

## Consideration of Fees for New Nursing Education Program Proposals

### Summary of Request:

This agenda item is a report for the Board's consideration related to fees for new nursing education program proposals as requested by the Board at the January 2016 quarterly Board meeting. This report is for information purposes only.

### Historical Perspective:

Since 2006, there have been sixty (60) new nursing education programs approved by the Board. In April, 2010 the Board performed a cost analysis of the workload incurred with review and processing a proposal to establish a new nursing education program. Based on this analysis, proposed amendments to §223.1, Pertaining to *Fees*, to raise the fee for a new nursing education proposal from \$500 to \$2500, were approved by the Board at its April 22-23, 2010, meeting for submission to the Texas Register for public comment. The proposed amendments were published in the Texas Register on May 14, 2010, the public comment period ended on June 13, 2010 with no comments received and the rule went into effect on July 7, 2010.

### Current Perspective:

**New Program Proposal Fees:** Although only four (4) new nursing education programs were approved in 2014, the trend of increasing proposals for approval is likely to continue. As of March 4, 2016, there were eight (8) proposals to offer a new nursing education program in Board offices under review. Letters of intent to submit a proposal to offer a new nursing education program from three (3) institutions have been received by Board staff as of March 4, 2016.

Staff resources remain greatly impacted by new program proposals. Staff remains responsible for monitoring existing nursing programs in Texas, conducting survey visits, and fulfilling their daily duties and responsibilities. The table below depicts the current workload estimate in hours Board Staff spend to review and process a proposal at approximately seventy two (72) hours. This time spent translates to a current cost estimate of \$3100 per proposal.

<b>Time Required for Consultant Review of Nursing Education Program Proposal</b>	
First Overview by 2 consultants	4 hours
Full Review by 2 consultants	16 hours
Documenting findings for program use	8 hours
Consultation visit	4 hours
Ongoing Communications with Program	6 hours
Continuing Reviews for up to 2 drafts	16 hours
Development of Board Report	16 hours
Preparation for Board Meeting	2 hours
<b>Total</b>	<b>72 hours</b>

According to the 2014 National Council of State Boards of Nursing Member Board Profiles, forty seven (47) of the forty nine (49) responding boards indicated they provide initial approval for nursing education programs. Figure 1 depicts responses from the twenty three (23) boards who responded a fee is charged associated with the initial approval of a nursing education program ranging from less than \$500 up to \$10,000. Only six (6) of the twenty three (23) responding boards charge a fee above \$2500, the current fee charged by TBON. Twelve (12) of the twenty (23) boards responded a fee charge of \$1500 or less for an initial approval application to offer a new nursing education program.

**What is the charge for the initial approval application?**

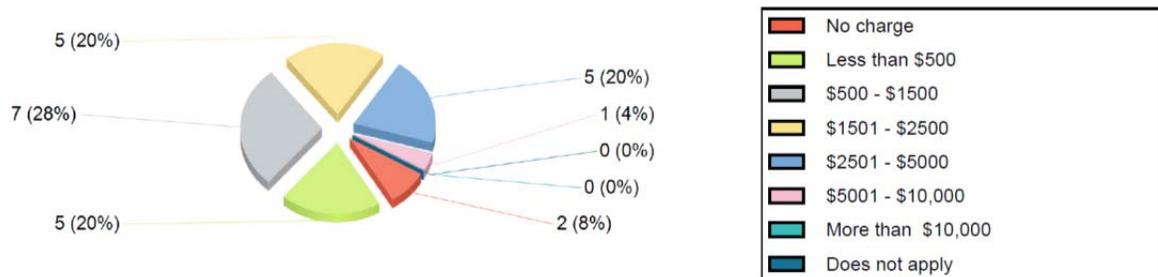


Figure 1: Fees for Initial Approval Application to Offer a New Nursing Education Program

Based upon the current workload estimate and the environmental scan of what other boards of nursing charge for an initial approval application to offer a new nursing education program, Board Staff do not recommend any change to the current fee of \$2500.

**Recommended Action:** For information and discussion only.