

Agenda Item # 6.



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR
BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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Executive Officer's Report

1. Board Member Update

- Vacant Positions – There are currently four vacant board member positions – one (1) LVN and three (3) public members. Anyone interested in serving on the BVNPT should contact the Governor's Appointment Secretary or go to the Governor's website.

2. Budget Update

- State Hiring Freeze – On August 31, 2010, Governor Schwarzenegger directed all state agencies to cease hiring effective immediately, no exception. The hiring freeze applies to regular/ongoing positions, temporary help, board appointments, pending hiring commitments and any new positions, or budget change proposal positions approved for FY 2010/11. In addition, there is a freeze on all overtime.
- Furlough Fridays – On August 9, 2010, the Governor issued Executive Order S-12-10 which requires state agencies to close their offices on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Fridays every month until the budget is signed.
- Enforcement Division Budget Change Proposal (BCP) – The Board received approval to hire 13.5 staff (i.e., 10 investigators, 2 managers and 3.5 limited term analysts) to implement the DCA's Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative (CPEI). Due to the state hiring freeze, these positions cannot be filled.
- Information Technology BCP – The DCA received approval to implement the BreZE automation system that will provide all of DCA's boards/bureaus with an integrated licensing and enforcement information technology solution that will replace DCA's current, outdated legacy systems.
- Licensing Division BCP – The Board received approval to hire 4.0 additional staff to address the increased workload in the Licensing Division. Due to the state hiring freeze, these positions cannot be filled.

3. Education Division Update

	VN Program	PT Program	Totals
# Accredited Programs	203	15	219
# Approved Programs	3	1	4
Total Programs:	206	16	222
# Proposed Programs Pending	107	9	116
Total Accredited, Approved, and Proposed	313	25	338

- Director Forums – The Education Division will be conducting Director Forums on September 15, 2010 in Los Angeles and on September 23, 2010 in Sacramento.
- Submission of New Proposals and School Materials for Nursing Education Consultant's Review – The Board asks for your cooperation when submitting new proposals and other materials to your consultant. Please work with your consultant to establish mutually acceptable deadlines. Due to the present shortage of consultant staff, the Board now projects that new proposals may take at least twelve (12) months or longer for review, depending on the quality and completeness of the proposal. The Board thanks you for your understanding.

4. Enforcement Division Update

- Disciplinary Hearings – Hearings were conducted on July 28, 2010 in Sacramento.

5. Licensing Division Update

- Examination Statistics – Current Fiscal Year to Date (07/01/10 – 08/31/10)

	VN Program	PT Program
Average Annual Pass Rate for First-Time Graduates	74%	81%
Overall Pass Rate	56%	64%
Total # of First-Time Graduates Tested "Fiscal Year to Date":	1,268	114
Total# of Candidates Tested "Fiscal Year to Date":	2,077	169

6. Liaison Activities

- Summit Career College Graduation Ceremony – On June 24, 2010, the Board Vice-President Todd D'Braunstein was the keynote speaker at the graduation ceremony.
- Healthcare Workforce Clearinghouse Project – On July 7, 2010, the Assistant Executive Officer Marina Okimoto, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant Cheryl Anderson, and AISA Shawn Nibbelink met with representatives from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development regarding the Healthcare Workforce Clearinghouse Project.
- Assembly Bill 950 Hearing – On July 22, 2010, the Board President John Vertido and Executive Officer Teresa Bello-Jones were asked to provide testimony regarding Assembly Bill 950, which created a licensure requirement for hospice facilities. Specifically, they were to address the scope of practice questions regarding LVNs.
- DCA Board Member Training – On July 27, 2010, Board President John Vertido and Executive Officer Teresa Bello-Jones attended the DCA-sponsored Board Member and Advisory Committee Training: Improving Enforcement and Board Governance. Issues discussed included Board Member Governance and Its Role in Improving Enforcement, Defining Expectations and Roles for Board Members and Executive Officers, Future Focus on Establishing Continuing Competency Requirements, Defining Expectations and Roles for DCA Executives/Administrators, and Best Practices for Public Meetings.

7. Fee Regulations

- Fee Regulations – The Office of Administrative Law approved the Board's fee regulations, which will become effective October 1, 2010. The new fees will be:

Vocational Nursing Fee Categories	Old Fee	Effective 10/1/10
Examination Applications	\$75.00	\$150.00
Re-Examination Applications	\$75.00	\$150.00
Fee for dishonored check or money order	\$10.00	\$25.00

Psychiatric Technician Fee Categories	Old Fee	Effective 10/1/10
Examination Applications	\$100.00	\$150.00
Re-Examination Applications	\$100.00	\$150.00
Fee for dishonored check or money order	\$10.00	\$25.00

8. Statutory Fee Range

- Statutory Fee Range Change Proposal – The Board is still seeking an author for the statutory fee range change proposal. The Board is working with the DCA and the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee to ensure the PT Program's fiscal solvency.

9. Other Important Issues

- Customer Service Surveys – The BVNPT distributes a "Customer Service Survey" to solicit feedback regarding how the Board is accomplishing its mission and goals. The information is used to develop the Board's Strategic Plan and is included in the Sunset Review Reports. Please complete the survey for and leave it on the sign-in table at the back of the room. We are very interested in obtaining any recommendations you can make regarding improving effectiveness.

(9/1/10)