

**Consideration for Change in Approval Status from Conditional to Full Approval
Houston Community College in Houston, Texas
Associate Degree Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider a proposed change in the program approval status for Houston Community College Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Education Program in Houston, Texas, from Conditional Approval to Full Approval based upon review of the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate and compliance with Board Rule 215.

Historical Perspective:

- The ADN Program at HCC began in 1979.
- The ADN Program uses a face-to-face instruction model.
- There are currently three (3) tracks in the ADN Program: a new track following the newly required 60-credit hour curriculum; a track with the 72-credit hour curriculum in teach-out; and an LVN-to-ADN track. In addition, the program is offered in day and evening classes.
- Jolly Joseph, PhD, RN, CNE has been the Program Director since 2013.
- The NCLEX-RN® pass rates for the past five (5) years are reflected in the table below:

Examination Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2016	Conditional - Recommend Full Approval	80.47%	103/128
2015	Conditional	78.43%	80/102
2014	Full with Warning	70.86%	124/175
2013	Full	66.05%	142/215
2012	Full	85.80%	139/162

- Their 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate is 80.47%.
- The program's approval status was changed from Full with Warning to Conditional at the January 2016 Board meeting.
- When programs are on Conditional Approval, they are prohibited from enrolling new students.
- HCC has made quality improvements to their program of study over the past two (2) years.

Rationale for Staff Recommendations:

The program has demonstrated a pass rate for first-time candidates of 80.47% on the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination and is currently in full compliance with Rule 215. Since the program has met rule requirements, the change of approval status will allow the admission of new students. Board Staff caution the program that:

- the performance of previous graduates who have not taken the NCLEX-RN® examination but who take the examination during the next examination year will affect the 2017 pass rate; and

- the program should proceed carefully in admitting an appropriate number of new students who meet admission criteria.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status for Houston Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, from Conditional Approval to Full Approval as noted in the attached Board Order (See Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

October 31, 2016

Jolly Joseph, PhD, RN, CNE, Director
Associate Degree Nursing Education Program
Houston Community College
1900 Pressler Drive, Suite 325
Houston, Texas 77030

Dear Dr. Joseph:

At the October 27-28, 2016 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) discussed the approval status of the Houston Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, based upon the 2016 NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate and compliance with Board Rule 215.

Based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Houston Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program from Conditional Approval to Full Approval. Board Staff caution the program that:

- the performance of previous graduates who have not taken the NCLEX-RN® examination but who take the examination during the next examination year will affect the 2017 pass rate; and
- the program should proceed carefully in admitting an appropriate number of new students who meet admission criteria.

If you have any questions or if we may be of any assistance, please contact Board Staff at Janice.hooper@bon.texas.gov or 512-305-6814.

Sincerely,

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

copy: Dr. Phillip Nicotera, President
The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Houston Community College
Associate Degree 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 approval status of the Houston Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 215, based upon the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate for 2016 and compliance with Rule 215.

After review and due consideration of the filed materials, as well as the presentation by representatives from Houston Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status of the Houston Community College Associate Degree Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas from CONDITIONAL APPROVAL to FULL APPROVAL.

Entered this 27th day of October, 2016

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director
On Behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing