

**Consideration of Notification of Voluntary Closure of a Nursing Education Program
 Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas
 Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the notification received from Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas, to close its baccalaureate degree nursing (BSN) education program, effective October 27, 2016.

Historical Perspective:

- The Schreiner University BSN program was initially approved at the January 2010 Board meeting.
- The NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates since the program began are provided below:

NCLEX-RN® Examination Year	BON Status	Approval	NCLEX-RN® Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2016	Conditional		73.33%	11/15 (Preliminary)
2015	Initial with Warning		57.89%	11/19
2014	Initial		79.17%	19/24
2013	Initial		60%	12/20
2012	Initial		New Program	

- Due to the 2013 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate of 60%, the Program Director and faculty were required to submit a Self-Study Report (SSR) in 2014 to evaluate factors that may have contributed to the graduates' performance on the NCLEX-RN® examination and a description of the corrective measures to be implemented.
- Despite the identification and implementation of corrective measures, the NCLEX-RN® pass rate remained below 80%.
- Due to the 2014 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate of 79.17%, approval status of the program was changed from Initial Approval to Initial Approval with Warning at the January 2015 Board meeting.
- The program was placed on Conditional Approval status at the January 2016 Board meeting due to the 2015 NCLEX-RN pass rate of 57.89% and several conditions and requirements were issued. The program has not been allowed to enroll new students since January 2016.
- Notification to the Board for closing the program was received in the Board office October 5, 2016 (See Attachment #1).
- Currently, eighty (80) students are enrolled in the program, in the following cohorts:

<u>Graduation Date</u>	<u>Number Enrolled</u>
May 2017	Thirty-one (31) students

May 2018	Twenty-six (26) students
May 2019	Fourteen (14) students
May 2020	Nine (9) students

- Schreiner University will retain all permanent educational files indefinitely at its Kerrville, Texas campus.
- The program elected to close the BSN education program. If this decision had not been made, Board Staff would have recommended withdrawal of approval to the Board at the January 2017 meeting based upon four (4) consecutive years of the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates falling below 80%.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to accept the voluntary closure of the Schreiner University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Kerrville, Texas, effective October 27, 2016, and impose the conditions/requirements in the attached Board Order (Attachment #2).



TRULL SCHOOL OF
SCIENCES & MATHEMATICS

CMB 6241
2100 MEMORIAL BLVD,
KERRVILLE, TEXAS 78028-5611
PH 830.792.7438
FAX 830.792.7439

Dr. Virginia Ayars
Nursing Consultant for Education
Texas Board of Nursing
333 Guadalupe Suite 3-460
Austin, TX 78701-3944
4 October 2016

Dear Dr. Ayars,

This letter serves to notify the Texas Board of Nursing that Schreiner University wishes to close its Bachelor of Science in Nursing program in order to revise and refresh our curriculum. We have not been satisfied with our pass rates of first-time NCLEX test takers, and we think our best strategy to remedy this problem is to stop and start again. I am including the required Closure form. We will teach our admitted nursing students until they have graduated from the program, and we will submit a new curriculum for approval by the board in October 2017. We are extremely grateful for all of the assistance you and the other educational consultants have provided over the last few years, and we look forward to continuing to work with you as we strive to meet the needs of nursing in Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maxine Bernreuter, PhD, RN". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Maxine Bernreuter, PhD, RN
Director, Nursing Program
Schreiner University

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

NAME OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM	Program Code: 27- <u>501100</u>
TYPE OF PROGRAM	Vocational <input type="checkbox"/> Professional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NAME OF DEAN/DIRECTOR	Dr. Maxine Bernreuter Phone No: 830-792-7481 Email: MBernreuter@schreiner.edu
LOCATION OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM OR EXTENSION SITE/CAMPUS	Kerrville, TX
REASON FOR CLOSURE	BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: We have seen four years of NCLEX first-time pass rates of less than 80%. We believe there are three causes to this low pass rate: 1) failure to maintain our standards on admission, 2) insufficient training in nursing fundamentals, and 3) inappropriate exam rigor.
DATE OF CLOSURE	1 October 2016
ACADEMIC PROVISIONS FOR CURRENT STUDENTS OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM OR EXTENSION PROGRAM	BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: All students accepted into the program will continue through the program until they graduate. This includes juniors and seniors who are already in nursing classes, and freshmen and sophomores who have been accepted, but who are still meeting program pre-requisites.
PROVISIONS FOR ACCESS TO AND SAFE STORAGE OF VITAL SCHOOL RECORDS	BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: All records will continue to be stored in the Schreiner University Nursing Department and in the university Registrar's office
METHODS TO BE USED TO MAINTAIN REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS UNTIL THE PROGRAM CLOSURES	BRIEFLY DESCRIBE: All faculty will continue to teach in the program, the current Director of Nursing will continue and the policies and procedures will continue to be in force.
COMMENTS: The nursing department will immediately begin to refresh and revise the curriculum and will present a new curriculum to the Board of Nursing by October 1, 2017.	

SIGNATURE: *Maxine E Bernreuter PhD, RN* **DATE:**

*Please attach additional pages if needed.

Date Presented at Board Meeting: 10-04-2016

DRAFT LETTER

October 31, 2016

Maxine Bernreuter, PhD, RN, Director
Schreiner University
2100 Memorial Blvd, CMB 6241
Kerrville, TX 78028

Dear Dr. Bernreuter:

At the October 27, 2016 meeting, the members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the voluntary closure of the Schreiner University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Kerrville, Texas.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to accept the voluntary closure of the Schreiner University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Kerrville, 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 A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director

Copy: Dr. Diana Comuzzie, Dean of the School of Sciences and Mathematics
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Schreiner University
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program
In Kerrville, 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 Schreiner University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Kerrville, Texas, based upon the October 5, 2016 notification from Schreiner University of its intent to voluntarily close its program; the current approval status of the program; NCLEX-RN® examination pass rates since the program opened in 2010; and the program's history of compliance with 22 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 215.

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 Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby ACCEPTS the voluntary CLOSURE of the Schreiner University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in Kerrville, Texas, and imposes the following conditions/requirements:

1. The program shall submit to the Board no later than December 1, 2016, a plan for teach-out arrangements for all enrolled students, 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) calendar months from the date of this order have elapsed.

Entered this 27th day of October, 2016

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