

**PETITION FOR WAIVER OF FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS
SOUTHWEST TEXAS JUNIOR COLLEGE IN UVALDE, TEXAS
ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider the petition from Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program to request a faculty waiver on behalf of Liza Hurtado, BSN, RN and the recommendation from the Education Liaison Committee (ELC) regarding the petition.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

- SWTJC in Uvalde, Texas received Initial Approval to begin a new LVN to ADN Mobility Program at the October 2007 Board meeting.
- Initially the program planned to begin classes in January 2008 but delays in reconstruction of the building pushed the date for the start of the program to the summer session.
- Board staff conducted a site visit on May 12-13, 2008 to survey the facilities and to review program materials for the new start date with the director.
- During the visit, the director discussed with board staff the difficulties in hiring adequate qualified faculty who will agree to a full time faculty contract with SWTJC.
- Though there were a number of potential qualified faculty when the proposal was presented to the Board, several of them have changed their plans with the delay in program implementation.
- Besides Dr. Goosen, there is currently one fully qualified nursing faculty on board and several MSN prepared nurses willing to provide adjunct instruction and guest lectures.
- The director and administration at SWTJC realize that there must be a "grown your own" effort to increase the number of available full time faculty members.
- The program is requesting a waiver for Liza Hurtado, BSN, RN who is currently engaged in MSN studies to assist in the beginning semester of the program (See Attachment #1).
- For fully approved programs, the director is permitted to issue a faculty waiver if the potential faculty member meets certain criteria.
- Since the program is on initial approval, Board approval is required for this waiver.
- Dr. Goosen is requesting the waiver for the summer 2008 semester since other qualified faculty candidates are emerging for the fall semester.
- The request has been submitted to the Education Liaison Committee (ELC).
- The members of the ELC recommend approval of the waiver.

PROS:

- Dr. Goosen and SWTJC are actively engaged in faculty recruitment for the Associate Degree Nursing Educational program.
- Ms. Hurtado has completed 50% of the coursework toward the MSN.
- SWTJC offers faculty release time and a college automobile for use in furthering their education.
- Two nursing faculty are currently enrolled in MSN programs.
- Other qualified adjunct faculty will be available in September 2008.

CONS:

- The likelihood of qualified nursing faculty relocating to the Uvalde community is remote.

EDUCATION LIAISON COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Members of the Education Liaison Committee voted to recommend approval of the faculty waiver for Liza Hurtado, BSN, RN which would allow Ms. Hurtado to assume a faculty role during the Summer 2008, pending Board approval at the July 2008 meeting. The program was advised of this recommendation in a letter dated June 11, 2008 (see Attachment #2).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Move to approve the request for faculty waiver on behalf of Liza Hurtado, BSN, RN based on the recommendation from the Education Liaison Committee as indicated in the attached letter (See Attachment #3).

Education (Summarize): **Include copies of transcripts, if applicable for obtaining the waiver.**

Unofficial copies of her transcript from UTHSCSA have been mailed to Dr. Janis Hooper.

FOR PROFESSIONAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS REQUESTING AN EMERGENCY WAIVER

Description of circumstances constituting the necessity for requesting the Emergency Waiver:

Liza is currently employed and because of her progress toward her MSN, I made the false assumption that she was qualified. The major issue is that we are a new program and not fully approved.

For an Emergency Waiver, include copies of transcripts that verify completion of BSN and graduate work, if applicable. The transcript states her completion date for the BSN in the flex program. If more is needed, please advise.

Dean, Director, or Coordinator Signature

Date

Signed by Dr. Geraldine Goosen – 5/21/08

June 11, 2008

Geraldine M. Goosen, PhD, CNS, RN
Director, Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program
Southwest Texas Junior College
2401 Garner Field Road
Uvalde, Texas 78801

Dear Dr. Goosen:

This will acknowledge receipt of your request dated May 21, 2008 requesting consideration by the Board of Nursing regarding a petition for faculty waiver for Liza Hurtado, BSN, RN beginning with the Summer semester, June, 2008. Since the program is on initial approval status and does not meet the minimum program criteria in Rule 215.7(d)(1), Rule 215.7(d)(1)(E)(iii) requires that "a petition for a waiver shall be submitted to the Board and be reviewed by the members of the ELC for recommendation regarding approval and referred to the full Board for ratification." The petition was reviewed by the Education Liaison Committee (ELC) of the Board and the waiver was approved on June 6, 2008. This decision requires ratification by the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting on July 17, 2008.

Since the ELC approved the petition for waiver, Ms. Hurtado may be hired as a faculty member for the Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program at SWTJC beginning June 2008 pending Board approval in July.

If you have any questions, please contact board staff at (512) 305-6814. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janice I. Hooper, PhD, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: Juan Guzman, MEd, Technical Education Director, SWTJC
Lisa Hurtado, BSN, RN

DRAFT LETTER

July 21, 2008

Geraldine M. Goosen, PhD, CNS, RN
Director, Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program
Southwest Texas Junior College
2401 Garner Field Road
Uvalde, Texas 78801

Dear Dr. Goosen:

This letter is to notify you that your request for approval to hire Liza Hurtado, BSN, RN as faculty member for the Associate Degree Nursing Educational Program at Southwest Texas Junior College in Uvalde, Texas was discussed at the July 17-18, 2008 meeting of the Board of Nursing. Based upon the discussion and the recommendation of the Education Liaison Committee of the Board, it was the decision of the Board to ratify approval for Ms. Hurtado to serve as a waived faculty member in the LVN to ADN mobility program beginning with the summer 2008 semester.

If you have questions, please contact board staff at (512) 305-6814.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP
President

Janice I. Hooper, PhD, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: Juan Guzman, MEd, Technical Education Director, SWTJC
Liza Hurtado, BSN, RN