

**Consideration for Change of Approval Status from Full with Warning to Conditional
 Cisco College in Abilene, Texas
 Associate Degree Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider a proposed change in the program approval status of Cisco College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Abilene, Texas, based upon review of the 2010 NCLEX-RN® examination rate, the 2010 NEPIS, and Rule 215.

Historical Perspective:

- Cisco College Associate Degree Nursing Program has been in operation since 1995, first as an LVN to ADN program.
- In July 2005, the Board granted Initial approval to the new generic ADN program; the first graduates tested in the 2007 exam year.
- The two separate programs were merged into one program in July 2008, so the data are no longer differentiated as separate programs starting with exam year 2009.
- The NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates for the past five (5) years follow:

Exam Year	NCLEX-RN® Pass Rate	Number of First-Time Candidates (Passed / Total)	BON Approval Status	Date of Change in Approval Status
2010	78.26%	36/46	(Pending)	
2009	78.26% (Combined)	36/46	Full w/ Warning	April 2010
2008	57.89% (Generic ADN)	11/19	Full	
	----- 75.00% (LVN to ADN)	----- 21/28	----- Full	
2007	80.00% (Generic ADN)	12/15	Full	October 2007
	----- 86.84% (LVN to ADN)	----- 33/38	----- Full	
2006	New Program (Generic)	(No candidates)	Initial	July 2005
	----- 75.76% (LVN to ADN)	----- 25/33	----- Full	

- Following the 2008 exam year and decline of NCLEX-RN® pass rates below 80%, the program submitted a Self-Study report in May 2009. The Report identified nine (9) Findings and ten (10) Corrective Measures.
- The Corrective Measures include: 1) More critical thinking activities and less lecture in classrooms; 2) Incorporation of computerized testing early in the program; 3) NCLEX review course as 1-credit co-requisite with final semester courses ; 4) Identify at-risk students and provide remediation and behavioral improvement programming; 5) Incorporating commercial comprehensive predictor testing; 6) Revise admission criteria ("age" of prerequisites); 7) Efforts to reduce faculty turnover; and 8) Better utilization of evaluation findings.
- The program was moved from Full approval to Full with Warning at the April 2010 meeting, based on pass rates of <80.00% for two consecutive years.

PROs and CONs:**Pros:**

- The 2009 Self-Study report analyzed all aspects of the program and identified a list of 9 Findings and 10 Corrective Measures, which provided goals for program administration and faculty.

Cons:

- Corrective actions identified by the program have not had a positive impact on the NCLEX-RN® pass rate.

Background for Recommendation:

Rule 215.4(a)(4) sets forth the parameters of conditional approval status as follows:

(4) Conditional approval is issued by the Board for a specified time to provide the program the opportunity to correct deficiencies.

(A) The program shall not admit students while on conditional status.

(B) The Board may establish specific criteria to be met in order for the program's conditional approval status to be removed.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status of Cisco College in Abilene, Texas Associate Degree Nursing Education Program from Full with Warning to Conditional approval, specify the time for conditional approval status be set until the program demonstrates an annual pass rate for first time test takers of at least 80% on the NCLEX-RN® examination, and authorize Board staff to conduct a survey visit as indicated in the attached letter (Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

May 2, 2011

Jackolyn Morgan, EdD, MSN, RN
Dean, Health Sciences
Cisco College
717 East Industrial Blvd.
Abilene, TX 79602

Dear Dr. Morgan:

At the April 28-29, 2011 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status of the Cisco College Associate Nursing Education Program based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2010, review of the 2010 NEPIS, and compliance with Rule 215. Members of the Board wish to thank you and <<INSERT AS NEEDED>> for being present at the meeting to answer questions.

Based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to:

1. Change the approval status of Cisco College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program from Full with Warning to Conditional.
2. Specify the time for conditional approval status be set until the program demonstrates an annual pass rate for first time test takers of at least 80% on the NCLEX-RN® examination.
3. Authorize staff to conduct a survey visit and to report back to the Board at the July 2011 meeting.

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The purposes of conditional approval status are to allow faculty additional time to correct deficiencies which include improving the performance of graduates on the licensing examination and to protect additional students from the risk of receiving education preparation that does not meet Board standards. **Therefore**, the program must continue to evaluate the changes and strategies implemented over the past few years and initiate new strategies to improve student success. **The program shall not admit students until given permission by the Board.**

Board staff will contact you to schedule a survey visit. If you have any questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact staff at (512) 305-7658.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN
President

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

copy: THECB