

**Consideration of Change in Approval Status
From Conditional Approval to Full Approval
Vernon College at Wichita Falls in Wichita Falls, Texas
Vocational Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the proposed change in approval status for Vernon College at Wichita Falls Vocational Nursing (VN) Education Program in Wichita Falls, Texas from Conditional Approval to Full Approval based upon the 2018 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate and compliance with Rule 214.

Historical Perspective:

- Vernon College was established in 1970 as Victoria Regional Junior College and currently has campuses in Wichita Falls, Vernon, and Seymour, Texas.
- The college is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.
- The VN Program merged with Bethania School of Vocational Nursing in Wichita Falls in 1976.
- In February 2018, Mary T. Rivard, PhD, RNC-OB, assumed the role of Interim Program Director.
- The NCLEX-PN® examination pass rates for the past five years are included in the table below:

NCLEX Examination Year	BON Approval Status	NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rate	Number of First Time Candidates (Passed/Total)
2018	Conditional	80.45%	107/133
2017	Full with Warning	76.70%	79/103
2016	Full	74.49%	73/98
2015	Full	73.81%	93/126
2014	Full	80.15%	105/131

- Due to the 2015 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate of 73.81%, the Program Director and faculty were required to submit a Self-Study Report (SSR) in 2016 that would evaluate factors that may have contributed to the graduates' performance on the licensure examination and a description of the corrective measures to be implemented.
- A comprehensive, in-depth SSR was received in the Board office in August 2016.
- Major areas needing corrective actions with accompanying time frames for implementation were identified in the SSR. The corrective measures included: (1) increasing the minimum passing score from 75 to 78%; (2) reassessing and revising the re-entry policy for failures/withdrawals; (3) adding rigor to the attendance policy; (4) implementing a remediation program; and (5) increasing simulation use.

- Although the program implemented corrective measures to improve the performance of graduates on the national licensing examination, the 2017 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate was 76.70% with 79 of 103 candidates passing the licensing examination.

Rationale for Recommendation:

The program has demonstrated a pass rate for first-time candidates of at least 80% on the 2018 NCLEX-PN® examination and is currently in full compliance with Rule 214.

Staff Recommendation:

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

Draft Letter

January 28, 2019

Mary T. Rivard, PhD, RNC-OB, Interim Director
Vocational Nursing Education Program
Vernon College at Wichita Falls
4105 Maplewood Avenue
Wichita Falls, Texas 76308

Dear Dr. Rivard:

At the January 24-25, 2019 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) discussed the approval status for the Vernon College at Wichita Falls Vocational Nursing Education Program in Wichita Falls, Texas, based upon the 2018 NCLEX-PN® examination pass rate and alignment with Rule 214.

Based upon the discussion and review of information, it was the decision of the Board to change the approval status for the Vernon College at Wichita Falls Vocational Nursing Education Program in Wichita Falls, Texas from Conditional Approval to Full Approval as indicated in the attached Board Order.

If you have any questions or if we may be of any assistance, please contact Board Staff at Virginia.ayars@bon.texas.gov or (512)305-7660.

Sincerely,

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

Copy: Dusty R. Johnston, President
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

In the Matter of
Vernon College at Wichita Falls
Vocational Nursing Education Program
In Wichita Falls, Texas

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on January 24-25, 2019, 333 Guadalupe, Tower II, Room 225, Austin, Texas, to consider the approval status of the Vernon College at Wichita Falls Vocational Nursing Education Program in Wichita Falls, 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 2018 and alignment with Rule 214.

After review and due consideration of the materials presented by Staff and filed by the Vernon College at Wichita Falls Vocational Nursing Education Program in Wichita Falls, Texas, and other interested parties, if any, the Board hereby CHANGES the approval status for the Vernon College at Wichita Falls Vocational Nursing Education Program in Wichita Falls, Texas from CONDITIONAL APPROVAL to FULL APPROVAL.

Entered this 24th day of January, 2019

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