation of clinical facilities to which students were assigned to ensure the provision of experiences consistent with the approved curriculum.

**Status #5:** This violation is **uncorrected**.

The director was requested to provide documents confirming the evaluation of clinical sites utilized for student assignment by the director or Board–approved faculty designee. That evaluation was to include an assessment of the correlation of available experiences with students’ clinical objectives.

The director submitted a form that will be used to evaluate the clinical sites. The program also provided one (1) of the six (6) clinical facility evaluations, for Beachwood Post-Acute Care Center, that were to be evaluated by the program director or designee. The evaluation was performed twice, on June 2 and on June 3, 2016, each by a different instructor.

On September 29, 2016, the director provided four (4) clinical facility evaluations, two (2) dated September 12, 2016, and two (2) dated September 13, 2016. The assessment findings on each clinical site evaluation are similar.

Since the unannounced inspection, the program has failed to evaluate all clinical facilities utilized by the program, including not demonstrating implementation of the methodology for ongoing evaluation of clinical facilities. Further, inconsistencies are identified with the ongoing clinical facility evaluations. The director has given two (2) different time frames on a given day, one which states evaluations will be done every six (6) months and another every three (3) months. The director provided four (4) clinical facility evaluations in which each has almost identical assessment findings. The director has not been able to consistently demonstrate a timeline or that evaluations would continue.

This violation is **not corrected**; however, if implemented as submitted on September 29, 2016, the director's plan should prevent future violations.

**Section 2530(l) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:**

"The program shall maintain a yearly average minimum pass rate on the licensure examination that does not fall below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates of approved vocational nursing schools for the same period."

**Violation #6:** Based on data available for Quarter 1 - 2016 (January through March 2016), the program's average annual pass rate was **58%**. Published examination statistics substantiate the program's non-compliance with regulatory requirements for nine (9) of the last 12 consecutive quarters (April 2013 through March 2016).

**Status #6:** This violation is **corrected**.

Based on published examination statistics for Quarter 2, 3 – 2016, the program's average annual pass rates are compliant with regulatory requirements. For Quarter 3 – 2016, the program's average annual pass rate is 67%, five (5) percentage points below the state average annual pass rate for first time program graduates.

**Summary**

An unannounced program inspection on March 7 and 8, 2016, identified six (6) critical violations of the California Code of Regulations. In addition, the program had failed to maintain an average annual pass rate that is compliant with regulatory requirements.

Over the span from April 2013 through March 2016, the program has been noncompliant for nine (9) of the last 12 consecutive quarters. A marked improvement in program pass rates is noted in the second and third quarters. As previously mentioned the program's average annual pass rate for Quarter 3, 2016, is **67%**, five (5) percentage points **below** the State for first time test takers. The pass rate indicates a nine (9) percentage point improvement from the Quarter 1 - 2016 result of 58%.

The program has a new director. It has been identified in correspondence with the director that he is actively administering the program as evidenced by working with the consultant in correcting five (5) of the six (6) violations.

Currently, the following four (4) violations have been corrected:

- Failure to have Board-approved faculty members;
- Failure to have the program's instructional plan available to all faculty.
- Failure to maintain a yearly average minimum pass rate on the licensure examination that does not fall below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate.
- Lack of active program administration by an approved director.

Moreover, the following two (2) violations have a plan in place and if implemented will prevent future violations.

- Failure to consistently implement the methodology and procedure for evaluation of clinical sites, the violation would be corrected.
- Lack of correlation between theory and clinical experience due to inadequate makeup methods

#### **Recommendations:**

1. Approve West Coast Ultrasound Institute Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a class of 15 students to commence on November 8, 2016, graduating February 4, 2018.
2. Continue the program's requirement to admit no additional classes without prior approval by the full Board.
3. Continue the program's requirement to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than 10 percentage points below the State average annual pass rate.
4. Continue the program's requirement to submit a report to the Board within six (6) months, but no later than **November 30, 2016**, and 21 months, but no later than **February 1, 2018**. The report must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken to improve program pass rates, timeline for implementation, and the effect of employed interventions. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis.
  - a. Admission Criteria.
  - b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
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  - m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
  - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
  - o. Current Enrollment.
5. Continue the program's requirement to comply with all approval 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.
  6. Continue the program's requirement to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violations. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval.
  7. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.
  8. Continue the program's placement on the **May 2018** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

**Rationale:** Published examination scores demonstrate the program's difficulties maintaining compliant pass rates on the licensure examination. The program has been previously required to submit two (2) program analyses to identify deficiencies, including developing plans of correction. While some improvement was confirmed in 2014, it was not sustained and a decline occurred in Quarters 1 through 4, of 2015. The most recent program analysis of previously implemented action plans was submitted on November 3, 2015.

On March 7 and 8, 2016, an unannounced program inspection was conducted by a Board representative due to declining pass rates. Subsequently, six (6) violations were identified.

The Board has identified concerns with program administration in having three (3) new directors over a period one month. On April 27, 2016, the Board approved a new director. Since that time, the program has demonstrated active administration of the vocational nursing program by the new program director.

Additionally, published examination statistics for Quarter 3 - 2016 confirm the program's average annual pass rate is **67%**, **five (5) percentage points below** the state average.

Given the foregoing, the program has demonstrated improvement by correcting five (5) violations, including active administration of the program

and maintaining program pass rates. Such improvement supports the recommendations.

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.

Attachment A: History of Prior Board Action



## Agenda Item 19.C.4., Attachment A

### WEST COAST ULTRASOUND INSTITUTE, BEVERLY HILLS VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM

#### History of Prior Board Actions

- On February 3, 2006, the Executive Officer approved West Coast Ultrasound Institute's request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial class of 30 students on April 3, 2006, only; and approved the program curriculum for 1536 hours, including 578 theory, and 958 clinical hours.
- On May 22, 2007, the assigned consultant completed an onsite inspection of the program to determine compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. Five (5) violations were noted.
- On July 10, 2007, the Executive Officer approved initial full approval for West Coast Ultrasound Institute Vocational Nursing Program for the period from July 10, 2007, through July 9, 2011, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 30 students to start on October 1, 2007, only, to **replace** students graduating on September 20, 2007.
- On December 12, 2007, the Executive Officer approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on January 3, 2008, only.
- On July 30, 2008, the Executive Officer approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 30 students on October 1, 2008, to **replace** students graduating on September 18, 2008.

Additionally, the Executive Officer approved the program's request for **ongoing** admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, for the West Coast Ultrasound Institute Vocational Nursing Program 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 one class of 20 full-time students in January and July of each year, commencing January 2, 2009.
  - b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
- On November 4, 2009, the Executive Officer rendered the following decisions relative to the program's requests.
    - a. Approved the West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to begin a part-time class.

- b. Approved the program's request to admit a class of 30 students into a part-time class commencing January 8, 2010 with an anticipated graduation date of June 27, 2011.
  - c. Approved the West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program request to change its pattern of admissions to include one (1) part-time class of 30 students every 18 months, to **replace** graduating classes, with the following stipulations:
    - 1) 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 one class of 20 full-time students two (2) times per year, to **replace** graduating classes; and one (1) part-time class every 18 months, to **replace** graduating classes.
    - 2) The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
- On November 15, 2010, the assigned consultant issued the program a Notice of Violation for noncompliance with Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations Section 2530 (k). Specifically, the program admitted a full – time class on October 5, 2010, without prior Board approval.
  - On November 24, 2010, the program submitted requested documents related to the Notice of Violation of Section 2530(k) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.
  - On December 21, 2010, the Executive Officer approved the West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to terminate the 18-month part time class effective June 27, 2011; **and** approved the program's request to modify the length of the full – time class from 12 to 15 months.

Additionally, the Executive Officer **denied** the program's request to increase the size of admitted classes from 20 to 30 students to **replace** graduating students only; **and**,

- a. **Approved** the program's admission of a full-time class of 20 students on January 5, 2011, to **replace** students that graduated December 23, 2010, only.
- b. **Denied** approval of the program's request to admit a full – time class in January, April, July and October of each year, to **replace** graduating students only.
- c. **Approved** the program's admission of a full-time class of 20 students on April 4, 2011, only.
- d. **Rescinded** the program's approval for ongoing admissions effectively immediately and required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

- On January 21, 2011, the program director notified the Board that the program would not be starting the approved January 2011 class, because they started an unapproved class October 2010.
- On June 8, 2011, the Executive Officer approved continued full accreditation for the West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program for the period July 10, 2011 through July 9, 2015, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and**, approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on July 6, 2011, graduating September 27, 2012, only, to **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate June 26, 2011; **and**, approved the program to admit a full-time class of 20 students on October 6, 2011, graduating December 23, 2012, only, to **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate June 26, 2011; **and**, required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On November 22, 2011, the Executive Officer approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on January 4, 2012, graduating March 27, 2013, only, to **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate December 23, 2011; **and**, required the program to perform an analysis related to the program's declining licensure pass rates and submit a written plan to identify deficiencies and corresponding corrective action by December 16, 2011; **and**, required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On December 19, 2011, the Board received the program's analysis and plan to increase the program's licensure pass rates.
- On June 22, 2012, the Executive Officer approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students on July 2, 2012, graduating September 26, 2013, only, to **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate June 24, 2012; **and**, required the program to continue to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On December 6, 2012, the Executive Officer approved West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program to admit a full-time, evening, class of 20 students on December 10, 2013, only, graduating March 15, 2014 to **replace** students who graduated on September 27, 2012; **and**, approved the program to admit a full-time class of 20 students on January 2, 2013, only, graduating April 3, 2014 to **replace** students who will graduate December 23, 2012; **and**, continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On June 13, 2013, the Executive Officer approved West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time evening class of 20 students on July 2, 2013, only, graduating September 21, 2014, to **replace** students who graduated on March 27, 2013; **and**, approved the program to admit a full-time day class of 20 students on January 2, 2014, only, graduating April 3, 2015 to **replace** students who will graduate December 23, 2013; **and**, continue the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On September 19, 2013, the Executive Officer **denied** West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time evening class of

20 students on September 30, 2013, graduating December 21, 2014, to **replace** students who will graduate on December 21, 2013; and, **approved** West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time evening class of 15 students on September 30, 2013, only, graduating December 21, 2014, to **replace** students who will graduate on December 21, 2013; **and**, required the program to investigate the root cause(s) of the decline in the licensure pass rates and submit a written report by October 18, 2013; **and**, to continue the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.

- On October 21, 2013, the Board received a report from the director relative to a root cause analysis of the program's noncompliant pass rates on the licensing examination.
- On January 17, 2014, the Board received an updated report from the director relative to a root cause analysis of the program's noncompliant pass rates on the licensing examination.
- On April 10, 2014, The Executive Officer **denied** West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time evening class of 20 students on April 14, 2014, graduating July 5, 2015, to **replace** students who will graduate on April 3, **2014**; **and, Continued** the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On June 6, 2014, the Board received an update of the January 17, 2014 report submitted by the director.
- On July 18 2014, the Executive Officer **approved** West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time evening class of 15 students on September 29, 2014 only, graduating December 20, 2015, to **replace** students who graduated on April 3, 2014; **and, denied** West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time day class of 15 students on September 29, 2014 only, graduating December 20, 2015 to **replace** the students who graduated June 26, 2014; **and, continued** the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On December 15, 2014, the Executive officer approved West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to **admit** a full-time **day** class of 15 students on January 5, 2015, graduating March 24, 2016, **only**, to **replace** students who will graduate on December 21, 2014; and, continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On February 25, 2015 the Executive Officer approved West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a full-time evening class of 15 students on April 7, 2015, graduating June 26, 2016, only, to **replace** students scheduled to graduate on April 3, 2015; **and**, continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On April 27, 2015, the Executive Officer Continue approval of the West Coast Ultrasound, Beverly Hills Campus, Vocational Nursing Program for the four – year period from July 9,

2015 through July 8, 2019, and issue a certificate accordingly. Continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.

- On August 6, 2015 the Acting Executive Officer **denied** West Coast Ultrasound, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 15 students into a 15-month full-time program commencing on October 5, 2015, projected to graduate on December 21, 2016; **and**, continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes. Additionally, he required the Director to submit a report to the Board no later than **October 30, 2015**. The report must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, identification of elements negatively impacting student achievement, specific actions taken previously to improve program pass rates, the effect of employed interventions, revised plan to correct identified deficiencies, and a timeline for implementation.
- On December 9, 2015 the Acting Executive Officer **approved** West Coast Ultrasound, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 15 students into a 15-month full-time program commencing on January 4, 2016 projected to graduate on March 26, 2017, only, **replacing** a class scheduled to graduate in December 2015; and **continued** the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.
- On May 13, 2016, the Board placed West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, Vocational Nursing Program on provisional approval for two (2) years from May 13, 2016 through May 31, 2018 and issue a notice to the program to identify specific area of noncompliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 (c) of the California Code of Regulations; **and denied** the program's request to admit a class of students to commence on July 5, 2016, and expected to graduate on September 24, 2017; and required the program to admit no additional classes without prior approval by the full Board; **and required** the program to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate; and required the program director to correct all violations identified during the onsite inspection, and submit a report identifying implemented interventions and timelines no later than July 1, 2016. The report shall include the following:
  - a. Implementation of a methodology, and include a timeline and evidence of correction verifying only Board approved instructors conduct skills lab, or assists and evaluates students with clinical or theory make-up time.
  - b. Implementation of a methodology, and include a timeline for correction to provide all faculty with assess of the instructional plan.
  - c. Implementation of the program remediation policy to include identification of students who are at risk of failure from either academic or code of conduct issues, identification of deficiencies, remediation plan, and follow-up
  - d. Implementation of the methodology, including timeline for initial and ongoing evaluation of clinical facilities; and

- Require the program to submit a report to the Board within six (6) months, but no later than **November 30, 2016**, and twenty – one (21) months, but no later than **February 1, 2018**. The report must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken to improve program pass rates, timeline for implementation, and the effect of employed interventions. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis.
    - p. Admission Criteria.
    - q. Screening and Selection Criteria.
    - r. Terminal Objectives.
    - s. Curriculum Objectives.
    - t. Instructional Plan.
    - u. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
    - v. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
    - w. Textbooks.
    - x. Attendance Policy.
    - y. Remediation Policy.
    - z. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
    - aa. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
    - bb. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
    - cc. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
    - dd. Current Enrollment.
9. Require the program to comply with all approval 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.
  10. Require the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violations. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval.
  11. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.
  12. Place the program on the **May 2018** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.