

Report on Communication Activities with Nursing Education Programs

This report describes the participation of Nursing Consultants for Education of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board or BON) in activities to promote communication with the Texas pre-licensure nursing education programs and constituents.

Nursing Education Department Newsletter

In September, the Nursing Consultants for Education released the latest edition of the electronic newsletter to all pre-licensure nursing education programs in Texas. The newsletter shares education topics, and suggestions regarding the operations of nursing education programs. Topics shared included the Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS), Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies reports, survey visits, online Affidavit of Graduation (AOG) System, Sunset Commission Hearing, faculty ratios in clinical settings, and up-coming workshops and webinars. Additionally, Dr. Janice Hooper was recognized for being named an Academy of Nursing Education Fellow with the National League of Nursing.

The purpose of the electronic education newsletter is to update program directors and faculty, facilitating open communication between nursing education programs and Nursing Consultants for Education. Responses received from program directors are positive, with appreciation voiced to Board Staff for the information shared in recurrent issues. (See Attachment #1).

NCLEX Workshops

LTC Mary Whitney, Director of the Army Practical Nurse Program (APNP), invited Board Staff to attend the APNP Annual Training Event on September 28, 2016 at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Director of Operations Mark Majek, Lead Education Consultant Janice Hooper, and Education Consultant Virginia Ayars offered presentations about the role of the Board, the NCLEX, and the Criminal Background Check. The presentation was well attended by twenty-six (26) participants who represented the program directors and faculty from the six (6) locations at which the Army Practical Nurse Course is offered.

On October 7, 2016, Dr. Janice Hooper presented NCLEX information to Sam Houston State University, in the Woodlands, Texas. The presentation was well received by the thirty (30) participants who represented the program directors and faculty.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This is an informational report. No action is required.



Nursing Education Newsletter

Texas Board of
Nursing

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Contact Us

Education Questions
(512) 305-6816

Education FAQs

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Greetings from the Education Consultants

A word from the Editor, Gayle P. Varnell, PhD, RN, CPNP-PC (our FROG Expert)

Find, Reflect, Organize, & Generate news = FROG.



The Texas Board of Nursing Education Consultants have prepared this newsletter for information purposes for programs. Please share with the nursing faculty in your school.

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The NEPIS is coming! The NEPIS is coming!

The purpose of the Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) is to collect data on the supply of nursing students and faculty in Texas. The data will assist the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies, the Texas Board of Nursing, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, as well as other state organizations and the legislature, in projecting the future workforce needs of nursing education programs in the state.

*The 2016 VN-NEPIS, 2016 RN-NEPIS, and 2016 Graduate-NEPIS will be available online on **Monday, October 3rd**! Preliminary materials will be distributed via e-mail communication in early September to all program deans and directors. Please utilize the provided worksheets to gather and organize information before electronic data entry. The online survey will be active from **October 3, 2016** through **October 14, 2016**.*

Upcoming Education Events

Quarterly Board Meeting

The Next Quarterly Board Meeting is October 27-28, 2016 at the William P. Hobby Building in Austin, Texas. Board Meeting agendas and minutes are available on the Texas Board of Nursing website under the News heading.

Deans, Directors and, Coordinators Orientation

The next Deans, Directors, and Coordinators Orientation is scheduled for Friday, September 30, 2016.

Please contact Jackie Ballesteros for more information at (512) 305-6850

What Happens During a Survey Visit?

The education consultants often receive questions from programs about how to prepare for a survey visit. With the turnover in directors and faculty, this is a new experience for many.

The education consultants make a **regular survey visit** every six years to programs that are not accredited by a national nursing organization. Regular survey visits include meetings with administration, the Program Director, nursing faculty, and nursing students. The consultants request and review program documents (syllabi, clinical evaluation tools, total program evaluation plan) about three weeks before the visit to be familiar with the program. The survey visit lasts about one day and provides an excellent opportunity for valuable conversations with the program representatives, to get to know the strengths, and to hear about the challenges of the program. The consultants answer any questions and offer guidance.

Besides regular survey visits, the education consultants are authorized to conduct **focused survey visits** to programs when they are on warning or when issues of non-compliance to Board rules arise. During a focused visit, the consultants concentrate on particular areas and offer guidance to help the program. Rules 214.4(b) and 215.4(b) list factors that may jeopardize program approval status and result in a focused survey visit.

The education consultants usually visit the physical site to see if it is ready before a **new program proposal** is presented at a regular Board meeting for approval.

A Board Report that includes findings from the survey visit is generated following the visit. A copy of the survey visit report is submitted to the Program Director before it is presented to the Board to allow program feedback. The final Board Report may include requirements and/or recommendations if areas of non-compliance are identified.

Occasionally, an **unannounced survey** visit may be made when necessary to investigate concerns.

Historically, programs have expressed that survey visits are productive events where they receive an objective evaluation of the program.



Questions Regarding the WEB-AOG

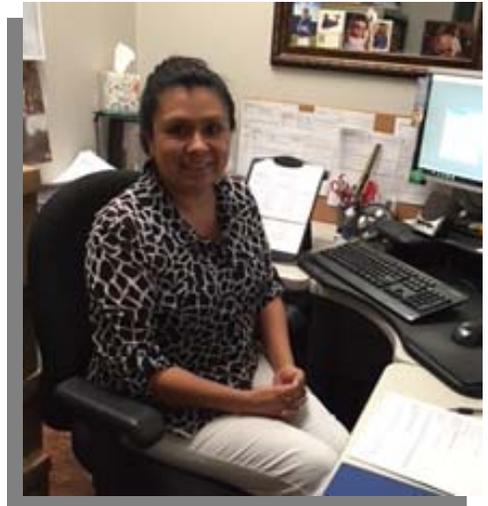
Rosemary Riojas
Exam Dept. Texas Board of Nursing

We have received a number of inquiries regarding the Online Affidavit of Graduation (AOG) system.

“Why are students' names not appearing on my Online AOG list?”

- *There are several situations that may be causing a student's name to not be appearing on your list:*
 - *The student has not submitted the Initial Licensure by Examination application with appropriate fees (in other words, they have not applied with the BON).*
 - *They do not have the correct potential or actual graduation date on their NCLEX application.*
 - *They used the incorrect school code (they must use the assigned school code for your school of nursing).*
 - *They indicated a graduation date outside of the 6-month window from the current date.*

If the graduation date is outside the 6-month window, the school will need to mail the paper-version Affidavit of Graduation.



“I have students that applied for graduation last semester but did not graduate. They will be graduating this semester. What do these students need to do in order for them to appear on my list?”

We must have the student's themselves request that we make the change to their graduation dates. Please have them send an email to Rosemary Riojas at rosemary.riojas@bon.texas.gov and request that we change their graduation date to the correct date. Please have them reference their name, school of nursing, last four digits of their social security number and date of birth so that we may correctly identify them. We must have this in writing from the student because we cannot make a change to their application unless we have a request in writing. If the application has expired, the student will need to make these updates when they re-apply to the BON.

“What do these students need to do in order for them to appear on the WEB-AOG list?”

Once the school is aware the student is not listed on the WEB-AOG list, the school can advise the student to contact the BON Customer Service or check their application status/information by logging on to www.bon.texas.gov to verify whether or not they have provided the correct school code and graduation date on the NCLEX application. If an issue arises with either the school code or graduation date, send an email to Rosemary Riojas at rosemary.riojas@bon.texas.gov. Please have them reference their name, school of nursing, last four digits of their social security and date of birth.

Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies 2015 Reports are Now Available on Board Website

A new resource has been added to the Texas Board of Nursing website. Under the **Education** heading on the Board homepage, www.bon.texas.gov, the 2015 Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies reports are provided as direct links.

The following 2015 reports specific to: (1) Vocational Nursing Education Programs, (2) Professional Nursing Education Programs, and (3) Advanced Practice Nursing Education Programs may be accessed by selecting the appropriate hyperlink:

- [Admission, Enrollment, and Graduation Trends](#)
- [Faculty Demographics](#)
- [Program Characteristics](#)
- [Student Demographics](#)

Check your Contact Information

Please check the contact information for your program on the Board of Nursing Web Page under **Education**, then **Formal Education Programs for Students**. Separate lists are provided for each program type: vocational nursing education and professional nursing education programs.

Program Code Assigned Consultant	Nursing Program	Contact	Approval Status
US27----- Consultant initials	PROGRAM NAME Mailing address City, State, Zip Code	Approved Program Director Email address Public phone number Fax number School phone number Web address	INITIAL INITIAL WITH WARNING FULL FULL WITH WARNING CONDITIONAL

Make sure all contact information is correct. Do NOT provide your personal or cell phone number since this is public information.

Other boxes to check for accuracy:

- ✓ Nursing accreditation
- ✓ Tracks (for professional nursing programs: i.e. LVN to ADN; generic; accelerated)
- ✓ Extension site locations

Information provided on the web site has been obtained from the NEPIS and is helpful to potential students seeking particular options.

Please indicate on the NEPIS if you offer online courses so we may add this information to our web site.

Note: Any revisions in contact information take a few days for updating.

What are the Faculty Ratios in Clinical Experiences?

Faculty is responsible for the supervision of students in clinical settings, including medication administration, health promotion and prevention, acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan and rehabilitation. Additionally, faculty supervises patient teaching, plans and conducts pre- and post-clinical conferences, and completes formative and summative clinical practice evaluations for each student. But did you know there's a limit to how many students they can supervise?

Rule 214.10.(g) and 215.10.(g) Clinical Learning Experiences provides for one faculty to ten students unless safety issues mandate using lower ratios. The faculty must be in the same facility where the students have the clinical assignment, unless the clinical experience is observation only.

After the student receives clinical and didactic instructions in all of the basic areas of nursing, preceptors may be used to supervise assigned clinical students without the faculty in the facility. When faculty is working with a preceptor, twelve students can be assigned to the faculty since two students are assigned to the preceptor.

Rules 214.10.(g) and 215.10.(g) provide that faculty can supervise up to 10 students in clinical assignments and that faculty must be in the facility where students are assigned ... but there are variations to this rule:

- *The ratio may be smaller if safety is an issue.*
- *Faculty who are working with a preceptor may be assigned up to 12 students—up to two who are assigned to the preceptor and 10 to the faculty.*
- *Faculty may oversee as many as 24 students who are assigned to as many as 12 preceptors. Preceptors may supervise one or two assigned clinical students without the faculty in the facility.*

Sunset Commission Hearing on November 10, 2016

The mission and performance of the Texas Board of Nursing are currently under legislative review by the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission. A report issued by Sunset Commission Staff is expected to be released in September. A public hearing is scheduled on November 10, 2016 for Sunset Commission to hear public testimony regarding the Board and Sunset Commission Staff recommendations. The Sunset Commission is scheduled to make decisions regarding the Board of Nursing on December 8-9, 2016.

For more information, please visit: www.sunset.texas.gov

WE WELCOME ANY AND ALL INPUT TO OUR NEWSLETTER. IF THERE IS ANYTHING THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT, PLEASE LET US KNOW. WE ARE HERE TO ASSIST YOU AND LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.

For Recognition of Greatness . . .



Dr. Hooper to be named as a Fellow by the National League for Nursing

Congratulations to Dr. Janice Hooper, PhD, RN, FRE, CNE, FAAN, lead Nursing Education Consultant, who will be honored this fall by being named as a Nursing Education Academy Fellow by the National League for Nursing. She truly is a leader in promoting excellence in nursing education!

Texas Board of Nursing Offers Three Different Venues for Continuing Nursing Education:

Workshops	Webinars	Online Courses
<p>Upcoming Workshops</p>	<p>Protecting Your Patients and Your Practice – 7.0 contact hours 8:00 am – 4:30 pm / \$109.00 pre-registration cost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, September 16, 2016 Arlington, Texas – Hilton Arlington • Wednesday, November 2, 2016 College Station, Texas – Hilton College Station & Conference Center 	
<p>Upcoming Webinars</p>	<p>Safe Harbor – Ensuring Patient Safety – 1.0 contact hour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, October 6, 2016 10:00 am – 11:00 am Central Time <p>APRN Application Process – free, no CEs awarded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, October 27, 2016 10:00 am – 11:00 am Central Time 	
<p>New Online Course!</p>	<p>Prescriptive Authority for APRNs – 1.0 contact hour</p> <p>This course is for anyone currently licensed as an APRN, future APRNs, or individuals interested in understanding APRN prescriptive authority.</p>	

For more information: <https://www.bon.texas.gov/catalog/>