CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
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DATE	November 9, 2026
TO	Board Members
REVIEWED BY	Judith D. McLeod DNP, CPNP, RN Supervising Nursing Education Consultant (SNEC)
PREPARED BY	Jessica Gomez MBA/HCM, MSN, RN, PHN Nursing Education Consultant (NEC)
SUBJECT	Recommendation for Removal of Pattern of Admission
PROGRAM	Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program (Program) (Program Director: Jennifer Summer, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, Private)

Please note: Board Nursing Education Consultants make recommendations. The recommendations are forwarded to the Education and Practice Committee for review and recommendation or to the Executive Officer or full Board for action.

BACKGROUND:

In May 2011, Career Care Institute (CCI) Lancaster was approved for a pattern of admission.

In September 2023, the CCI Program Directors began a discussion with the NEC regarding changing the textbooks in the instructional plan.

In October 2023, the United States Department of Education (US DOE) approved regulations on Financial Value Transparency and Gainful Employment. In part, these regulations set the maximum length for an eligible program for the purpose of receiving federal financial aid at the length prescribed in regulation by the State where the institution is located. In other words, if a program's length exceeded the state's minimum curriculum hours, students would be ineligible for Title IV aid for that program. The regulations became effective on July 1, 2024; however, this regulatory provision is currently not being enforced due to pending litigation.[1]

In October 2023, the CCI Program Directors decided that they would undertake a curriculum change for all of their campuses.

[1] *360 Degree Education v. U.S. Dept. of Education*, U.S. Dist. Ct. For the Northern Dist. of Tex. Fort Worth Div., Case No. 4:24-cv-00508; *American Massage Therapy Assn. v. U.S. Dept. of Education*, Dist. of Columbia Dist. Ct., Case No. 1:24-cv-01670.

On or around July 5, 2024, the curriculum revision was still in process, and the Program Directors were advised that the theory and clinical curriculum hours were not aligned, the objectives did not progress from basic to advanced concepts and were not measurable. They needed additional assistance with the curriculum revision working with an outside consultant was a consideration. The Program submitted various curriculum revisions to the NEC over the next eight months.
On August 15, 2024, the Program Directors discussed possibly delaying revision of the curriculum.

In October 2024, the Program Directors decided to restart the curriculum revision process. The Program Directors made the decision to revise the curriculum based on the following rationales:

- Increase the emphasis on critical thinking.
- The Program's ability to identify student mastery of Course Learning Objectives for each course.
- Increase the rigor of the program leading to an NCLEX pass on first attempt.

On or around March 5, 2025, the CCI administration hired a consultant to assist with the curriculum revision.

On January 28 and 29, 2026, the NEC conducted training at the CCI Lancaster Campus for all of the CCI Program Directors and campus directors. During the training, the Program's requested prospective curriculum revision was discussed. During that discussion, the NEC informed the attendees that once the Program's new curriculum was approved by the Board, all classes that start after the curriculum's approval would be required to utilize the new curriculum.

On February 23, 2026, the Program Directors submitted documentation requesting approval of the revised curriculum that had been in progress, with all required documents. The proposed curriculum revision reduced the program hours from 1564 to 1530 (576 theory and 954 clinical), which corresponds with the Board's curriculum requirements, and the duration from 62 weeks to 60 weeks. The Program Directors requested to have the curriculum submitted to the Executive Officer for approval at the next meeting.

In the NEC's March 3, 2026, report to the Board, the NEC recommended the following to the Executive Officer.

1. Approve the Program's request to admit a full-time day class of 40 students to commence on March 16, 2026, with a graduation date of July 10, 2027. This is not a replacement class.
2. Approve the increase in the pattern of admission from four full-time day or evening classes of 35 students per year, to five full-time day or evening classes of 40 students to initiate one class every 10 weeks. Not to exceed six classes running at any one time.

3. Approve the Program's request for a change in the curriculum from a full-time curriculum of 62 weeks to a revised full-time curriculum of 60 weeks, effective March 3, 2026. The proposed curriculum consists of 576 theory hours and 954 clinical hours totaling 1530 hours.
4. Require the Program to comply with all requirements specified in the NEC's report dated March 3, 2026.

On March 12, 2026, CCI administration requested a delay in the implementation of the new curriculum approved by the Board on March 3, 2026, citing internal preparation and obtaining the necessary approvals from Accreditation and BPPE for the curriculum change. This request was denied. The Lancaster Program Director verbally stated several times he understood and would not start a class on the old curriculum and would hold the class until May. BVNPT reiterated the requirement that all classes starting after a new curriculum is approved must use the new curriculum or CCI would need to hold the classes until CCI is ready to start the new curriculum.

On March 16, 2026, CCI, Lancaster started a class on the old curriculum.

On September 11, 2026, , the CCI administration notified the NEC that the Program Director was no longer employed with CCI and submitted a request to approve a new Program Director and also notified the NEC that the previous Program Director was no longer employed.

On September 15, 2026, the New Program Director submitted the annual report, including the enrollment form and updated faculty and facility form.

On October 2, 2026, during the BVNPT Board Meeting's discussion regarding the NEC's report concerning CCI, both the legal representative and the president of college stated other campuses were allowed to start on the old curriculum. Their comments can be found in the recording of the October 2, 2026, Board Meeting.

On October 7, 2026, the NEC requested information which included the student handbook, syllabus, instructor lesson plans, and instructional plan from the Program regarding the admission of any class started after March 3, 2026, on the old curriculum.

On October 7, 2026, the Program's submitted annual report was evaluated. The submitted enrollment form identified a class of students was initiated on March 16, 2026, on the old curriculum.

On October 19, 2025, the Program Director submitted the requested documents identifying that a class was started on the old curriculum on March 16, 2026.

On October 20, 2026, a Notice of Violation letter was sent to CCI Lancaster to the attention of the Program Director.

STAFF ANALYSIS:

The NEC reviewed and analyzed the documents provided by the Program Director to verify adequate resources including clinical facilities and classrooms to accommodate the students' learning needs and ability to meet the Program's approved objectives.

Submitted documentation by the Program Director substantiates adequate resources including faculty and facilities for students to achieve programmatic learning objectives.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Rescind the Program's current pattern of admission of 40 students to a day or evening class every 10 weeks, for a total of five classes a year, not to exceed six classes at one time.
2. Require the Program to comply with all requirements listed below.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Require the Program Director to notify the NEC in the event a current class is displaced from clinical sites.
2. Require the Program to obtain BVNPT approval prior to the admission of each class.
3. Require the Program to provide a maximum of ten students for each instructor. The California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2534(d) states: "for supervision of clinical experience, there shall be a maximum of 15 students for each instructor." Recommendation of one instructor for a maximum of ten students in clinical experiences will enable more focused instruction and enhanced learning to closely monitor and evaluate the clinical performance of students.
4. Require the Program, when requesting approval to admit students, to:
    a. Submit all documentation in final form, with all required information and without errors, using 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. Maintain an average annual pass rate that is compliant with California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2530(l).
5. Continue to require the Program to maintain an average annual pass rate that is compliant with California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2530(l).
6. Continue to require the Program to comply with all of the approval standards set forth in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing with California Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and in Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, commencing with Section 2525.

7. Any material changes in circumstances affecting any information contained in the documents submitted by the Program to the Board require the Program to notify the NEC immediately, in writing.
8. The only approved curriculum that may be used is that approved by the Board and effective on March 3, 2026.

RELEVANT PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Enrollment

California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2530(k) 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 has a pattern of admission which includes: a class of 40 students to a day or evening class every 10 weeks, for a total of five classes a year, not to exceed six classes at one time.

The following table represents current and projected student enrollment based on current and proposed class starts and completion dates. The table indicates a maximum enrollment of 164 students for the period September 2025 through October 2026.

ENROLLMENT DATA TABLE

Class Start Dates	Class Completion Dates	Number of Students Admitted	Number of Students Current	Number of Graduated	Total Enrolled
9/25 FT Day *(1/27)		35	25		25
12/25 FT Day *(4/27)		35	32		25 + 32 = 57
3/26 FT Day *(7/27)		24	13		57 + 13 = 70
6/27 FT EVE *(8/27)		20	16		70 + 16 = 86
8/26 FT Day *(10/27)		40	38		86 + 38 = 124
10/26 FT Day *(1/28)		40			124 + 40 = 164

*Indicates projected graduation date

Licensing Examination Statistics

California Code of Regulations, Title 16, 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.

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 October 2024 through September 2026, specify the pass percentage rate for graduates of the Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical/Vocational Nurses (NCLEX-PN®) and the variance from the 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
Oct – Dec 2024	18	16	89%	81%	90%	84%	+6
Jan – Mar 2025	18	17	94%	82%	89%	83%	+6
Apr – Jun 2025	14	12	86%	81%	88%	82%	+6
Jul – Sep 2025	20	19	95%	81%	91%	81%	+10
Oct – Dec 2025	14	12	86%	80%	91%	81%	+10
Jan – Mar 2026	18	18	100%	80%	92%	80%	+12
Apr – Jun 2026	20	19	95%	83%	94%	81%	+13
Jul – Sep 2026	31	30	97%	80%	95%	81%	+14

*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 (July– September 2026), the Program's average annual pass rate is 95 percent. 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 81 percent. The average annual pass rate for the Program is 14 percentage points above the state average annual pass rate.

Faculty and Facilities

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

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

The current number of approved faculty totals 22 including the Program Director. The Program Director has 100 percent administrative duties. Of the total faculty, 20 are designated to teach clinical. Based upon a maximum proposed enrollment of 164 students, and the required ten students to one instructor while on provisional approval, 17 instructors are required for clinical supervision. The utilization of faculty at clinical facilities is such that clinical instruction is covered adequately.

California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2534(b) 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 the Program has sufficient clinical facilities to afford the number, type and variety of patients that will provide clinical experience consistent with approved competency-based objectives and theory being taught for the current and proposed student enrollment.

Violation

Violation #1

Form 55M-15, at Section 13 on page 5, Instructional Plan states: Attach the following form, which is to be completed and submitted with this application: Vocational Nursing or Psychiatric Technician Program Curriculum Content - Instructional Plan (Form 55M-2W) (Revised 02/2024). An instructional plan is a document that correlates theory and clinical content and hours on a weekly basis and provides an overview of the teaching schedule; the document shall commit to curriculum in which theory hours precede clinical hours. Attach a document attesting that the instructional plan is available to all faculty.

Violation On October 2, 2026, the Board was notified that the Program started the March 16, 2026 class on the previous instructional plan.

Status: The violation is **not** corrected.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Program History

CAREER CARE 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's curriculum was approved for 1564 hours, including 588 theory, and 976 clinical hours.
- On April 11, 2003, the Program was approved for initial full approval for a four-year period from March 25, 2002, through April 10, 2007, and issued a certificate accordingly. The Program's request was approved for 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 Program was approved to increase the 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 full-time students on September 7, 2004, only, to replace students graduating on August 29, 2004.
- On November 2, 2004, the Executive Officer approved the Program's request to admit 30 part-time students on February 7, 2005, only, to replace students graduating on January 19, 2005.
- On August 17, 2005, the Executive Officer approved the Program's request to admit 67 full-time students on December 5, 2005, only, 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 Program lost its accreditation from the 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 Program.
- On February 3, 2006, the Executive Officer approved the Program's request for admission of 30 part-time evening students to commence 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 a pattern of admission to replace graduating classes, only, for the Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program with the following stipulations:

1) No additional classes are added to the Program's approved pattern of admission without prior Board approval. The Program's pattern of admission will be four full-time classes of 40 students per class each calendar year.

2) 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 approval 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 May 13, 2011, the Executive Officer approved full approval for Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program for the four-year period from April 10, 2011, through April 9, 2015, and directed staff to issue a certificate accordingly. The Executive Officer also approved the Program's pattern of admission to replace graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

  1) No additional classes are added to the Program's approved pattern of admission without prior approval. The Program's pattern of admission will be four full-time classes of 40 students per class each calendar year, to replace graduating classes only

  2) The Program Director documents that adequate resources, i.e., faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.

  3) The Program must maintain an average annual licensure pass rate that is within ten percentage points of the state average annual licensure examination pass rate, consistent with ~~of the~~ California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2530(l).

- 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 granted full approval for Career Care Institute, Lancaster, Vocational Nursing Program for the four-year period from April 10, 2015, through April 9, 2019, and direct staff to issue a certificate accordingly.

  1) Continued approval of the Program's pattern of admission 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 for admission will be 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 California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2530(l).

- On December 14, 2018, a new Program Director was approved.
- On May 21, 2019, the Executive Officer rendered the following decisions:
  1. Granted 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. Continued approval of the Program's pattern of admission 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 for admissions 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 California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2530(l).
  3. 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 2525.
- On March 5, 2022, a new Program Director was approved.
- On January 5, 2023, the Program Academic Administrator notified the NEC that the Program Director is out on Medical Leave. The Program will be covered by Assistant Program Director.
- On February 17, 2023, a new Assistant Program Director was approved.
- On March 28, 2023 the Executive Officer rendered the following decisions:
  1. Approved the Program's request to Admit a full-time day class of 40 students to commence on March 16, 2026, with a graduation date of July 10, 2027. This is not a replacement class.
  2. Approved to increase the pattern of admission from four full-time day or evening classes of 35 students per year, to five full-time day or evening classes of 40 students to be started every 10 weeks.
  3. Required the Program to comply with all requirements listed below.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

1. Required the Program Director to notify the NEC in the event a current class is displaced from clinical sites.

2. Continued the Program's approved pattern admission to include admitting a class of 40 students to a day or evening class every 10 weeks.
    a. No additional classes are added to the Program's pattern of admission without prior approval.
    b. The Program is approved for a pattern of admission to replace graduating classes only.
3. Continued to require the Program to maintain an average annual pass rate that is compliant with California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2530(l).
4. Continued to require the Program to comply with all of the approval standards set forth in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing with California Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and in Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, commencing with Section 2525.
5. Any material changes in circumstances affecting any information contained in the documents submitted by the Program to the Board requires the Program to notify the NEC immediately, in writing, per California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526(g).

- On July 17, 2023, a new Program Director was approved.
- On March 3, 2026, The Executive Officer rendered the following decisions.
    1. Approved the Program's request to admit a full-time day class of 40 students to commence on March 16, 2026, with a graduation date of July 10, 2027. This is not a replacement class.
    2. Approved the increase in the pattern of admission from four full-time day or evening classes of 35 students per year, to five full-time day or evening classes of 40 students to initiate one class every 10 weeks. Not to exceed six classes running at any one time.
    3. Approved the Program's request for a change in the curriculum from a full-time curriculum of 62 weeks to a revised full-time curriculum of 60 weeks, effective March 3, 2026. The proposed curriculum consists of 576 theory hours and 954 clinical hours totaling 1530 hours.
    4. Required the Program to comply with all requirements listed below.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

1. Required the Program Director to notify the NEC in the event a current class is displaced from clinical sites.
2. Continued the Program's approved pattern admission to include admitting a class of 40 students to a day or evening class every 10 weeks.
    a. No additional classes are added to the Program's pattern of admission without prior approval.
    b. The Program is approved for a pattern of admission of five classes per year, not to exceed six classes running at any one time.

3. Continued to require the Program to maintain an average annual pass rate that is compliant with California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2530(l).
4. Continued to require the Program to comply with all of the approval standards set forth in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing with California Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and in Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, commencing with Section 2525.
5. Any material changes in circumstances affecting any information contained in the documents submitted by the Program to the Board require the Program to notify the NEC immediately, in writing, California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526(g).

- On September 11, 2026, a new Program Director was approved.