

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status
From Conditional Approval to Full Approval
Houston Community College in Houston, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider a proposed change in the program approval status for Houston Community College (HCC) Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program in Houston, Texas from Conditional Approval to Full Approval based upon review of the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2017 and compliance with Rule 214.

Historical Perspective:

- HCC VN Program has been in operation since 1951.
- Donna Spivey, DNP, RN, CEN, is currently serving as Interim Director for the program.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past five (5) years are provided in the following table:

NCLEX Examination Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-PN® Examination Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2017	Conditional	95.00% preliminary	19/20
2016	Full with Warning	74.63%	50/67
2015	Full	76.56%	49/64
2014	Full	68.07%	81/119
2013	Full	92.19%	59/64

- The Program Director and faculty submitted a Self-Study Report in 2015 that evaluated factors that may have contributed to the 2014 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate of 68.07%. The program specifically identified the high number of students failing and repeating courses, and the high faculty turnover.
- The program planned to review and revise readmission policies and to plan strategies to recruit and retain nursing faculty. In addition, the program planned to improve the faculty orientation and faculty development policies and processes.
- A survey visit was conducted on December 1-2, 2015, to the Houston Community College VN Program to evaluate the success of corrective measures implemented this and to assist the program in identifying other measures for success.

- The approval status of the program was changed to Full with Warning in April 2016 and to Conditional Approval in April 2017.
- Subsequent to the program being placed on Conditional Approval at the April 2017 Board meeting, the program was prohibited from enrolling new students.
- The program has continued to implement quality improvement measures and the 2017 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate rose to 95.00%.

Rationale for Staff Recommendations:

The program has demonstrated a pass rate for first-time candidates of 95.00% on the 2017 NCLEX-PN® examination and is currently in full compliance with Rule 214. Since the program has met rule requirements, the change of approval status will allow the admission of new students.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to change the approval status for Houston Community College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas from Conditional Approval to Full Approval as indicated in the attached letter and Board Order (Attachment #1).

DRAFT LETTER

January 22, 2018

Donna Spivey, DNP, RN, CEN, Interim Director
Vocational Nursing Education Program
Houston Community College
1900 Pressler Street, Suite 344
Houston, Texas 77030

Dear Dr. Spivey:

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

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 Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas from Conditional Approval to Full Approval as indicated in the attached Board Order.

If you have any questions or if Board staff 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
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Houston Community College
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 January 18, 2018, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of the Houston Community College Vocational Nursing Education Program in Houston, Texas, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 214, based upon the NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate for 2017 and compliance with Rule 214.

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

Entered this 18th day of January, 2018

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