

**Consideration of the Voluntary Closure of a Nursing Education Program
American Medical Institute in Houston, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the notification received from American Medical Institute (AMI) in Houston, Texas, to close its vocational nursing (VN) education program, effective April 16, 2014.

Historical Perspective:

- The AMI VN program has been in operation since Fall 2008.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates since the program began are provided below:

| Year | BON Approval Status | NCLEX-PN® Pass Rate | Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total) |
|------|--|---------------------|--|
| 2013 | Conditional (April 2013 Board meeting) | 38.57% | 27/70 |
| 2012 | Full with Warning (April 2012 Board meeting) | 69.70% | 23/33 |
| 2011 | Full | 50.00% | 21/42 |
| 2010 | Full (January 2010 Board meeting) | 79.41% | 27/34 |
| 2009 | Initial | 88.89% | 8/9 |

- Due to the 2010 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate of 79.41%, the program was required to submit a Self-Study Report.
- Although corrective measures to improve candidate success were initiated, the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates continued to be below the 80% benchmark.
- The program was placed on Full with Warning Approval Status at the April 2012 Board meeting. Also at the April 2012 Board meeting, Board members voted to restrict the program from enrolling new students until a report of the April 17, 2012 unannounced survey visit could be considered at the July 2012 Board meeting.
- At the July 2012 Board meeting, members of the Board considered the report of the April 17, 2012 unannounced survey visit and voted to continue to restrict the enrollment of new students until a decision was reached by the Texas Workforce Commission concerning renewal of the AMI Certificate of Approval and Board Staff had an opportunity to reevaluate the program's compliance with Board rules. The Certificate of Approval is required for a program to operate as an educational entity in the State of Texas.

- The Texas Workforce Commission renewed the AMI Certificate of Approval on February 5, 2013.
- At the April 2013 Board meeting, the AMI approval status was considered and the Board directed Board Staff to conduct a survey visit.
- An unannounced survey visit was conducted on May 22, 2013 by Education Consultants Sandi Emerson, MSN, RN and Virginia D. Ayars, EdD, MS, RN.
- The program was placed on Conditional Approval Status at the July 2013 Board meeting and several conditions and requirements were issued. The program has not been allowed to enroll new students since April 2012.
- Notification to the Board for closing the program was received in the Board office February 24, 2014 (See Attachment #1).
- According to the notification documents, AMI plans to develop a new proposal for submission to the Board in one (1) year.
- No students are currently enrolled in the program.
- AMI will retain all permanent educational files indefinitely at its Houston, Texas campus.
- The program elected to close the vocational nursing education program. If this decision had not been made, Board Staff would have recommended withdrawal of approval to the Board at the April 2014 meeting based upon four (4) consecutive years of the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates falling below 80%.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to accept the voluntary closure from the American Medical Institute Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, effective April 16, 2014, and impose the conditions/requirements in the attached Board Order (Attachment #2).

DRAFT COVER LETTER

April 21, 2014

Ify Emenaha, PharmD, RN, Director
Vocational Nursing Education Program
American Medical Institute
6902 Cook Road
Houston, TX 77072

Dear Dr. Emenaha:

At the April 16, 2014 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the voluntary closure of the American Medical Institute Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to accept the voluntary closure of the American Medical Institute Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, and impose the conditions/requirements in the attached Board Order.

If you have any questions, please contact Board Staff at (512)305-7660 or Virginia.ayars@bon.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director



AMERICAN MEDICAL INSTITUTE INC.
BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY.
6902 Cook Rd. Houston TX 77072

February 18, 2014

**Texas Board of Nursing
333 Guadalupe St., Suite 3-460
Austin, TX 78701**

Board Members

The purpose of this communication is to request that American Medical Institute seek withdrawal of approval for the Vocational Nursing Program. The intent of the school, program and administration is to adhere to the requirements to wait one year and then resubmit a proposal. We believe that the intervening time will allow us to develop a strong curriculum, implement effective teaching strategies and solidify our community ties for clinical learning experiences.

We are grateful for the Board and board staff comments and suggestions over the past years. We look forward to presenting you with a premier program in the future.

Sincerely

**Dr. Ify Emenaha
Program Director**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ify Emenaha'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of:

American Medical Institute
Vocational Nursing Education Program
In Houston, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on April 16, 2014, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the voluntary closure of the American Medical Institute Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, based upon the February 18, 2014 notification from American Medical Institute of its intent to voluntarily close its program; the current approval status of the program; NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates since the program opened in 2008; and the program's history of compliance and/or non-compliance with 22 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 214.

After review and due consideration of the filed materials and history of the program, including currently being on conditional status, as well as the presentation by representatives from American Medical Institute in Houston, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby ACCEPTS the voluntary CLOSURE of the American Medical Institute Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, and imposes the following conditions/requirements:

1. The program shall submit to the Board no later than May 1, 2014, evidence that all students have completed the program; and
2. The program may not reapply for approval of a new proposal for a nursing education program until at least twelve (12) calendar months from the date of this order have elapsed.

Entered this 16th day of April, 2014

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director