

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status  
From Conditional to Full Approval  
Concorde Career College in Grand Prairie, Texas  
Vocational Nursing Education Program**

**Summary of Request:**

Consider the proposed change in approval status for Concorde Career College (CCC) Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program in Grand Prairie, Texas, from Conditional Approval to Full Approval based upon review of the 2017 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate and compliance with Board Rule 214.

**Historical Perspective:**

- The CCC Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program has been in operation since 1996.
- The program was nationally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) from 1998 to 2013. In 2013, the institutional accreditation transitioned to accreditation from the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) and currently remains in good standing.
- Since 2009, five changes in the position of Director of the Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program have occurred. Debra Hawkins, MSN, RN is the current director and has been in this position since March 2014 bringing stability to the program.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past six (6) years are provided in the table below:

<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>
2017	Conditional	87.57% preliminary	148/169
2016	Full with Warning	79.65%	137/172
2015	Full	79.13%	182/230
2014	Full	77.22%	183/237
2013	Full	83.57%	178/213
2012	Full	76.35%	184/241

- In the Self-Study Report submitted in 2015, the faculty identified the following areas for improvement:
  - revise admission requirements, including standardized testing criteria;
  - strengthen grading criteria to ensure that academic rigor is maintained;
  - improve use of item analysis data by faculty to foster improvement in testing and classroom instruction by providing faculty workshops on test writing;

- strengthen student policies related to remediation and use of university-provided success services; standardized examination products, and other resources throughout the curriculum;
- improve use of summative evaluation data (summary reports from standardized examinations, NCLEX performance data) to foster program improvement; and
- continuously monitor the program by addressing components of the Total Program Evaluation Plan at monthly program meetings.
- Due to the continuing noncompliance with Rule 214 due to NCLEX-PN® pass rate and areas needing correction, the program was placed on Conditional Approval at the April 2017 Board Meeting.
- When programs are on Conditional Approval, they are prohibited from enrolling new students.
- CCC has made improvements to their program of study over the past two years that have significantly improved the performance of students.

**Rationale for Staff Recommendations:**

The program has demonstrated a pass rate for first-time candidates of 87.57% on the 2017 NCLEX-PN® examination and is currently in full compliance with Rule 214. The change of approval status will allow the admission of new students.

**Staff Recommendations:**

Move to change the approval status for the Concorde Career College Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program in Grand Prairie, Texas, from Conditional Approval to Full Approval based upon review of the 2017 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate and compliance with Rule 214, as indicated in the attached letter Board Order (Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

January 18, 2018

Debbie Hawkins, MSN, RN  
Director, Vocational Nursing Education Program  
Concorde Career College  
3015 Interstate 20  
Grand Prairie, TX 75052

Dear Ms. Hawkins:

At the January 18-19, 2018 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) discussed the approval status of Concorde Career College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Grand Prairie, Texas, based upon review of the 2017 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate and compliance with Rule 214.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status of the Concorde Career College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Grand Prairie, Texas, from Conditional Approval to Full Approval as indicated in the attached Board Order. Congratulations on this achievement and the opportunity to move forward.

If you have any questions or if we may be of any assistance, please contact Board Staff at [gayle.varnell@bon.texas.gov](mailto:gayle.varnell@bon.texas.gov) or 512-621-5179.

Sincerely,

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

Copy: Mike Lovejoy, Campus President  
Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges

**BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**

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**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

In the Matter of  
Concorde Career College  
Vocational Nursing Education Program  
In Grand Prairie, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on January 18, 2018, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of the Concorde Career College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Grand Prairie, Texas, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 214, based upon review of the 2017 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate and compliance with Rule 214.

After review and due consideration of the files materials, as well as the presentation by representatives from the Concorde Career College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Grand Prairie, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status of Concorde Career College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Grand Prairie, Texas, from CONDITIONAL APPROVAL to FULL APPROVAL.

Entered this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018

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