

**Proposal to Establish A New Nursing Education Program
Tarrant County College in Fort Worth, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the Tarrant County College (TCC) proposal to establish a new Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program in Fort Worth, Texas and the survey visit report (See Attachment #1). The final proposal was provided electronically to members of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board).

Historical Perspective:

- TCC was established in 1965 and presently has six campuses. The Allied Health Professions are located at the Trinity River Campus East (TRCE). Programs located at TRCE include Associate Degree (or Professional) Nursing, Respiratory Care, Physical Therapist Assistant, Surgical Technology, Radiologic Technology, Long Term Care Administration, and Health Information Technology.
- TCC is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The date of the last review is June 2014. The next SACSCOC reaffirmation will be in 2024. In addition, the TCC Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) Education Program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The date of the last ACEN visit is February 2016 and accreditation is through Spring 2024.
- Board Staff has worked with the TCC proposal developers since May 2016. The second version of the proposal was deemed complete in February 2017 and a site visit was conducted on February 24, 2017, by Board Education Consultant Dr. Gayle Varnell.

Summary of Proposal:

Overview of the Proposal:

- TCC proposes to establish a traditional VN Education Program as well as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)/Patient Care Technician (PCT) to VN transition option in Fort Worth, Texas. The proposal requests enrollment of an initial cohort of 27 traditional students and eight CNA/PCT students in years one and two. In years three through five, after the program has demonstrated at least an 80% pass rate on the NCLEX-PN® exam and is in full compliance with Rule 214, the program would like to admit twice a year for a total of 54 traditional students and 16 CNA/PCT students giving a total enrollment annually of 70 students.

- The TCC VN Education Program is a 12-month, 45 credit hour, 1,408 clock hour program of study inclusive of 480 theory hours, 144 skills lab, 704 clinical hours, and 80 simulation lab hours. The clinical hours are comprised of 144 laboratory hours and 704 hands-on clinical hours to meet the minimum required 840 hours (Rule 214.9[a][1]). Designed to be delivered through face-to-face didactic instruction, the VN Education Program will also include remediation activities, computer activities, nursing skills laboratory sessions, and hands-on clinical learning experiences.
- Clinical learning experiences will be offered in health care facilities in the Fort Worth area. Current clinical affiliations agreements have been signed with the following facilities: James L. West; Community Hospice of Texas; Texas Health Resources; and Life Care Center of America.

Rationale and Need for the Program:

- The proposal sets forth, based on the expected population growth in the Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) Metroplex, the predicted occupational growth of Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) in the area, and the number of potential applicants from TCC's current student and graduate populations that a need exists in the DFW area for the VN Education Program. The proposal submits that the projected number of 35 qualified applicants for the proposed VN Education Program is not anticipated to adversely affect other VN Education Programs in the service area.
- As of January 2017, the following two (2) Board approved VN Education Programs are located within a 25 mile radius of TCC's address at 245 E. Belknap, Fort Worth, Texas 76102: Concorde Career College in Grand Prairie and Fortis Institute in Grand Prairie.
- The proposed Program Director initiated either a telephone call or face-to-face visit with each of the two Program Directors to inform them of TCC's intent to establish a new VN Education Program and to assure the administrators that TCC will not usurp clinical affiliations currently used by other programs. The proposed Program Director commits to a cooperative working relationship with other nursing education programs in the DFW area regarding the utilization of available clinical resources.
- Letters of support from community leaders in the Fort Worth area indicate support for the proposed nursing program.

Administration and Organization:

- TCC was established in 1965 at the South Campus as a public junior college. The district enrollment was 51,727 in Fall 2015.
- TCC's mission is to provide affordable and open access to quality teaching and learning. The mission of the proposed VN Program is to prepare skilled nurses to deliver quality, safe care, in a dynamic health care environment, through patient advocacy and collaboration with interdisciplinary teams.

- The VN program will precede the ADN program as an entry level into the nursing profession. Besides adding to the LVN workforce, the program will provide a seamless, cost-effective academic pathway for students who plan to further their education.
- The Director of the VN Education Program reports directly to the Dean of Health Care Professions who reports to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
- The proposed VN Education Program aligns with TCC's mission and core values. The proposed program extends an existing healthcare education pathway by providing students and graduates with an additional option for a high-demand healthcare career. The proposed VN Education Program will offer students an appropriate educational preparation to make them eligible to apply for licensure as LVNs. Graduates from the VN Education Program who become LVNs will have multiple options for career pathways working in hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, schools, physician offices, and a variety of other health care environments.
- The proposed Program Director for the TCC VN Education Program is Tetsuya Umebayashi, DNP, MSN, RN. Dr. Umebayashi will carry no teaching load at TCC, enabling him to devote full attention to the development and implementation of the proposed VN Education Program. Dr. Umebayashi is a current employee of TCC and meets the Program Director qualifications set forth in Board Rule 214.6.

Availability of Faculty and Clinical Sites:

- TCC has hired one full-time (FT) MSN-prepared faculty with plans to hire one more MSN-prepared FT faculty and five part-time (PT) faculty in 2017. Six more faculty will be added in 2019.
- The proposed VN program is planning to have a nine-to-one student-to-faculty ratio for clinical.
- The proposed program will utilize selected clinical sites that should not impact the current use of clinical sites by other VN Education Programs in the Fort Worth area. The program has secured commitments for clinical learning experiences from a variety of health care institutions, including: Ashford Hall Long Term Care; Good Samaritan Society – Denton Village; Irving Nursing and Rehabilitation; Remarkable Nursing Home; Reliant Family Medicine and Pediatrics; and Head Start of Greater Dallas.

Financial Support and Resources:

- TCC authorizes and commits to providing the financial support and resources necessary to develop, implement, and maintain the proposed VN Education Program.
- A budget for the first two years of operation for the TCC VN Education Program was prepared by the administration and the VN Education Program Director. The budget

includes funds allocated to Program Director and faculty salaries, secretarial and support staff salaries, skills laboratory equipment, media and instructor resources, and medical supplies (consumable and non-consumable).

- The survey visit indicated that the requirements of Board Rule 214.11 regarding facilities, resources, and services are completely addressed in all categories.

Program of Study:

- The mission of the TCC VN Program is to prepare skilled VNs to deliver quality, safe care, in a dynamic health care environment, through patient advocacy and collaboration with interdisciplinary teams.
- The VN curriculum is designed to assist the learner in meeting educational objectives and program outcomes. The major curriculum concepts integrated within the VN Education Program include the Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs, 2010) for Graduates of Texas Nursing Programs and the nursing process. The VN curriculum prepares the nursing graduate for entry level VN practice as: Member of the Profession, Provider of Patient-Centered Care, Patient Safety Advocate, and Member of the Health Care Team. Both the didactic and clinical learning experiences include the associated knowledge, behaviors, and clinical judgments required for the achievement of each competency.
- The VN Program mission is to prepare skilled nurses to deliver quality and safe care in a dynamic healthcare environment through patient advocacy and collaboration with interdisciplinary teams and is congruent with TCC's mission and philosophy.
- The philosophical framework supports the DECs specific to VNs and the student learning outcomes derived from these major concepts form the framework for the curriculum.
- The curriculum of the proposed TCC VN Education Program is designed to be a forty-five (45) credit hour program completed in two 16-week semesters (fall/spring) and two 6-week summer sessions (I & II) resulting in a total of 1,408 clock hours. The 1,408 hours include 560 theory hours and 848 clinical hours. The clinical hours are comprised of 144 lab hours and 704 clinical hours. All theory courses will be delivered in a face-to-face format. Laboratory and/or clinical learning experiences correlate with the focus and content of each semester's courses. Skills instruction will use a uniform format of demonstration and return demonstration, simulation, and supervised and observed clinical performance, and evaluation of expected behaviors and outcomes.
- Specific textbooks are identified for foundation courses, nutrition, and medication administration. The syllabi also offer online resources as well as additional resources.
- Educational materials include: HESI package of Case Study, Patient Review, and HESI Practice Exams. The HESI Exams are a component of the course grade. Faculty

generated exams based on course syllabi objectives will be included in each course and every exam is evaluated by a data analyst.

Total Program Evaluation Plan:

- The Total Program Evaluation (TPE) Plan evaluates the total VN Program and incorporates the following components: evaluative criteria; methodology; frequency of evaluation; assignment of responsibility; and benchmark indicators of program and instructional effectiveness. The following areas will be evaluated periodically: program organization and administration; program philosophy/mission and objectives/outcomes; the program of study, curriculum, and instructional methodologies; the facilities, resources, and services; affiliating agencies and clinical learning experiences; students' achievement; graduates' licensing examination performance; graduates' nursing competence; and faculty members' performance. Data collected will enable program faculty members to make recommendations for improvements or changes that are evidence-based and supported with rationale.
- The VN Program Director holds responsibility to oversee implementation of the TPE Plan components. Component determinants are subject to revision based on data collected as well as changes in program goals and/or objectives. Nursing faculty members, in collaboration with the Program Director, will periodically develop, review, and revise evaluation tools and instruments used for collecting data of the varied program components. Recommendations for changes or improvements are driven by faculty assessment and evaluation of data collected.
- All required criteria and components of Board Rule 214.13 are included in the TPE Plan. The TPE Plan is a dynamic one, used to assess the program and make improvements when the need is identified through data collection, discussion, and evaluation. Faculty participation is essential to the process with input solicited from students, clinical learning sites, and advisory board members contributing to the data collection process.

Rationale for Recommendation:

Pros:

- The administration has demonstrated commitment to supporting the Program Director and the program in all phases of operation.
- The Tarrant County College VN Program has identified and established contractual agreements with multiple and diverse clinical sites to offer rich clinical learning experiences to students.
- Located within a community college setting with an established ADN Program, the VN Program has the support services and resources in place to ensure the success of the program.

Cons:

- None identified.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to grant initial approval to Tarrant County College to establish a new Vocational Nursing Education Program in Fort Worth, Texas, and impose the requirement in the attached letter and Board Order (See Attachment #2).

Report of Program Survey Visit
Tarrant County College in Fort Worth, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program

NAME OF NURSING PROGRAM: Tarrant County College (TCC) Vocational Nursing
Education Program in Fort Worth, Texas

PROPOSED DIRECTOR: Tetsuya Umebayashi, DNP, MSN, RN

REASON FOR SURVEY: New Proposal DATE: February 24, 2017

SURVEY VISITOR: Gayle P. Varnell, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC

MET WITH:

Tetsuya Umebayashi, DNP, MSN, RN proposed Director,
Trinity River Main Campus
Financial Aid Specialist - Christina Palacios
Career Services Admin Assistant - Jesica Valadez Espinosa
Director of Library - Suzanne Beckett
Coordinator of Testing - Christina Heiden
Manager of Business Services- Tanya Self
Coordinator of Student Accessibility Resources- Kimele Carter
Assistant Director of Advising and Counseling – Jeronimo Aviles (Tour Organizer)
Director of Advising and Counseling - Dr. Louann Schulze
Vice President for Student Development Services – Adrian Rodriguez
Trinity River Campus East
President – Dr. Sean Madison
Vice President for Academic Affairs – Dr. Bryan Stewart
Dean of Health Care Professions – Joseph Cameron
Dir of VN Program – Dr. Tetsuya Umebayashi
Dir of ADN Program – Dr. De Ann Mitchell
Assistant Dir of ADN Program – Mary Wiehardt
Assistant Dir of ADN Program – Sharon Livisay
Senior Data Analyst - Thai Luong
VN Program Faculty – Virginia Covington (Ginna)
Coordinator of Simulation Lab – Lea Stevens
Admin Assistant for VN Program – Jessica Tester
Client Support Manager – Andrew Welch (Anatomage Presentation)

In this report the nursing program met standards and criteria unless otherwise indicated by narrative. Narrative in the Evidence column documents findings of pertinent data, outstanding performance, or deficiencies. Narrative in the Comments column includes recommendations or requirements to be met based on analysis of the survey visit.

STANDARD/CRITERIA	EVIDENCE	COMMENTS
§214.11 Facilities, Resources, and Services		
Provide a description of plans to recruit and hire support staff for operation of the proposed nursing program, including the need for support staff in the areas specified in Rule 214.	TCC currently employs support staff in the areas of Admissions, Financial Assistance, Career Placement, Student Health & Safety, IT, and Student Services. Additional staff is not currently needed but will be hired to provide support services to the students attending the evening classes.	Criteria Met
Provide a description of existing and proposed physical facilities, including: office space for the nursing program director and nursing faculty members; space for clerical staff; space for maintaining and storing records, files and equipment; and number, size and types of classrooms, laboratories, and conference rooms designated for use by the nursing program. (Note: Floor plans, photographs, drawings should be provided for visual evidence.)	<p>The proposed VN Director has a private office located in an administration suite. VN faculty and staff members will be assigned either an open office or a closed office.</p> <p>There are three classrooms that seat up to 50 students and a 400 square foot conference room</p>	Criteria Met
Provide the time line for start-up and completion of new construction/ remodeling projects, and evidence that the institution will provide funds for the required new construction or remodeling.	<p>In 2011 the Trinity River Campus East (TRCE) was completed. This campus houses the Health Professions and is state-of the-art. The campus won an architectural award.</p> <p>Photos are available in Appendix R of proposal</p>	Criteria Met
Provide a description of existing and proposed educational resources, including inventory of existing and proposed nursing skills laboratory equipment purchases, computer laboratory equipment, and inventory of teaching/learning aids for the nursing program, such as audiovisual hardware and software.	<p>Classroom podiums have controls for overhead lights, projector, sound, and participation “clickers”. The media department has an office on site. Classroom tables have electrical access for computers and devices. The campus has wireless Wi-Fi access. All courses have Blackboard account.</p> <p>The skills lab consists of approximately 2800 square feet. On the 4th and 5th floor, there are two skills labs with 32 beds with 32 low fidelity simulators. There are 16 beds for student practice. The skills courses in the first semester will be in these labs. TCC also has a virtual</p>	Criteria Met

STANDARD/CRITERIA	EVIDENCE	COMMENTS
	<p>hospital which consists of six individual rooms and two 4-bed wards, all with fully functioning head walls. This hospital was designed for disaster preparedness situation. Equipment includes 10 high fidelity simulators, two birthing simulators with newborns, two infants (low fidelity) and two children (low fidelity). There also are task trainers including auscultation, ostomy, IV arms, female and male urinary catheterization models, chest models, and nasogastric models. A flat computer screen table displays human bodies with a capability to isolate certain systems, such as circulatory or skeletal systems.</p> <p>There is adequate storage for equipment and supplies.</p>	
<p>Provide information about student access to online learning resources and technology available. Provide an inventory of library holdings and projected purchases to support the proposed nursing program.</p>	<p>The VN program is part of the TRCE for Health Professions which is comprised of four building with 140,000 square feet. The VN students will have access to all the support services available on the main campus which is within walking distance.</p> <p>The facility has private study rooms, 100 desktop computers, five laptops and 30 Nooks available to students. Copy machines are available for student use at no charge. The library provides online databases that are accessible from all internet sites. Nursing Databases include CINAHL Complete, Health Reference Center Academic, and Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition, LexiComp Online, Magill's' medical Guide 6th edition, MEDLINE, Nursing I & II-Search Ovid Nursing Collections and Nursing Reference Center. Other databases are available upon request. TCC is also a member of TexShare. The services are available to patrons of participating member libraries all across Texas, regardless of institution type, size, or location (Texas State Library and Archives Commission, 2014). This gives additional access to over 70 content and periodical databases. In the current collection, there are 231 offerings, 115 of which are less than five years old.</p>	<p>Criteria Met</p>
<p>Provide evidence of adequate restrooms and lounges sufficient to meet Americans with Disabilities Act</p>	<p>Each floor at TRCE has ADA compliant men's and women's restrooms. There are lounges and common areas where students may study or rest.</p>	<p>Criteria Met</p>

STANDARD/CRITERIA	EVIDENCE	COMMENTS
accessibility and compliance requirements.		
Provide a description of existing and proposed student support services, including developmental learning programs, learning assessment programs, and counseling programs and resources to promote retention of nursing students.	<p>Library The TRCE Campus Library serves the nursing students for TCC and provides accessible operating hours seven days each week. Special hours are posted for summers, breaks and holidays. The facility has private study rooms, 100 desktop computers, five laptops and 30 Nooks available to students. Students may schedule individual appointments with library staff.</p> <p>The Computer Center The testing center has 85 computer terminals and is primarily used for online examinations. Faculty training will be provided in the use of the testing format. There are four large overhead monitors that are connected to a master computer at the monitoring desk.</p> <p>Resource Center The Resource Center has 22 computers and a projection screen. Many supplemental programs include a faculty created dosage practice program, and a speech program to assist students with word pronunciation. A faculty developed pharmacology course is available on DVD.</p>	Criteria Met
§214.12 RECORDS AND REPORTS		
Provide a written plan for the storage and retention of program related records.	<p>Academic records are maintained by the Registrar's office and will be kept according to TCC policies and state and federal guidelines.</p> <p>Nursing student files, which include documentation of the student's progress, counseling data, and clinical evaluations, will be kept for a period of two years plus the current year, according to state guidelines in a designated locked room with locked filing cabinets. The filing cabinets are stored on the second floor of the Trinity River Nursing Building behind a locked door in the Records Room. The keys to the door are stored securely in a locked drawer of the administrative assistant's desk.</p>	Criteria Met

STANDARD/CRITERIA	EVIDENCE	COMMENTS
§214.13 TOTAL PROGRAM EVALUATION		
Provide a written plan for the systematic Total Program Evaluation developed by nursing faculty and including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evaluative criteria; • frequency of evaluation; • assignment of responsibility; • methodology; indicators of program and instruction	All required criteria and components of §214.13 are included in TCCs VN education program TPE	Criteria Met

Pros and Cons:

Pros:

- Facilities, resources, and services are adequate to meet the needs of the proposed VN program.

Cons:

- None identified.

DRAFT LETTER

April 24, 2017

Tetsuya Umebayashi, DNP, RN, Director
Vocational Nursing Education Program
Tarrant County College
245 E. Belknap Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Dear Dr. Umebayashi:

At the April 20-21, 2017 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing discussed the Tarrant County College Proposal to Establish a New Vocational Nursing Education Program in Fort Worth, Texas, and the report of the February 24, 2017 survey visit. The Board wishes to thank you, Virginia Covington, and Dr. Bryan Stewart for being present to answer questions. Based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the decision of the Board to grant initial approval for Tarrant County College to establish a new Vocational Nursing Education Program in Fort Worth, Texas, and impose the requirement in the attached Board Order.

Requirements are mandatory criteria based upon program assessment directly related to the rules that must be addressed in the manner prescribed.

We wish you success with the program. If you have questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact Board Staff at 512-621-5179.

Sincerely,

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

Copy: Dr. Sean Madison, President
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Tarrant County College
Vocational Nursing Education Program
In Fort Worth, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on April 20, 2017, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the Tarrant County College proposal to establish a new Vocational Nursing Education Program in Fort Worth, Texas, based upon the review of the proposal and survey visit report, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 214.

After review and due consideration of the filed materials, as well as the presentation by the representatives from Tarrant County College in Fort Worth, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby grants INITIAL APPROVAL for the Tarrant County College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Fort Worth, Texas and imposes the following requirement:

1. The program shall not admit more than one (1) cohort of thirty-five (35) students in Fall 2017 and Fall 2018 until the program achieves Full Approval status from the Board.

Entered this 20th day of April, 2017

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