



## Agenda Item #16.B.3.

DATE: August 24, 2018

TO: Board Members

FROM: Beth DeYoung, RN, MPH  
Nursing Education Consultant

SUBJECT: Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program – Reconsideration of Provisional Approval (Director: Timothy Ryan, Rancho Mirage, Riverside County, Private)

### **STAFF SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program is presented for reconsideration of provisional approval. The Board initially placed the program on provisional approval for a two-year period on August 26, 2016, due to noncompliance with regulatory requirements relative to program pass rates.

On May 2-3, 2018, an unannounced school visit was conducted by the Nursing Education Consultant. One violation was identified.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. The Board grant full approval of the Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program for a four-year period from August 25, 2018, through August 24, 2022, and issue a certificate accordingly.
2. The Board require the program to admit no additional classes without prior approval by the Board.
3. The Board require the program, when requesting approval to admit students, to:
  - a) Submit all documentation in final form, using the forms provided by the Board, no later than two months prior to the requested start date for the class.
  - b) Provide documentation that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
4. The Board continue to 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 California Code of Regulations, Title 16, commencing with Section 2526.

### **History of Prior Board Actions**

(See Attachment A, History of Prior Board Actions)

## Enrollment

The program offers full-time classes that are 60 weeks in length. Currently, the program must obtain Board approval prior to the admission of all full-time classes.

The following table represents current student enrollment based on the current class start and completion date. The table indicates a **maximum enrollment of 6 students** for the period from February 2018 through April 2019.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		# Students Admitted	# Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Complete			
2/18 FT *[4/19]		9	6	6

\* [ ] Indicates projected completion date.

## Licensing Examination Statistics

The following statistics, furnished by Pearson VUE and published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing as “Jurisdictional Summary of All First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdiction” for the period July 2016 through June 2018, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of the Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical/Vocational Nurses (NCLEX-PN®) and the variance from state average annual pass rates.

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Data			
Annual Statistics*			
Quarter	Program Average Annual Pass Rate	State Average Annual Pass Rate [CCR § 2530(l)]	Variance from State Average Annual Pass Rate
July – September 2016	91%	75%	+16
October – December 2016	83%	74%	+9
January – March 2017	80%	73%	+7
April – June 2017	80%	74%	+6
July – September 2017	80%	71%	+9
October – December 2017	80%	71%	+9
January – March 2018	63%	73%	-10
April – June 2018	63%	76%	-13

\*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 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.”

Based on the most current data available (April - June 2018), the program’s average annual pass rate is **63%**. 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 **76%**. The average annual pass rate for the Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program is **13 percentage points below** the state average annual pass rate.

During the previous four quarters (July 2017 – June 2018), the program only had NCLEX-PN® testers in quarter 1 of 2018 (January – March 2018). For the first quarter of 2018, eight graduates took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time and 5 students passed (63%). During 2017, five graduates took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time and 4 students passed (80%).

### **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."

On August 26, 2016, the Board approved the Nursing Education Consultant’s recommendation to require no less than **one instructor for every ten students** in clinical experiences.

The number of Board approved faculty totals three, including the director. Of these instructors, three are designated to teach clinical. The director has 70% administrative and 30% teaching duties.

Based on a maximum enrollment of six students, one instructor is required for clinical supervision. Submitted documentation indicates the number of current **faculty is adequate** for the current 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.”

Submitted documentation indicates that the program has **sufficient clinical facilities** to afford the number, type and variety of patients that will provide clinical experience

consistent with Board-approved competency-based objectives and theory being taught for current and proposed students.

### **Other Considerations**

On February 23, 2016, the Board approved a new program director.

On January 27, 2017, the Board approved a new program director.

On March 31, 2017, the Board approved a new program director.

On May 4, 2017, the program director submitted the required follow-up report which included a comprehensive analysis of the program. The report included the interventions which increased the NCLEX-PN® pass rates.

On May 1, 2018, the program director submitted the required follow-up report which included a comprehensive analysis of the program.

On May 2-3, 2018, an unannounced school visit was conducted by the Nursing Education Consultant. **One violation was identified.**

On May 7, 2018, the program director submitted a plan to increase the average annual pass rates.

### **Unannounced Program Inspection**

On May 2-3, 2018, the Nursing Education Consultant conducted an unannounced program inspection of Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program.



Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage campus

The program is offered in a clean well-maintained building. There are ample parking spaces for the students.



Resource Center



Reference Books

The program has a large resource center with student workstations and two large cabinets of reference books for students to utilize. Each student is given a personal laptop on admission.



Classrooms

There are two classrooms. Classroom one contains 10 student areas for the current cohort. The facility has multiple stored tables and chairs to configure a second classroom or more student areas in classroom one as needed. Additionally, each classroom contains a faculty desk with computer, white board, projector and screen in each room.



Skills Lab



Simulation Lab

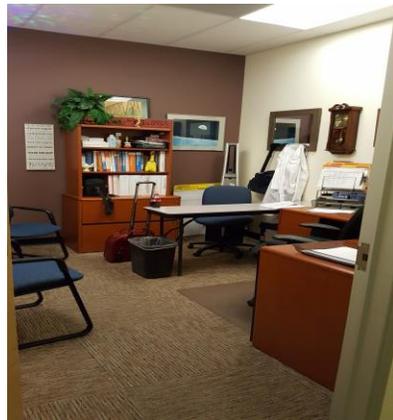


Supplies

The skills lab one contains a sink, five patient care units, and a supply area. The simulation area contains one patient care area with two adult simulation mannequins and one child simulation mannequin.



Employee Lounge



Director's Office



Provisional Approval Certificate

Each faculty has their own office space with access to a desk and printer. The director has a private office with student files in a locked cabinet. The provisional approval certificate is posted at the lobby desk.

### **Interview with Students**

All six students from the current cohort were interviewed. Positive comments were given regarding the theory and clinical instructors, skills lab supplies and skills experience. The only comments for improvement mentioned was the lack of help with how to utilize the laptops they were given during admission.

### **Interview with instructor**

One instructor was interviewed during the onsite inspection.

That instructor has taught all levels of theory and is also has been a clinical instructor at the campus for the past five months. She stated she felt supported by the program director and could not think of any improvements needed within the program. The instructor explained how the lesson plans for each day are accessed on the computer and described the remediation process for at-risk students.

### **Interview with Program Director**

A detailed discussion with the program director took place at the end of the second day. We discussed all elements of the site inspection and he verbalized understanding of the violation identified. The director was given a list of items needed and the timeframe in which to have the items submitted to the Board.

### **Based on the foregoing the following violation was identified:**

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

“The program’s instructional plan shall be available to all faculty.”

**Violation #1:** The program director was not able to produce the program’s instructional plan during the onsite inspection.

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

On May 5, 2018, the director submitted the program’s instructional plan via email.

### **Recommendations:**

1. The Board grant full approval of the Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program for a four-year period from August 25, 2018, through August 24, 2022, and issue a certificate accordingly.

2. The Board require the program to admit no additional classes without prior approval by the Board.
3. The Board require the program, when requesting approval to admit students, to:
  - a) Submit all documentation in final form, using the forms provided by the Board, no later than two months prior to the requested start date for the class.
  - b) Provide documentation that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
4. The Board continue to 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 California Code of Regulations, Title 16, commencing with Section 2526.

**Rationale:** The program director submitted a plan to increase the average annual pass rates and the requested documentation to correct the violation identified during the unannounced school visit on May 2-3, 2018.

The program has provided documentation of adequate faculty and clinical facilities to meet the program's clinical objectives and student learning needs.

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 Actions

# Agenda Item #16.B.3., Attachment A

## SANTA BARBARA BUSINESS COLLEGE, RANCHO MIRAGE VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM

### HISTORY OF PRIOR BOARD ACTIONS

- On December 8, 2008, the Executive Officer approved the Santa Barbara Business College, Palm Desert's request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial class of 22 students on January 5, 2009, only.

The program curriculum was approved for 1600 hours, including 620 theory, and 980 clinical hours.

- **On September 30, 2009, a new program director was approved.**
- On October 31, 2009, the Executive Officer approved the program's request to admit an initial class of 30 students on October 20, 2009, only, with an anticipated graduation date of December 16, 2010.
- The program delayed commencement of the initial class until January 2010.
- On February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011, an initial onsite survey visit was completed by the Nursing Education Consultant.
- **On March 24, 2011, the Board approved a new program director.**
- On April 21, 2011, the Executive Officer approved initial full accreditation for Santa Barbara Business College, Palm Desert, Vocational Nursing Program for the four (4) year period from April 19, 2011 through April 18, 2015, and direct staff to issue a certificate accordingly; **and**, approved the program's request to start a class of 30 students on April 26, 2011, with a projected completion date of May 17, 2012 to **replace** students that graduated on March 10, 2011; **and**,

Required the director to develop a plan identifying management of the three campuses, including but not limited to:

- a. Amount of time director will spend at each campus.
- b. Program administration including contacting director, if needed, during her absence.
- c. Program management during the director's absence; **and**,

Required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

- On May 30, 2012, the Executive Officer Approve Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 30 students into full-time class commencing June 1, 2012 only, graduating August 1, 2013; to **replace** students graduating on May 17, 2012; **and**, required the program to continue to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.
- On April 10, 2014, the Executive Officer approved Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a class of 30 students on May 27, 2014, only, with a projected graduation date of July 30, 2015; and, required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.
- On April 27, 2015, the Executive Officer **continued approval** of the Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program for the four-year period from April 19, 2015 through April 18, 2019, and,
  1. **Denied** Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a class of 30 students on May 26, 2015, with a projected graduation date of July 28, 2016.
  2. **Approved** the program's admission of a class of 20 students on May 26, 2015, only, with a projected graduation date of July 28, 2016.
  3. **Required** the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.
  4. **Required** the director to investigate and submit a report identifying the cause(s) of the declining licensure pass rates and a plan to correct the deficiencies by **May 15, 2015**.
- On May 19, 2016, the Executive Officer **denied** Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a class of 20 students on June 27, 2016, with a projected graduation date of September 7, 2017; and **required** the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class; placed the program on the Education & Practice Committee Agenda for consideration of placement on provisional approval.
- On August 26, 2016, the full Board placed the Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing Program on provisional approval for the two-year period from August 26, 2016, through August 25, 2018, and issued a notice to the program to identify specific area of non-compliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 of the California Code of Regulations; **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**, approved the program's admission of a class of 20 students on September 6, 2016, with a projected graduation date of November 16, 2017; only, to **replace** the class graduating September 1, 2016; **and**, required the program to provide no less than one (1) instructor for every ten (10) students in clinical experiences; **and**, required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each additional class; **and**, required the director to submit follow-up reports in 10

months, but no later than May 15, 2017, and 22 months but no later than May 15, 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; **and**, required 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; **and**, required the program to demonstrate sustained progress in correcting the violations. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval. The Board required the program to be placed on the Board's August 2018 agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

- On November 1, 2017, the full Board approved the Santa Barbara Business College, Rancho Mirage, Vocational Nursing program's request to admit a full-time class of 20 students commencing on November 20, 2017, graduating on February 7, 2019, to replace the class that graduates on November 16, 2017; **and**, continued to require the program to provide no less than one (1) instructor for every ten (10) students in clinical experiences; **and**, continued to require the program to admit no additional classes without prior approval by the Board; **and**, continued the requirement established at the August 2016 Board meeting for the program to submit a follow-up report in 22 months but no later than May 15, 2018; **and**, continued to 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 California Code of Regulations, Title 16, commencing with Section 2526; **and**, continued the program's placement on the Board's August 2018 agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.