

**NOTICE OF CLOSURE OF BAPTIST HEALTH SYSTEM DIPLOMA PROGRAM  
IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

Consider Baptist Health System School of Health Professions, San Antonio, Texas notification of closure of their Diploma Nursing Education program.

**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

- Baptist Health System School of Health Professions was originally established in 1903 in San Antonio as a hospital-based nursing educational program. They believe that the program is the oldest professional nursing educational program in Texas.
- Program staff have submitted a Notification Form indicating closure of the diploma education program (See Attachment #1).
- By the time of closure, the program will have graduated 3,289 professional nursing students.
- Baptist Health System School of Health Professions has met the requirement in Section 301.157(a-1) of the Nursing Practice Act, "A diploma program of study in this state that leads to an initial license as a registered nurse under this chapter and that is completed on or after December 31, 2014, must entitle a student to receive a degree on the student's successful completion of a degree program of a public or private institution of higher education accredited by an agency recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board," by changing their curriculum to comply with WECM requirements, receiving ABHES accreditation with authorization to grant an associate's degree, receiving a certificate of authorization from the THECB, and receiving BON approval in January 2009 to initiate an associate degree program.
- The ADN program at Baptist is in operation with 106 of 115 first-time test-takers passing the NCLEX-RN in 2009 (92.17%).

**PROS AND CONS:**

Pros:

- The Diploma program has provided exemplary service to the citizens of the State of Texas by providing sound professional nursing education for over 100 years and by thus providing professional nurses to help meet the health care needs of Texas citizens.
- All eligible students have completed their program requirements and graduated from the Diploma program, pending a single student anticipated to complete a single non-nursing course in early January 2010.
- Program staff have provided notification (see Attachment #1) of the intent to close the Diploma program, including a plan for retention and access to vital program records.
- The ADN program at Baptist Health System School of Health Professions is in operation and demonstrating success in educating professional nursing candidates.

Cons:

- None identified

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Move to accept notification from Baptist Health System School of Health Professions, San Antonio, Texas of closure of their Diploma Nursing Educational Program and to formally acknowledge Baptist Health System for their historical contributions to professional nursing education in the State of Texas.

**TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING NOTIFICATION FORM  
CLOSING A NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM  
OR AN EXTENSION NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

<b>NAME OF NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM</b>	Program Code: 27- <u>382</u>
<b>TYPE OF PROGRAM</b>	Diploma
<b>NAME OF DEAN/DIRECTOR</b>	Melanie M. Brady Phone No: 210-297-9104 Email: mbrady@baptisthealthsystem.com
<b>LOCATION OF NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OR EXTENSION PROGRAM</b>	8400 Datapoint Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78229
<b>REASON FOR CLOSURE</b>	<b>BRIEFLY DESCRIBE:</b> The course of study was changed from diploma to A.D.N. in January 2009.
<b>DATE OF CLOSURE</b>	December 8, 2009
<b>ACADEMIC PROVISIONS FOR CURRENT STUDENTS OF NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OR EXTENSION PROGRAM</b>	<b>BRIEFLY DESCRIBE:</b> Only one diploma student remains. The final student in the program must complete Growth and Development no later than 12/8/09 to meet graduation requirements. All diploma nursing courses have been completed
<b>PROVISIONS FOR ACCESS TO AND SAFE STORAGE OF VITAL SCHOOL RECORDS</b>	<b>BRIEFLY DESCRIBE:</b> The registrar's office will remain intact and will continue to maintain all diploma program records.
<b>METHODS TO BE USED TO MAINTAIN REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS UNTIL THE PROGRAM CLOSURES</b>	<b>BRIEFLY DESCRIBE:</b> The school remains functional and can process the final student's requirements.
<b>COMMENTS:</b> All diploma students have graduated except for the one remaining student who must complete all requirements by 12/8/09.	
<b>SIGNATURE:</b> <i>Melanie M. Brady</i>	<b>DATE:</b> <i>10/9/09</i>

\*Please attach additional pages if needed.

Date Presented at Board Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

January 25, 2010

Melanie Brady, MSN, RN  
Director  
Baptist Health System School of Health Professions  
8400 Datapoint Drive  
San Antonio, TX 78229-3234

Dear Ms. Brady:

At their January 21-22, 2010 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing reviewed Baptist Health System's notice of closure of the Diploma nursing education program. It was the decision of the Board to accept the notification.

The Board wishes to extend their congratulations on the success of the program for over 100 years and for graduating nearly 3300 students. The efforts of faculty and administrators through the years have contributed significantly to the health of the citizens of the State of Texas, and those efforts are to be commended.

The NCLEX-RN testing code 27-382 can remain active to allow any graduates who have not yet successfully passed the licensure exam to continue testing. Please advise Board staff when all graduates have completed testing to enable closure of the testing code.

If you should have any questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact Board staff at 512-305-7658.

Best regards,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP  
President

Paul R. Waller, PhD, RN  
Nursing Consultant for Education