

**Consideration for Change in Approval Status from Conditional to Full Approval
 Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas
 Associate Degree Nursing Program**

Staff Request:

Consider a change in approval status from Conditional to Full Approval for Del Mar College Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Program in Corpus Christi, Texas, based upon measures taken to promote success of the graduates of the program and the 2012 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate.

Historical Perspective:

- The ADN program at Del Mar College began operation in 1967.
- The ADN program holds national nursing accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission. (The ADN program has held national nursing accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission since June 1970 with the next evaluation visit due Spring 2018.)
- The NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for the past five (5) years:

| Examination Year | BON Approval Status | Annual Pass Rate | Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total) |
|------------------|---|------------------|--|
| 2012 | Conditional issued in January 2012 | 97.06% | 132/136 |
| 2011 | Full with Warning | 78.52% | 117/149 |
| 2010 | Full with Warning issued in January 2011 | 79.56% | 144/181 |
| 2009 | Full | 77.20% | 149/193 |
| 2008 | Full | 83.50% | 172/206 |

- The program was placed on Conditional Approval at the January 2012 Board meeting due to three consecutive years of NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates below the required 80%.
- The program had previously submitted a Self-Study Report to Board Staff in 2010 which identified several areas that may have contributed to the performance of the graduates (faculty turnover, difficulty in recruitment of qualified faculty, admission policies, and curriculum design).
- In August 2010, Dr. Evangeline Deleon was approved as the new director for the program and she had served that time.
- Board Staff conducted a survey visit on October 12-13, 2011.
- The program has been restricted from enrolling new students since January 2012.
- The faculty have made significant changes to the program and the tentative 2012 examination pass rate is 97.06%.

Staff Rationale for the Recommendation:

The faculty have made significant program changes including admission and readmission criteria and delivery of the curriculum. Not only have they achieved the required 80% examination pass rate but will receive commendations for the pass rate above 90%. It is imperative that the program's approval status be changed to reflect their performance and in order for them to begin enrolling students again.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to approve a change in approval status for Del Mar College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program from Conditional to Full Approval and allow their renewed enrollment of new students in the program (See draft letter in the Attachment).

DRAFT LETTER

October 22, 2012

Evangeline Deleon, PhD, RN, Director
Associate Degree Nursing Education Program
Del Mar College
101 Baldwin Blvd.
Corpus Christi, Texas 78404

Dear Dr. Deleon:

At the October 18, 2012 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the approval status of the Del Mar College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program based upon the 2012 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate, positive measures implemented by the program, and compliance with Rule 215.

Based upon the review of the program's status and supporting documents, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Del Mar College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program from Conditional to Full Approval. This change means that the program may commence to enroll new students in the program. The Board congratulates the program for implementing changes that have resulted in program improvement. The program is commended for the 97.06% examination pass rate for 2012.

If you have any questions or if we may be of assistance, please contact Board Staff at (512) 463-4631.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN
President

Sandi Emerson, MSN, RN
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission
President, Del Mar College