



BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR  
**Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians**  
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<b>DATE</b>	August 2, 2022
<b>TO</b>	Board Members
<b>REVIEWED BY</b>	Beth DeYoung, MPH, RN Acting Supervising Nursing Education Consultant (SNEC)
<b>PREPARED BY</b>	Faye Silverman, RN, MSN/Ed., WOCN, PHN Nursing Education Consultant (NEC)
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Consideration of Rescinding Pattern of Admission
<b>PROGRAM</b>	Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program (Program) (Program Director: Corrine Stevenson, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, Private)

Please note: The NECs make recommendations. The recommendations are forwarded to the Executive Officer Review, the Education and Practice Committee or the full Board for action.

### **REQUEST:**

Consideration of Rescinding Pattern of Admission

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Program submitted documentation to start a class in June 2021. The documentation included periods of time where the Program Director approved all enrolled students for a leave of absence since the Program did not have enough clinical sites. The Program did not notify the NEC about the intermittent leave of absence for all students. When the students were not on a leave of absence, the Program was rotating the students through a small number of clinical sites that allowed students to attend during the COVID 19 pandemic. The June 2021 cohort start date was postponed by the Program Director to allow the Program to procure enough clinical sites before starting a new cohort.

The Program submitted documentation to start a class in December 2021. The documentation submitted contained multiple areas of concern. Clinical instructors were scheduled for two sites at the same time. Clinical sites were being utilized for unapproved terms and more than the total number of approved students were scheduled at a clinical site. The December 2021 cohort start date was postponed by the Program Director allowing the Program to correct the documentation to reflect the approved terms for each clinical site, the approved number of students for each clinical site, and that no overlapping of clinical instructors were listed.

The Program submitted documentation to start a class in March 2022. The documentation submitted contained clinical rotations for each term at different clinical sites. Due to the previous issues with the lack of clinical sites, the NEC emailed the clinical sites to confirm the Program would be using the clinical sites at the times listed in the Program's documentation submitted to the BVNPT. Two clinical sites stated the Program was not on their clinical rotation calendar for those specific dates. Conversations took place with the Assistant Director of Nursing of the Program regarding the discussions between the NEC and the clinical sites. The documents were resubmitted by the Program Director which listed clinical sites that were approved and had stated they were allowing students from this Program to utilize their facility for clinical hours during the times and dates listed on the documentation.

The Program submitted documentation to start a class in June 2022. The documentation had an instructor, who had resigned, scheduled to teach clinicals. This instructor had notified the NEC of a separation date effective April 1, 2022. Faculty and facility spreadsheets were not true and accurate. The documentation indicated that all students have been scheduled for live direct patient care for clinical hours during all terms. However, the NEC received multiple student complaints in May 2022 regarding students not being in clinical sites with live direct patient care for clinical hours.

On May 4, 2022, the NEC received multiple complaints regarding students not being in clinical with live direct patient care. The complaints further stated the Program is signing off clinical hours and skills lab hours, but many of the students have not completed these hours and have sat in the classroom instead.

On May 5, 2022, a representative of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) made a visit to the Career Care Institute, Lancaster. The NEC had the opportunity to speak with the June 2021 cohort and the October 2021 cohort. Most students stated they had no live direct patient care in term one, and no live direct patient care in term two. A few of the students stated they had orientated at a facility but had not returned to that facility for further live clinical hours.

Due to the inconsistencies with the faculty and facility assignment spreadsheets submitted by the Program and the lack of accuracy of these reports, the NEC is recommending rescinding the Program's approved pattern of admission.

### **STAFF ANALYSIS:**

During the analysis of documents submitted with the requests to admit students, it was identified that the Program's faculty and facility assignment spreadsheets do not accurately reflect where the students are completing their clinical hours and which clinical instructors will be with the students. The Program does not have documentation of adequate clinical facilities.

The Program was requested to submit documentation that would correct these issues. The Program Director submitted documents on May 5, 2022, which corrected the issue with the clinical instructors but, as of the date of writing this report, the NEC does not

have true and accurate documentation of where students will be completing their clinical hours for each term of each cohort. The NEC had an online Team's meeting with the Program Director and the Clinical Coordinator on June 22, 2022. The NEC explained the conflicts between what the clinical facilities stated and what was documented on the faculty and facility assignment spreadsheets. The Program Director stated understanding of the inconsistencies and her plan of correction.

The Program has demonstrated continued compliance with average annual pass rates. Currently, the Program's average annual pass rate is 80 percent, seven percentage points above the state's average annual pass rate.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Rescind the Program's approved pattern of admission of five full-time classes of 40 students each calendar year.
2. Require the Program to comply with the requirements below.

### **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

1. Require the Program to obtain BVNPT approval prior to admission of any additional classes.
2. Notify the NEC in the event a current class is displaced from clinical sites.
3. Require the Program, when requesting approval to admit students, to:
  - a. Submit all documentation in final form, using the forms provided by the BVNPT, 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.
  - c. Ensure that the Program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530(l) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16.
4. 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.

### **RELEVANT PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

#### **Enrollment**

Section 2530(k) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, states:

“The Program shall have prior Board approval to increase the number of students per class and/or increase the frequency of admission of classes. Criteria to

evaluate a school's request to increase the number of students per class and/or increase the frequency of class admissions include but are not limited to: (1) Sufficient Program resources as specified in Section 2530(a). (2) Adequacy of clinical experience as specified in Section 2534. (3) Licensure examination pass rates as specified in Section 2530(l).”

The Program is approved to offer a full-time course of instruction that is 60 weeks in length. The Program’s approved pattern of admission includes five full-time classes of 40 students each calendar year to replace graduating classes only.

The following table represents current student enrollment based on current class starts and completions. The table indicates a maximum enrollment of 126 students for the period from January 2021 through June 2022.

### ENROLLMENT DATA TABLE

Class Start Dates	Class Completion Dates	Number of Students Admitted	Number of Students Current	Total Enrolled
1/18/21 *(6/12/22)		30	15	15
6/21/21 *(10/10/22)		36	20	15 + 20 = 35
10/11/21 *(2/10/23)		40	34	35 + 34 = 69
12/13/21 *(4/21/23)		29	20	69 + 20 = 89
4/4/22 *(7/28/23)		23	22	89 + 22 = 111
	6/12/22 (1/18/21 Class)		-15	111-15 = 96
6/27/22 *(10/13/23)		30		96 + 30 = 126

\* Indicates projected completion date

### **Licensing Examination Statistics**

Section 2530(l) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, 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.”

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 2020 through June 2022, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of the 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**

Quarterly Statistics					Annual Statistics		
Quarter	# Candidates in Quarter	# Passed in Quarter	% Passed in Quarter	State Quarterly Pass Rate	Program Average Annual Pass Rate	State Average Annual Pass Rate CCR §2530(l)	Variance from State Average Annual Pass Rate
Jul - Sept 2020	20	18	90%	75%	90%	78%	+12
Oct - Dec 2020	5	3	60%	75%	86%	77%	+9
Jan - Mar 2021	6	5	83%	73%	83%	76%	+7
Apr - Jun 2021	13	12	92%	72%	86%	74%	+12
Jul - Sept 2021	9	7	78%	70%	82%	72%	+10
Oct - Dec 2021	17	10	59%	73%	76%	72%	+4
Jan – Mar 2022	15	14	93%	76%	80%	73%	+7
Apr - Jun 2022	12	8	67%	70%	74%	72%	+2

\*The Annual Pass Rate changes every quarter. It is calculated by dividing the number of candidates who passed during the current and previous three quarters by the number of candidates who tested during the same period. If no data is available for the relevant period, the statistic is carried over from the last quarter for which data is available.

Based on the most current data available (April through June 2022), the Program’s average annual pass rate is 74 percent. The California average annual pass rate for graduates from approved vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time is 72 percent. The Program’s average annual pass rate is two percentage points above the state average annual pass rate.

**Faculty and Facilities**

Section 2534(d) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, states:

"For supervision of clinical experience, there shall be a maximum of 15 students for each instructor."

The total number of approved faculty is nineteen, including the Program Director and Assistant Program Director. This Program has two Teacher Assistants. The Program Director has 100 percent administrative duties. Sixteen instructors are designated to teach clinical. Based on a maximum enrollment of 126 students, nine instructors are needed. Therefore, the number of current faculty is adequate for the proposed enrollment.

Section 2534(b) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, 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 Director has not submitted documents which indicate the Program has sufficient clinical facilities approved 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 the current student enrollment

### **Violations:**

The representative of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians made a visit to the Career Care Institute, Lancaster on May 5, 2022. The NEC had the opportunity to speak with the June 2021 cohort and the October 2021 cohort. Most students stated that they had no live direct patient care in term one, and no live direct patient care in term two. A few of the students stated they had orientated at a facility but then had not returned to that facility.

On May 9, 2022, the NEC sent the Program a letter stating multiple complaints had been received by the NEC regarding the following issues:

- The students did not have live direct patient care clinical hours in Term 1 and Term 2
- The students have been brought to campus for clinical hours and put in a classroom. The students stated no skills lab experience was provided for the days of missed clinical.
- The students have been in clinical with more than a 1:15 instructor to student ratio.
- One class had no instructor and had to share a classroom with another term that is being taught different curricular topics.

On June 3, 2022, the Program Director responded to the list of complaints.

The following are two violations which have been identified during the documentation review by the NEC.

### **Section 2534(b) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, 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.”

Violation # 1: The Program Director supplied documentation of facility and faculty assignment sheets which do not accurately reflect where the students have and will attend clinical. The clinical sites listed, when verified, are not available to the Program for students to accomplish clinical hours.

Status: The violation is not corrected. The Program Director has as of the writing of this report submitted documents for the NEC to review and analyze.

**Section 2534(d) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, states:**

"For supervision of clinical experience, there shall be a maximum of 15 students for each instructor."

Violation # 2: The Program Director supplied documentation of facility and faculty assignment sheets which reflect clinical instructors, who no longer work for the Program, listed as clinical instructors for several cohorts of students.

Status: The violation is corrected.

The Program Director submitted documents on May 5, 2022, which removed employees no longer working for the Program on the faculty and facility assignment forms.

On June 13, 2022, the NEC had an online Team's meeting with the Program Director, explaining the two violations and the required actions.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: Program History

## **Attachment A**

### **Career Care College Institute, Lancaster Vocational Nursing Program**

**Program History**

- On February 8, 2002, the Board approved Career Care Institute's request to begin a vocational nursing Program with an initial class of 44 students on March 4, 2002, only. The Program curriculum was approved for 1564 hours, including 588 theory, and 976 clinical hours.

- On April 11, 2003, the Board approved initial full accreditation for the Program for the period from March 25, 2002, through April 10, 2007, and directed Board staff to issue a certificate accordingly. The Board also approved admission of a full-time class of 44 students starting June 16, 2003, to replace students graduating June 5, 2003, only.
- On September 19, 2003, the Board approved the Program's request to increase frequency of admission by permitting the admission of a part-time class of 30 students starting September 23, 2003, only.
- On April 14, 2004, the Executive Officer approved the Program's request to admit 67 students on September 7, 2004, only, to the full-time Program to replace students graduating on August 29, 2004.
- On November 2, 2004, the Executive Officer approved the Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 30 students on February 7, 2005, only, to the part-time Program to replace students graduating on January 19, 2005.
- On August 17, 2005, the Executive Officer approved the Program's request to admit 67 students on December 5, 2005, only, to the full-time Program to replace students graduating on November 23, 2005.
- On January 4, 2006, the Board was notified by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education that it would be performing a site visit to investigate complaints that the Career Care Institute lost its accreditation by Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools related to its approval to offer student financial aid. The Bureau will keep the Board informed of the situation and its findings. The Board will monitor the situation closely to determine impact on the vocational nursing Program.
- On February 3, 2006, the Executive Officer approved admission of 30 students to the part-time evening Program on May 2, 2006, only, to replace students graduating on April 12, 2006.
- On August 28, 2006, a new Program Director was approved.
- On November 2, 2006, the Executive Officer approved ongoing admissions to replace graduating classes, only, for the Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program with the following stipulations:
  - a. No additional classes are added to the Program's approved pattern of admission without prior Board approval. The Program's pattern of admissions will be four full-time classes of 40 students per class each calendar year.
  - b. The Program Director documents that adequate resources, i.e., faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.



- On November 6, 2006, the Board received notification from the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools that that organization has extended the school's accreditation until July 31, 2007.
- On January 11, 2006, the Board approved continued full accreditation of the Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program for a four-year period, from April 10, 2007, through April 9, 2011, and issued a certificate accordingly.
- On July 30, 2008, a new Program Director was approved.
- On February 18, 2011, the Board received the Program's request for continued accreditation including the Program Records Survey.
- On May 13, 2011 the Executive Officer approved full approval for Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program for the four (4) year period from April 10, 2011 through April 9, 2015, and direct staff to issue a certificate accordingly. Approved the Program's continued ongoing admissions to replace graduating classes, only, for the Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program with the following stipulations:
  - a. No additional classes are added to the Program's approved pattern of admission without prior Board approval. The Program's pattern of admission is four full-time classes of 40 students per class each calendar year, to replace graduating classes only
  - b. The Program Director documents that adequate resources, i.e., faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
  - c. The Program must maintain an average annual licensure pass rate that is within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual licensure examination pass rate, consistent with Section 2530(I) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16.
- On August 18, 2011 a new Program Director was approved.
- On October 14, 2014 a new Program Director was approved.
- On April 27, 2015, the Executive Officer approved full approval for Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program for a four-year period from April 10, 2015 through April 9, 2019, and issue a certificate accordingly.
- Continue 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 approved pattern of admission without prior Board approval. The Program's pattern of admission is four full-time classes of 40 students per class each calendar year, to replace graduating classes only.

- b. The Program 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 licensure pass rate that is within ten percentage points of the state average annual licensure examination pass rate, consistent with Section 2530(I) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16.
- On December 14, 2018 a new Program Director was approved.
- On May 21, 2019 the Executive Officer considered the consultant's report relative to the Career Care Institute, Lancaster Vocational Nursing Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval. The following decisions were rendered.
  1. Grant continued full approval for the Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program for a four-year period beginning April 9, 2019, and issue a certificate accordingly.
  2. Continue approval of the Program's ongoing admission pattern to replace graduating classes, with the following stipulations:
    - a. No additional classes are added to the Program's approved pattern of admission without prior Board approval. The Program's pattern of admission is four full-time classes of 40 students per class each calendar year, to replace graduating classes only.
    - b. The Program 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(I) of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16.
  3. 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.
- On March 5, 2020 a new Program Director was approved.