

**Consideration of Notification of Voluntary Closure of Nursing Education Programs  
 The College of Health Care Professions  
 Vocational Nursing Education Program**

**Summary of Request:**

Consider the notification received from The College of Health Care Professions in Houston, Texas, to close its vocational nursing (VN) education program effective September 1, 2017 (See Attachment #1).

**Historical Perspective:**

- The College of Health Care Professions in Houston, Texas, was approved at the January 2011 Board meeting as the Academy of Health Care Professions.
- The name was changed to The College of Health Care Professions (CHCP) in December 2012.
- The CHCP is accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) and is licensed by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).
- Freda Sowell, MSN, MHA, RN, began as Director in July 2015.
- The approval status was changed from Full Approval with Warning to Conditional Approval at the April 2016 Board Meeting.
- A survey visit was conducted on July 29, 2015, and a report of the survey visit was presented to the Board members at the January 2016 meeting.
- The program has been making changes to improve the program and though changes have been noticeable with the currently graduating students, the overall pass rate has not improved.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2015 was 45.71% (16/35), and the potential pass rate for 2016 will not meet the 80% benchmark.
- The administrative team at CHCP has decided to close the program, teach out the remaining students, and develop a more rigorous program in the future.
- The NCLEX-PN® pass rates for the past four (4) years are reflected in the table below. The pass rate for 2016 is preliminary since the examination year ends December 31, 2016.

<b>Examination Year</b>	<b>BON Approval Status</b>	<b>NCLEX-PN® Examination Pass Rate</b>	<b>Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)</b>
2016 preliminary	Conditional	70.59%	12/17
2015	Conditional	45.71%	16/35
2014	Full with Warning	45.45%	15/33
2013	Full	53.85%	7/13
2012	Initial	100%	6/6

**Current Enrollment:**

- There are currently thirty-three (33) students enrolled who will graduate by September 1, 2017.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Move to accept the voluntary closure notification from The College of Health Care Professions in Houston, Texas, effective September 1, 2017, and impose the conditions/requirements in the attached Board Order (Attachment #2).



September 6, 2016

Texas Board of Nursing  
c/o Dr. Hooper  
333 Guadalupe #3-460  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Dr. Hooper and Board Members,

I want to first thank you for the opportunity to serve the community as the Vocational Nursing Program Director at The College of Health Care Professions. It is with great thought we have come to the decision to voluntarily close the Vocational Nursing Program. The administrative team and I believe this decision will allow us to revise the curriculum, and establish a more rigorous program to meet the student outcomes. Please find enclosed the TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING NOTIFICATION FORM -CLOSING A NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM for approval.

Please contact me if you have further questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Freda Sowell MSN, MHA, RN  
Vocational Nursing Program Director  
240 Northwest Mall Blvd  
Houston, TX 77092  
FSowell@chcp.edu  
713-425-3100

**TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING NOTIFICATION FORM  
CLOSING A NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM OR AN EXTENSION SITE/CAMPUS**

<b>NAME OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM</b>	Program Code: 27- <u>105100</u>
<b>TYPE OF PROGRAM</b>	Vocational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>NAME OF DEAN/DIRECTOR</b>	Freda Sowell Phone No: 713-425-3100 Email: FSowell@CHCP.edu
<b>LOCATION OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM OR EXTENSION SITE/CAMPUS</b>	240 Northwest Mall Blvd. Houston, TX 77092
<b>REASON FOR CLOSURE</b>	<b>BRIEFLY DESCRIBE:</b> The College of Health Care Professions is in the process of significantly enhancing the curriculum to better support the student and needed outcomes. During this past year we have shown substantial progress and improved outcomes using several initiatives that increased standards of student and faculty accountability. However, due to the time required to implement these major improvements, we still were not able to achieve the required pass rate before the end of the third consecutive year.
<b>DATE OF CLOSURE</b>	09/01/2017
<b>ACADEMIC PROVISIONS FOR CURRENT STUDENTS OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM OR EXTENSION PROGRAM</b>	<b>BRIEFLY DESCRIBE:</b> The academic provision for each student currently in the Vocational Nursing Program will continue with out regard for the closure of the program. No changes to staffing, equipment or space allocation will take place.
<b>PROVISIONS FOR ACCESS TO AND SAFE STORAGE OF VITAL SCHOOL RECORDS</b>	<b>BRIEFLY DESCRIBE:</b> The College of Health Care Professions will remain open as a college and all students (Active, Withdrawn, Graduates) files will remain for a minimum of five (5) years and all transcripts will be maintained permanently.
<b>METHODS TO BE USED TO MAINTAIN REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS UNTIL THE PROGRAM CLOSSES</b>	<b>BRIEFLY DESCRIBE:</b> The College of Health Care Professions will continue to follow the TBON, TWC and ABHES program standards until no students remain active.
<b>COMMENTS:</b> Each student currently in the Vocational Nursing Program will be given all resources to successfully complete the program.	

**SIGNATURE:** Freda Sowell MSN, RN **DATE:** 9/6/16

\*Please attach additional pages if needed.

Date Presented at Board Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item: 3.2.5.a.  
Attachment #2  
Board Meeting: October 2016

DRAFT LETTER

Freda Sowell, MSN, MHA, RN, Program Director  
Vocational Nursing Education Program  
The College of Health Care Professions  
240 Northwest Mall Blvd.  
Houston, Texas 77092

Dear Ms. Sowell:

At the October 27-28, 2016 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the notification from The College of Health Care Professions Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, to voluntarily close the program effective September 1, 2017.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to accept the voluntary closure of The College of Health Care Professions 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 [Janice.hooper@bon.texas.gov](mailto:Janice.hooper@bon.texas.gov) or (512) 305-6814.

Sincerely,

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN  
Executive Director

Copy: Terri Lowery, MBA, President, CHCP  
Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools  
Texas Workforce Commission

**BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**

\*\*\*\*\*

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

In the Matter of  
The College of Health Care Professions  
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 October 27, 2016, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the voluntary closure of The College of Health Care Professions Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, based upon the September 6, 2016 notification from The College of Health Care Professions 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 2011; and the program's history of 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 The College of Health Care Professions in Houston, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby ACCEPTS the voluntary CLOSURE of The College of Health Care Professions Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, and imposes the following conditions/recommendations:

1. The program shall submit to the Board no later than December 1, 2016, a plan for teach-out arrangements for all enrolled student, or evidence that all students either have completed the program or other academic provisions have been made; and
2. The program may not reapply for approval of a new proposal for a nursing education program until at least twelve (12) months from the date of this order have elapsed.

Entered this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016

---

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN  
Executive Director  
On behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing