

**CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO MERGE NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS
CISCO JUNIOR COLLEGE IN ABILENE, TEXAS
LVN TO RN AND GENERIC ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAMS**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Consider the request from the Cisco Junior College in Abilene, Texas to merge the LVN to RN and the generic associate degree nursing educational programs into one associate degree nursing educational program with the Texas Board of Nursing.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

- The initial proposal in 1995 to the Board was to establish a LVN to RN nursing program at Cisco Junior College.
- The program began operation in January 1995 and had full approval status with the BNE.
- The 2007 Nepis Report indicated 38 registered nurses graduated from the program during the 2006-2007 academic year. Twenty eight students were enrolled in Fall 2007.
- Cisco Junior College received Board initial approval to open the generic associate degree nursing program in July 2005.
- The first cohort of twenty students entered the generic program in August 2005 and another twenty students enrolled in August 2006. There has been two graduating classes.

Year of Graduation	2008	2007
NCLEX-RN® Examination Pass Rate	tentative- 100%	80.0%

At the October 18 , 2007 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing voted to change the approval status of the generic nursing program from initial to full approval.

PROS AND CONS:

Pros:

- Both programs use the same curriculum except for the LVN to RN transition course in the LVN to RN program.
- The same faculty teach in both tracks and they have a one chair/ director.

Cons:

- No disadvantages are apparent to merging the two programs into one and listing them as one program at the BON.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Move to approve the request from Cisco Junior College in Abilene, Texas to merge the LVN to RN and the Generic Associate Degree Nursing Educational Programs into one associate degree nursing educational program with the Texas Board of Nursing as stated in the attached letter (Attachment One).

July 21, 2008

Jackolyn Morgan, MSN, RN
Chair - Health Sciences
Cisco Junior College
717 E. Industrial Blvd.
Abilene, Texas 79602

Dear Ms. Morgan:

This letter is to notify you that your request to merge the two tracks (generic track and LVN-to-ADN track) of the associate degree nursing program at the Cisco Junior College was discussed at the July 17, 2008 meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing. It was the decision of the Board to approve the merging of these two tracks and to recognize them as one program. The program code for the one program will be 27-418 will be discontinued effective December, 2008. Any students taking the NCLEX-RN exam after December, 2008 shall use the program code 27-486.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of further assistance, please contact staff at (512) 305-7658.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP
President

Dorothy Joy, MSN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

cc: Colleen Smith, President, Cisco Junior College
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board