

# Agenda Item #7.B.



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.



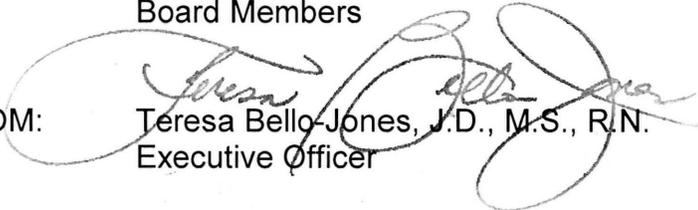
## BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS

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DATE: October 15, 2012

TO: Board Members

FROM:   
Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S., R.N.  
Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report on Decisions for Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technician Programs

The following is a summary of the Executive Officer's (EO) decisions for Vocational Nursing (VN) and Psychiatric Technician (PT) programs.

### Effective August 31, 2012

#### 1. **American Medical Sciences Center – Request to Begin a VN Program (Director: Susan Istvan-Wood, Glendale, Los Angeles County, Private)**

American Medical Sciences Center submitted a request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial full-time class of 20 students on September 10, 2012. The projected graduation date is August 31, 2013.

The full-time program is 51 weeks in length divided into four terms.

Faculty includes the director, an assistant director and one instructor. The assistant director and instructor are approved to teach theory and in the clinical area. Enrollment of 20 students requires two clinical instructors; therefore, the number of currently approved faculty is adequate for the initial class.

The program has sufficient clinical facilities to afford the number, type and variety of patients that will provide clinical experience consistent with competency-based objectives and theory being taught.

The EO approved American Medical Sciences Center's request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial full-time class of 20 students on September 10, 2012, only, graduating August 31, 2013, and approved the program curriculum for 1624 hours, including 604 theory, and 1020 clinical hours.

**Rationale:** The submitted proposal is compliant with requirements specified in California Code of Regulations, Division 25, Chapter 1, Article 5.

#### 2. **College of Nursing and Technology VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Paul Peters, Reseda, Los Angeles County, Private)**

The College of Nursing and Technology VN Program requests Board approval to admit 30 students into a part – time class commencing September 18, 2012, and graduating February 18, 2014.

The EO required the College of Nursing and Technology VN Program to submit the following documents and information by **September 12, 2012.**

- a. Verification that El Proyecto Del Barrio clinical facility has been provided Maternity Nursing clinical objectives for the proposed clinical rotations.
- b. Clinical rotation schedule verifying the provision of 32 clinical hours in Maternity Nursing for current and proposed students.

Additionally, the EO delayed consideration of the program's request to admit 30 students to commence September 18, 2012, only, graduating February 18, 2014, pending program submission of documents specified in Recommendation #1, confirmation of sufficient Board - approved Maternity clinical site(s) **and** submission of a schedule to ensure clinical rotations in Maternity Nursing for the currently enrolled and proposed students; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.

**Rationale:** Since April 2009, the program has **increased** their licensure examination pass rates **50** percentage points. The program's most recent **quarterly** pass rate is **100%** and the average **annual** pass rate is **100%**.

On April 11, 2012, a student complaint was processed by the Board related to failure of the program to provide students with Maternity clinical experience. Board investigation confirmed that the program **did not** provide clinical rotations in Maternity Nursing as specified in the Board – approved curriculum. On May 15, 2012, the Board issued the program a Notice of Violation for noncompliance with requirements specified in California Code of Regulations Section 2534(b).

On May 30, 2012, a Maternity site was secured by the program and approved by the Board. The program rotated eight (8) students through the Maternity clinical site. A follow-up call to the facility revealed the program failed to continue rotating students through this site, since it was "inconvenient".

On August 22, 2012, the Board received a facility application for another Maternity clinical site. Attempts to process this application have not resulted in approval, as of this writing, however, the facility representative assured the consultant that they will review the program's objectives and notify the consultant if the objectives can be met in their facility.

Board staff will continue to closely monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, attrition rates, and the program's licensure examination statistics.

**3. Community Enhancement Services College VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Oleg Khilkevich, Burbank, Los Angeles County, Private)**

The Community Enhancement Services College VN Program requests Board approval to admit a class of 30 full-time, evening/week-end students commencing on September 13, 2012, graduating December 14, 2013.

The EO approved Community Enhancement Services College VN Program's request to admit a class of 30 full-time, evening/week-end students commencing on September 13, 2012, graduating December 14, 2013; **and** required the program to perform an analysis and submit a written report which identifies deficiencies and strategies to correct identified deficiencies relevant to the following elements of the program by September 28, 2012:

- a. Admission Criteria
- b. Screening and Selection Criteria
- c. Grading Criteria
- d. Probation Policy and related Actions
- e. Remediation Plan
- f. Evaluation of Student Achievement
- g. Evaluation of Faculty Performance
- h. Evaluation of Facility Adequacy

Additionally, the EO required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of additional students.

**Rationale:** The program has graduated two (2) classes, to date. A third class is scheduled to graduate in May 2013. Currently, 36 students remain enrolled in classes.

The program's current average annual pass rate is 64%. This is ten (10) percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate. This is a **decline of 24 percentage** points from quarters two (2) and three (3) of 2011.

Since the current average annual pass rate is within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate and the most recent quarter pass rate is 78%, the requested class is recommended. However, since the program's pass rate decreased over the most three (3) consecutive quarters the analysis of "a" through "o" above is recommended.

A new director was approved by the Board on May 22, 2012. Having the new director perform an analysis of the elements a through h

above, will assist the director to identify the program's deficiencies and create a plan to correct them.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient resources to support the number of current and proposed students. Board staff will continue to monitor the program closely.

**4. Joseph's School of Nursing VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Adeniki Joseph, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, Private)**

Joseph's School of Nursing VN Program requests approval to admit a full-time evening class of 30 students, commencing on September 10, 2012, and completing on September 10, 2013. The proposed class will **replace** students that graduated on August 30, 2012.

Additionally, the program is requesting approval to admit a full-time day class of 30 students on January 31, 2013, graduating January 31, 2014. The proposed class will **replace** students that are scheduled to graduate on December 30, 2012.

The EO approved Joseph's School of Nursing VN Program's request to admit a full-time evening class of 30 students, commencing on September 10, 2012, only, completing on September 10, 2013. The proposed class will **replace** students that graduated on August 30, 2012. The EO approved the program's request to admit a full-time day class of 30 students, commencing on January 31, 2013, only, completing on December 31, 2014. The proposed class will **replace** students that will graduate on December 30, 2012. Additionally, the EO required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

**Rationale:** Over the most recent seven (7) quarters, the program's average annual licensure pass rates have been within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate. Therefore, the requested classes are recommended.

Board staff will continue to closely monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates quarterly, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing accreditation surveys every four (4) years.

**5. Kaplan College, Sacramento, VN Program – Request to Admit Students; Ongoing Admissions (Director: Sharon Parkman, Sacramento, Sacramento County, Private)**

The Kaplan College, Sacramento, VN Program is requesting approval to admit a class of 30 students, commencing on September 24, 2012, and completing on October 5, 2013.

Further, the program is requesting approval for ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating students only. Specifically, approval is requested to admit four (4) classes per year, with 30 students per class, admitting in January, April, July and October.

The EO approved Kaplan College, Sacramento, VN Program's request to admit a class of 30 students, commencing on September 24, 2012, only, completing on October 5, 2013; **and** approved the program's request for ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions will include admission of one (1) class of 30 students four (4) times per year only, admitting in January, April, July and October.
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (l) of the Code.

**Rationale:** The program has enrolled a total of 229 students since the first class began on October 6, 2008. Of the 229 enrolled students, 134 graduated and 58 remain currently enrolled. Based on these figures, attrition is under 10%. Eighty-five (85) graduates have taken the licensure examination, to date. Forty-nine (49) graduates have not taken the licensure examination, to date. It is important to note, 29 students graduated in May 2012 and are expected to test during quarter three (3) of 2012. As such licensure data will not be available for these graduates until approximately October 2012.

The program's average annual pass rate is 90% and the quarter pass rate is 91%. The program's average annual pass rates have been within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate since data has been recorded for this campus. Currently there are eleven (11) quarters of data recorded for the program, eight (8) of the 11 quarters exceeded the state average annual pass rate. Based on the recorded data, the request to admit a class of 30 students and the request for ongoing admissions is recommended.

6. **Lynwood Community Adult School VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval** (Director: Belinda Andrews, Lynwood, Los Angeles County, Adult School)

A Program Records Survey was completed by the Lynwood Community Adult School VN Program in June 2012. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. No violations were identified.

The EO continued approval of the Lynwood Community Adult School VN Program for the four-year period from September 10, 2012 through September 9, 2016, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of the program's ongoing admission of two classes of 30 students per year; **and** continued approval of the program's ongoing admission of two classes of 30 students per year admitted per class to **replace** graduating classes **only**, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's current pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's current pattern of admissions includes two (2) full-time classes of 30 students each; **and**,
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities are available to support each admitted class of students; **and**,
- c. The program's average annual pass rates remain no more than ten (10) percentage points below state average annual pass rates.

**Rationale:** The program has demonstrated full compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. Bureau staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

#### **Effective October 4, 2012**

#### **7. Casa Loma College, Van Nuys, Vocational Nursing Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval, Request for Change in Ongoing Admission Pattern, and Request for Major Curriculum Revision (Director: Billy Hutchison, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County - Private)**

A Program Records Survey was completed by Casa Loma College, Van Nuys, Vocational Nursing Program in June 2012. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. No violations were noted.

The program director requests an increase in program hours from 1531 to 1656, adding 103 theory hours and 22 clinical hours.

The program director also requests a change in the program's ongoing admission pattern by eliminating part-time programs and adding a fifth full-time class of 30 students per year bringing their admission of classes to thirty students per class in January, March, June, August and October.

The EO continued approval of the Casa Loma College, Van Nuys, Vocational Nursing Program for a four-year period from September 9, 2012, through September 8, 2016, and directed staff to issue a certificate accordingly; **and** approved the program's proposed curriculum revision to include 680 theory hours and 976 clinical hours for a total of 1656 program hours; **and** approved discontinuance of the part-time evening program; **and** approved the program's request to change their approved ongoing admission pattern from 30 students each to full-time classes admitted every January, April, July and October to 30 students each to full-time classes admitted every January, March, June, August and October with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's approved pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions includes admission of five day classes of 30 students per year, admitting in January, March, June, August and October.
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.
- c. The program's average annual pass rates remain compliant with regulatory requirements.

**Rationale:** The program is currently compliant with all sections of Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. Although the program's licensure examination pass rate for the April to June 2012 quarter was below acceptable standards, the director has proposed program changes to address identified problems with the goal of raising the examination pass rate.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient resources, including faculty and facilities, to support the current and proposed enrollment. Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

**8. North Orange County Regional Occupational Program (ROP) Vocational Nursing Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Elizabeth G. McPeak – Anaheim, Orange County, Community College)**

A Program Records Survey was completed for the North Orange County ROP Vocational Nursing Program in June 2012. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. No violations were noted.

The EO continued approval of the North Orange County ROP Vocational Nursing Program for the four-year period from September 10, 2012, through September 9, 2016, and directed staff to issue a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of

the program's ongoing admission of two classes per year to **replace** graduating classes **only**, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's current pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's current pattern of admissions includes two (2) full-time classes of 60 students each, with class admissions in June and October; **and**,
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities are available to support each admitted class of students; **and**,
- c. The program's average annual pass rates remain no more than ten (10) percentage points below state average annual pass rates.

**Rationale:** The program has demonstrated full compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

**9. St. Francis Career College, Lynwood, Vocational Nursing Program – Program Records Survey for Continued Approval and Request for Ongoing Admissions (Director: Alice Campbell, Lynwood, Los Angeles County, Private)**

A Program Records Survey was completed by St. Francis Career College, Lynwood, Vocational Nursing Program in July 2012. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. One (1) violation was noted. The program director requested ongoing admissions of three day classes of 30 students with three alternates per year, admitting in February, August and October.

Based on Board records and submitted information, the following violation of the California Code of Regulations is identified.

**Section 2530(k) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states,**

**“The program shall have prior Board approval to increase the number of students per class and/or increase the frequency of admission of classes.”**

**Violation #1:** The program admitted five classes without prior Board approval. Based on submitted enrollment information, the program admitted classes in October 2010, February 2011, August 2011, October 2011 and February 2012, totaling 134 students. Board records substantiate that the students were admitted without prior approval by the Board.

**Correction #1:** The director indicated that this violation occurred during a transition between directors. She conceded that this oversight should not have happened, but stated that there will be no recurrence of this violation and that the school will ensure compliance with all aspects of the vocational nursing regulations.

The EO continued approval of the St. Francis Career College, Lynwood, Vocational Nursing Program for a four-year period from September 8, 2012 through September 7, 2016, and directed staff to issue a certificate accordingly; **and denied** the program's request for ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating students; required the program to request approval for each class admission; and approved the program's request to admit a class of 30 students and 3 alternates commencing February 19, 2013, only, with a graduation date of June 2014.

**Rationale:** Board records and submitted information substantiate the program's admission of five (5) classes, totaling 134 students, without prior Board approval. As such, the program was been noncompliance with regulatory requirements specified in California Code of Regulations Section 2530 (k) since October 2010. Such marked noncompliance is of serious concern; therefore, the program is now required to request approval for each class admission.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient resources, including faculty and facilities, to support the current and proposed enrollment. Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

### **Effective October 10, 2012**

#### **10. West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Ontario, Vocational Nursing Program- Request to Admit Students (Director: Karen Hall, Ontario, San Bernardino County, Private)**

West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Ontario, Vocational Nursing Program requests approval to admit 30 students into its 15 month, evening, program on October 11, 2012 and graduating on January 2, 2014 to **replace** students that graduated on September 23, 2012.

Additionally, the program is requesting approval to admit 30 students into its 15 month, day, program commencing on January 7, 2013 and graduating on April 3, 2014.

The EO approved West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Ontario, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 30 students into a 15-month, evening, class commencing on October 11, 2012, only, and graduating on January 2, 2014 to **replace** students that graduated on September 23, 2012; **and** approved admission of 30 students into its 15-month, day, program commencing on January 7, 2013 and graduating on April 3, 2014, only; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

**Rationale:** Based on published examination statistics, the program's average annual pass rate is 80%. As such, the average annual pass rate is six (6) percentage points **above** the state average annual pass rate. Of the nine (9) quarters of data for the program, all nine (9) have all exceeded the state average annual pass rate. Based on the program's average annual pass rate the requested classes are recommended.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, attrition rates, the program's licensure examination pass rates quarterly, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing accreditation surveys every four (4) years.

**11. Beaumont Adult School Vocational Nursing Program- Request to Admit Students (Director: Lori Edwards, Riverside County, Private)**

The program requests approval to admit a part-time class of 30 students to commence October 11, 2012 only, graduating February 6, 2014, to **replace** students who graduated September 6, 2012; **and**, the program also requests approval to admit a part-time class of 30 students to commence March 13, 2013, graduating July 24, 2014, to **replace** students that are scheduled to graduate February 28, 2013; **and**, the program is requesting approval for ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating students only. Specifically, approval is requested to admit two (2) classes per year, admitting in April and October, with 30 students per class.

The EO approved Beaumont Adult School to admit a part-time class of 30 students to commence October 11, 2012 only, graduating February 6, 2014, to **replace** students who graduated September 6, 2012; and, approved the program's request to admit a part-time class of 30 students to commence March 13, 2013, graduating July 24, 2014, to **replace** students that are scheduled to graduate February 28, 2013; and, approved the program's request for ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admission without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admissions will include admission of one (1) class of 30 students two (2) times per year, only, admitting in April and October, **and**,
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students; **and**,
- c. The program maintains an average annual pass rate that is compliant with Section 2530 (l) of the Code.

**Rationale:** Since data has been recorded for the program, the average annual pass rates have been within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate. For the last eight (8) quarters, the average annual pass rate has been seven (7) to 22 percentage points above

the state average annual pass rate. Currently, the average annual pass rate is **94%**. As such, the average annual pass rate is **20** percentage points **above** the state average annual pass rate. Based on this data the recommendation to admit students and ongoing admissions is recommended.

### **Effective October 17, 2012**

#### **12. Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Concord, Psychiatric Technician Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Larisa Revzina, Contra Costa, Private)**

The program requests approval to admit a class of 15 students into its daytime class commencing October 22, 2012 and graduating October 5 2013. The proposed day class would **replace** students who graduated September 28, 2012; **and**, requests approval to admit a class of 15 students into an evening class commencing October 22, 2012 and graduating October 5 2013. The proposed evening class would **replace** students who graduated September 28, 2012.

The Executive Officer approved Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts, Concord, Psychiatric Technician Program's request to admit a day-time class of 15 students commencing November 22, 2012, graduating October 5 2013, only. The proposed day class would **replace** students who graduated September 28, 2012; **and**, approved the program to admit a class of 15 students into an evening class commencing October 22, 2012, and graduating October 5 2013, only. The proposed evening class would **replace** students who graduated September 28, 2012; and, required the program to continue obtaining Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

**Rationale:** The program's pass rate supports the recommendations to approve a day – time class of 15 students and an evening class of 15 students on November 22, 2012.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient resources to support the number of students in the current and proposed classes. Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rate quarterly, reviewing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing accreditation surveys every four years.

**13. Santa Barbara Business College, Bakersfield – Request to Admit Students (Director: Carolyn Santiago, Bakersfield, Kern County, Private)**

The program requests approval to admit a class of 36 students and three (3) alternates on October 22, 2012 to **replace** a class that graduated on October 11, 2012. The proposed class is expected to graduate on December 19, 2013.

The Executive Officer **denied** the program's admission of 36 students with three (3) alternates commencing October 22, 2012, graduating December 19, 2013, to **replace** students that graduated October 11, 2012; **and**, required the program to obtain Board approval prior to admitting additional classes.

**Rationale:** The program's licensure pass rates have fluctuated between 13 and 21 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate over the most recent five (5) consecutive quarters.

There are 18 quarters of licensure data recorded for the program. Of the 18 quarters, 13 prior quarters demonstrated compliance with regulatory requirements. However, the most recent five (5) quarters demonstrate a significant deterioration of the average annual pass rate. The current average annual pass rate is **54%**. As such, the average annual pass rate is **twenty (20)** percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate.

The program was notified, on April 19, 2012; the program had four (4) quarters of low licensure pass rates. On August 7, 2012, the program was notified they had five (5) quarters of low licensure pass rates. On September 13, 2012 the director submitted a plan to bring the pass rates up.

Based on the recent downward trend of the program's average annual pass rate, denial of the requested class is recommended. The director would be advised to focus on the currently enrolled 60 students, and implement the recently submitted plan to increase licensure pass rates.