

**Proposal to Establish A New Nursing Education Program  
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin, Odessa, Texas  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program**

**Summary of Request:**

Consider The University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) proposal to establish a new baccalaureate degree nursing (BSN) education program in Odessa, Texas. The final revised proposal was made available online to members of the Board. A notice of public hearing has been posted (See Attachment #1).

**Historical Perspective:**

- UTPB is a comprehensive, four-year university of The University of Texas System, located in Odessa, Texas.
- Authorized by the Texas Legislature in 1969 as an upper level university, UTPB achieved four-year status and added freshman and sophomore level classes in 1991.
- UTPB is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate and master's degrees.
- UTPB has an enrollment of 3,600 students from 129 Texas counties, 35 states, and 20 countries.
- UTPB offers an established pre-health professional program for pre-medical, pre-veterinarian, and pre-dentistry students.
- UTPB is proposing to add a baccalaureate degree nursing program to the Odessa campus in response to strong interests from the community.
- Board Staff received a letter of intent to develop a proposal for a baccalaureate degree nursing (BSN) at UTPB on May 31, 2011. The initial proposal was received in February 2012, and a revised draft was received in Board office in January 2013.
- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has authorized UTPB to create a BSN program and to create the Department of Nursing.
- UTPB is requesting BON approval for a new BSN program on the Odessa campus to begin in Fall 2013 with forty (40) junior-level students ready entering the nursing program of study. First graduates are expected in May 2015. The program is proposing admitting two cohorts each year of forty (40) students each [one (1) cohort in fall semester and one (1) cohort in spring semester.]
- Board Staff and Dr. W. David Watts, President of UTPB; Dr. William Fannin, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost; and Dr. Dorothy Jackson, Director of Nursing Program Development engaged in a conference call in preparation for the survey visit and Board presentation.
- A site visit was conducted on March 18, 2013 to ensure readiness of the physical site.

**Summary of the Proposal:**

Overview of the Proposal:

- The proposed UTPB BSN program consists of a total of 120 semester credit hours with 66 credits devoted to the core and the nursing prerequisite courses, and 54 credits devoted to the courses in the nursing major.
- The proposed curriculum is designed to prepare the BSN graduate to be an advocate for safety and the promotion for health and wellness for individuals in a diverse and multicultural society.
- Many of the students who have inquired about the proposed BSN program have completed the required core curriculum and the pre-nursing courses.
- A pool of students prepared to enter the junior year of the nursing curriculum are ready to begin in Fall 2013.
- Dedicated space on campus has been renovated to house the nursing program.

Rationale and Need for the Program:

- The proposal cites the projected need for more BSN-prepared nurses in the state to provide the complex nursing care in the twenty-first century.
- Surveys of local acute care facilities in the Midland-Odessa area indicated a growing need for registered nurses in the near future.
- There are three (3) major hospitals within a twenty-five (25) mile radius of the university and all are seen as potential employers for the UTPB nursing graduates.
- Letters of support from a number of health care facilities in the area are included in the proposal.

### Administration and Organization

- The organization chart for the nursing program includes:
  - a coordinator for the simulation lab
  - a simulation technician
  - a clinical director
  - a retention coach
  - adjunct clinical faculty
  - administrative assistant
  - faculty support staff
  - at least seven (7) faculty
- The nursing director will report directly to the Provost.
- W. David Watts, President of UTPB, and Dr. William Fannin, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, have signed affidavits of support and approval of the proposal.
- The Office of Institutional Development at UTPB is actively engaged in locating grants and donations for the new program. Substantial funding for the program has already been secured.
- When the nursing program is approved, it will have a voice and representation on the Faculty Senate.
- The program will also establish a Nursing Advisory Council with representatives from the community as well as from health care and business entities.
- The proposed director of the program is Dorothy Jackson, PhD, RN. Her academic credentials, and experience in nursing education and in nursing practice fully meet Board qualifications for this position. Dr. Jackson has been in place at the university to plan the nursing program since June 2011.

### Faculty

- The first faculty member and Clinical Director was hired on December 9, 2011.
- The university is currently advertising for potential nursing faculty and have identified ten (10) qualified candidates.
- The Faculty Handbook includes all required faculty policies and by-laws for the faculty organization and committee structure.
- Dr. Jackson discussed plans for faculty development and for interrater reliability processes with Board Staff.

### Students

- In recent years UTPB has developed a collection of programs and services designed to increase the pool of college-ready students coming from the West Texas region and to increase their success in the educational pursuit.
- Students who attend the nursing program at UTPB will have access to a full range of college activities.
- UTPB has a good working relationship with community colleges in the West Texas region to facilitate transfers from community colleges to the university.
- West Texas has a significant Hispanic population that is underrepresented in the health professions, particularly in nursing, and they hope to recruit them into the program.
- Admission to the nursing program will be a separate admission activity than general admission to the university.
- The program plans to recruit future nurses through public schools as early as fourth graders.
- A pool of students with prerequisite courses who are ready to apply to the nursing program are available on campus.
- The Student Handbook includes required policies and information related to eligibility to take the NCLEX examination.
- Plans for records maintenance and retention are in place.
- The Total Program Evaluation Plan is included in the proposal.

### Program of Study

- The curriculum is consistent with the BON DECs (2010), the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Essentials for Baccalaureate Nursing Education (2008), and accepted professional standards for nursing education and practice.
- The UTPB core curriculum and required nursing prerequisites of sixty-six (66) semester credit hours includes a wide range of sciences and liberal arts courses. In addition, the nursing prerequisites include a three (3) semester credit hour pathology and pharmacology course to build on the basic sciences, and give the students a foundation for nursing clinical assessments, care planning, and interventions in health and illness.

- The nursing curriculum content and clinical experiences require that the students progress from basic simple settings to highly complex clinical experiences.
- Specific concepts in a Person-Centered framework include critical/clinical reasoning, evidence-based practice holistic nursing, cultural diversity concepts, ethics and professionalism, and professional accountability as a lifelong learner.
- Remediation will be available for students during the curriculum in order to ensure their success through the program.
- The program includes a required three (3) credit course in Spanish for health professionals in response to the increasing Hispanic population particularly in West Texas.

#### Clinical Learning Experiences

- Clinical learning experiences include mastering nursing skills; practice in patient assessment; application of leadership principles; and experiences in medical-surgical, mental health, geriatrics, women's health and obstetrics, pediatrics, public health, and intensive care nursing.
- Clinical learning experiences will begin in the nursing lab, proceed to the simulation lab, and to actual hands-on patient care activities.
- Clinical facilities in the Odessa-Midland area and the surrounding counties have expressed their ability to accommodate the additional students from UTPB.
- Representatives of UTPB, the two associate degree programs, and Texas Tech program have agreed to work collaboratively to coordinate clinical experiences for all the students in the area.
- Preceptors will be used in the last part of the program because they believe this is when students will benefit most from the experience.
- The proposal includes letters of commitment and signed contracts from area facilities.

#### Facilities, Resources, and Services

- The space dedicated to the UTPB nursing program is on the third floor of the Mesa Building.
- The area includes more than adequate space for the Director's Suite, faculty offices and work areas, practice and simulation labs, storage area, seminar rooms, and classrooms.
- The Third Floor West Wing of the Mesa Building has been completely renovated for the nursing program. Each classroom is equipped with high-tech educational projection equipment and screens.
- Photographs are included in the proposal.
- Board Staff conducted a site visit (See Attachment #2) and determined the physical site meets Board requirements and is adequate for the program.
- The university has a full range of student services.

**Rationale for Staff Recommendation:** The proposed program director has been in residence at UTPB since June 2011 and has been engaged in the development of the program and in establishing relationships with other nursing programs and with agencies in the health care community. Support from the community has been demonstrated. The proposal is complete and meets all Board requirements.

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

Move to approve the proposed new baccalaureate degree nursing program at The University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa, Texas, to enroll forty (40) students each fall and forty (40) students each spring beginning Fall 2013 until the program's approval status has been changed from initial to full approval, as indicated in the attached Board Order. (See Attachment #3.)

**BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
**333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460**  
**Austin, Texas 78701-3942**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
for  
Consideration of a Proposal from  
The University of Texas of Permian Basin  
To Establish A  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program  
in Odessa, Texas

Date and Time: April 18, 2013 at 2:00 PM  
Place: Hobby Building  
333 Guadalupe Street  
Tower II, Room 225  
Austin, Texas

The Board will hear testimony from individuals who wish to present information concerning the proposal. Written testimony will also be considered and should be received in the Board office by April 4, 2013.

Address written testimony to:  
Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director  
Texas Board of Nursing  
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460  
Austin, Texas 78701-3942

**TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**  
**SITE VISIT REPORT FOR NEW PROGRAM**  
 (Professional Nursing Education Programs)

NAME OF NURSING PROGRAM: University of Texas of the Permian Basin

DEAN OR DIRECTOR: Dorothy Jackson, PhD, RN, GCNS, FNP

DATE APPOINTED: Date of Approval

REASON FOR SURVEY: Site Visit for Proposed Program DATE(S): March 18, 2013

SURVEY VISITOR(S): Kristin Benton, MSN, RN, and Janice I. Hooper, PhD, RN FRE

In this report the nursing program met standards and criteria unless otherwise indicated by narrative. Narrative in the Evidence column documents findings of pertinent data, outstanding performance, or deficiencies. Narrative in the Comments column includes recommendations or requirements to be met based on analysis of the survey visit.

STANDARD/CRITERIA	EVIDENCE	COMMENTS
<p><b>§215.11 Facilities, Resources, and Services</b>            (a) The governing entity shall be responsible for providing:            (1) educational facilities,            (2) resources, and            (3) services which support the effective development and implementation of the professional nursing education program.</p>	<p>Dedicated space at UTPB has been provided and rebuilt for the nursing program.            Board staff visited student services on campus: academic admission, registrar, student success. Full counseling services are available. Board staff toured classrooms and lecture halls; biology, microbiology, and chemistry labs, and spoke with faculty. Board staff also visited new dorm apartments that are part of the growing housing facilities for UTPB students. 700 dorm beds are currently available with more under construction.            Board Staff visited the student activity center which provides a venue for student meals and recreation. Also Board staff took both a driving tour and walking tour of the campus.</p>	<p>Criteria met.</p>
<p>(b) An appropriately equipped skills laboratory shall be provided to accommodate the maximum number of students allowed for the program.            (1) The laboratory shall be equipped with hot and cold running water.            (2) The laboratory shall have adequate storage for equipment and supplies.</p>	<p>Visited newly constructed skills lab with six individual exam-care cubicles, simulation area with multiple areas for different simulation scenarios, debriefing rooms, medication rooms with 2 automated-medication dispensing systems, communication rooms where actors will pose as patients. Hot and cold running water available.</p>	<p>Criteria met.</p>

STANDARD/CRITERIA	EVIDENCE	COMMENTS
(c) The dean/director and faculty shall have adequate secretarial and clerical assistance to meet the needs of the program.	An administrative assistant was employed to assist the program. The director is currently housed in an office that will serve as a debriefing room.	
<p>(d) The physical facilities shall be adequate to meet the needs of the program in relation to the size of the faculty and the student body.</p> <p>(1) The dean/director shall have a private office.</p> <p>(2) Faculty offices shall be conveniently located and adequate in number and size to provide faculty with privacy for conferences with students and uninterrupted work.</p> <p>(3) Space for clerical staff, records, files, and equipment shall be adequate.</p> <p>(4) There shall be mechanisms which provide for the security of sensitive materials, such as examinations and health records.</p> <p>(5) Classrooms, laboratories, and conference rooms shall be conducive to learning and adequate in number, size, and type for the number of students and the educational purposes for which the rooms are used.</p> <p>(6) Teaching aids shall be provided to meet the objectives/outcomes of the program.</p> <p>(7) Adequate restrooms and lounges shall be provided convenient to the classroom.</p>	<p>New individual offices are available for faculty near a large suite for the director and administrative assistant. Board staff saw invoices of all furnishings on order for offices and learning areas.</p> <p>An immense room for storage of equipment and supplies, is in the nursing department. One secured room is designated for records and files. All labs and learning spaces are locked and students, faculty, and staff will have access badges.</p> <p>Classrooms are all provided with modern audio-visual equipment. A conference room is available. Adequate restrooms and lounges are available.</p>	Criterion met.
<p>(e) The learning resources, library, and departmental holdings shall be current, use contemporary technology appropriate for the level of the curriculum, and be sufficient for the size of the student body and the needs of the faculty.</p> <p>(1) Provisions shall be made for accessibility, availability, and timely delivery of information resources.</p> <p>(2) Facilities and policies shall promote effective use, i.e. environment, accessibility, and hours of operation.</p>	Board staff visited the library which has hard copies and access to online information and provides remote online accessibility to students. The library has computers available for student use. The library is open every day for long hours. Study rooms are available in the library. Board staff visited the lecture hall in the library.	Criteria met.

DRAFT LETTER

April 18, 2013

Dorothy Jackson, PhD, RN, GCNS, FNP  
Director of Nursing Program  
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin  
4901 E. University  
Odessa, Texas 79762

Dear Dr. Jackson:

At the April 18-19, 2013 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON or Board) discussed the proposal from The University of Texas of the Permian Basin to Establish a New Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Odessa, Texas. The members of the Board wish to thank you and ----- for being present to answer questions.

As indicated by the enclosed order, it was the Board's decision to grant Initial Approval status to The University of Texas of the Permian Basin Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Odessa, Texas, and beginning in the Fall 2013, the program shall enroll no more than forty (40) students per admission and shall limit admissions to two (2) per year until the program is on full approval, as indicated in the attached Board Order.

Congratulations and best wishes.

If you have questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact Board Staff at (512) 305-6814.

Sincerely,

Kathy Shipp, MSN, RN, FNP  
President of the Board

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

copy: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
W. David Watts, PhD, President, UTPB  
William Fannin, PhD, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost, UTPB

# BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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## **In the Matter of:**

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program  
in Odessa, Texas

## **ORDER OF THE BOARD**

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on April 18, 2013, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of The University of Texas of the Permian Basin Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education in Odessa, Texas, based upon the review of the Proposal to Establish a New Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program and findings from the March 18, 2013, survey visit, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 215.

Board members in attendance were: Kathy Shipp, MSN, RN, FNP; Nina Almasy, MSN, RN; Deborah Hughes Bell, CLU, ChFC; Patti Clapp, BA; Tamara Cowen, MN, RN; Sheri Denise Crosby, JD, SPHR; Marilyn J. Davis, RN, BSN, MPA; Richard Robert Gibbs, LVN; Josefina Lujan, PhD, RN; Kathy Leader-Horn, LVN; Mary LeBeck, MSN, RN; and Beverly Jean Nutall, LVN.

After review and due consideration of the filed materials, as well as the presentation by representatives from The University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa, Texas, the Board hereby grants INITIAL APPROVAL of The University of Texas of the Permian Basin Nursing Education Program in Odessa, Texas, and hereby imposes the following condition/requirement:

1. The program shall not enroll more than forty (40) students per each admission and shall limit admissions to two (2) per year.

Entered this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013

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Kathy Shipp, MSN, RN, FNP  
President of the Board