

Agenda Item #13.B.3.

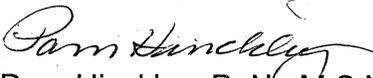


STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833-2945
Phone (916) 263-7800 Fax (916) 263-7859 Web www.bvnpt.ca.gov



DATE: February 6, 2011

TO: Board Members

FROM: 
Pam Hinckley, R. N., M.S.N.
Nursing Education Consultant

SUBJECT: InfoTech Career College, Vocational Nursing Program – Consideration of Request to Admit Students (Director: Elizabeth Estrada, Bellflower, Los Angeles County, Private)

On November 10, 2011, the Board placed InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing Program on Provisional Approval for a two (2) year period from November 10, 2011 through November 30, 2013 due to low licensure pass rates. Additionally, the Board denied the program's request to admit a class of 30 full-time day students on January 17, 2012, graduating on March 23, 2013. The program was required to continue to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting identified violations. Further, the program was required to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board.

The Info Tech Career College requests approval to admit a full-time day class of 30 students on March 25, 2013, graduating on May 30, 2014. This class would replace the class that graduated August 21, 2012.

History of Prior Board Actions

(See Attachment A for the History of Prior Board Actions from May 14, 2008 through February 6, 2011.)

Enrollment

Each class admission to the 60-week, full-time program must have prior Board approval. The pattern of admissions for current classes is seen in the enrollment table below.

The following table represents **current and proposed** student enrollment based on the current and proposed class start dates. The table indicates a **maximum enrollment of 42** students for the period **May 2008 through July 2012**.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Completed			
5/08		26	17	17

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or	Total Enrolled
	8/09 (5/08 Class)		- 17	17 - 17 = 0
6/11 (Delayed from 2/1/10)		30	17	0 + 17 = 17
8/12		15	12	17 + 12 = 29
	8/12 (6/11 Class)		-17	29 - 17 = 12
3/13 Proposed	5/14	30		12 + 30 = 42
	10/13 (8/12 Class)		-12	42 - 12 = 30

Licensing Examination Statistics

The following statistics, furnished by the Pearson Vue and published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing as "Jurisdictional Summary of All First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdiction," for the period October 2009 through December 2012, specify the pass percentage rate for graduates of the InfoTech Career College, Vocational Nursing Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical (Vocational) Nurses (NCLEX-PN®).

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Data							
Quarterly Statistics					Annual Statistics*		
Quarter	# Candidates	# Passed	% Passed	State Quarterly Pass Rate	Program Average Annual Pass Rate	State Average Annual Pass Rate	Variance from State Average Annual Pass Rate
Oct - Dec 2009	5	3	60%	76%	60%	73%	-13
Jan - Mar 2010	4	1	25%	76%	44%	74%	-30
Apr - Jun 2010	3	1	33%	74%	42%	75%	-33
Jul - Sep 2010	1	0	0%	76%	38%	75%	-37
Oct - Dec 2010	No Candidates Tested			77%	25%	76%	-51
Jan - Mar 2011	1	1	100%	80%	40%	77%	-37
Apr - Jun 2011	No Candidates Tested			71%	50%	76%	-26
Jul - Sep 2011	No Candidates Tested			74%	100%	76%	+24
Oct - Dec 2011	No Candidates Tested			74%	100%	75%	+25

Jan – Mar 2012	No Candidates Tested			77%	100%	74%	+26
Apr – Jun 2012	No Candidates Tested			72%	0%	74%	-74
Jul – Sep 2012	No Candidates Tested			74%	0%	74%	-74
Oct – Dec 2012	1	0	0%	70%	0%	74%	-74
*The Annual Pass Rate changes every quarter. It is calculated by dividing the number of candidates who passed during the current and previous three quarters by the number of candidates who tested during the same period. If no data is available for the relevant period, the statistic is carried over from the last quarter for which data is available.							

This data substantiates the program's **noncompliance** with Section 2530 (l) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations for the period **April 2008 through December 2011 and April 2012 through December 2012** and **compliance** for the periods **October 2007 through March 2008 and January 2012 through December 2012**.

Based on the most current data available (October to December 2012), the program's average annual pass rate is **0%**. The California average annual pass rate for graduates from approved vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time is 74%. The average annual pass rate for the Info Tech Career College Vocational Nursing program is **74** percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate.

It must be noted that the program had **no candidates** tested during **six (6) of the previous seven (7) quarters**. Further, only **two (2) program candidates** completed the licensure examination **during the last eight (8) quarters; one (1) candidate passed and one (1) failed**.

Faculty and Facilities

Section 2534(d) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:

“For supervision of clinical experience, there shall be a maximum of 15 students for each instructor.”

The number of Board-approved faculty totals 15, including the director. The director has 90% administrative and 10% teaching duties. Of the total faculty, 14 instructors and the director are approved to teach clinical.

Based on a maximum enrollment of 42 students, three (3) instructors are needed. Therefore, the number of current faculty is adequate for the current and proposed enrollment.

Other Considerations

As noted previously, on November 10, 2011, the Board placed the InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing Program on provisional accreditation for the two – year period from November 10, 2011 through November 30, 2013 due to noncompliance with regulatory requirements relative to average annual pass rates.

On November 22, 2011, the Board forwarded to the director the Notice of Change in Approval Status. (See Attachment B)

Specifically, the program's average annual pass rates were consistently more than ten (10) percentage points below State average annual pass rate. For seven (7) of the previous eight (8) consecutive quarters, the program's average annual pass rates had been **13 to 51** percentage points **below** state average pass rates.

The Board also identified the program's significant instability in program administration. Specifically, seven (7) directors have been approved since the program's inception on May 14, 2008. The current director was approved June of 2011. As such, she has been in the position eight (8) months. This has been the longest period of time the school has had a director in place.

The Board denied the program's request to admit a class of 30 full-time day students on January 17, 2012, graduating on March 23, 2013. The program was required to continue to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting identified violations. Further, the program was required to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board.

On January 19, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of fifteen (15) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider.

On January 20, 2012, the program director submitted fifteen (15) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider. Presented in the plan were the following elements:

- The director identified the director's qualifications for the director position and reinforced her commitment to keeping consistency and stability in the program's leadership.
- Implementation of regular in-service development for instructors at the school.
- The director provides an explanation of the first cohort's performance on the licensure examination. Specifically, the director explains that the pass rates are based on the program's first class and if "we were to eliminate those three quarters without students, Info Tech would have five quarter.

It is important to note, that the Board calculates the average annual pass rate by dividing the number of candidates who passed during the current and previous three quarters by the number of candidates who tested during the same period. These figures are calculated on first time testers only. If no data is available for the relevant period, the statistic is carried over from the last quarter for which data is available.

- The program has implemented ATI testing, assignments in virtual clinical excursions; potential candidates must submit a written essay and be interviewed by the Director.

- Pre-requisite courses in Anatomy and Physiology, Pharmacology math courses with a minimum pass rate of 80%.
- All students were issued laptops to facilitate online resources.

On February 6, 2012, the Board approved InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing Program's request for approval to admit a class of 15 full-time, day, students on April 9, 2012, only, graduating on July 1, 2013; and, required the program to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board.

On December 13, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider (see Attachment C).

On December 28, 2012, the program director submitted eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider. Presented in the plan were the following elements (see Attachment D):

- Admission, Screening and Selection Criteria:
 - The program is currently requiring incoming students to take the ATI TEAS entrance test. The current passing score is 50% in each content area. Previously the requirement was 50% average of all content areas.
 - Anatomy and Physiology, Introduction to Pharmacological Mathematics is a required pre-requisite.
 - One on one interview.
- Terminal Objectives remain unchanged.
- Curriculum Objectives:
 - Deficiency identified-lack of Genitourinary System content added.
- Instructional Plan:
 - Revised to be consistent with changes in the curriculum objectives.
 - Textbook references updated.
 - Added Virtual Clinical content.
- Theory and Clinical Objectives:
 - Pediatric clinical objectives revised.
 - Added Totally Kids clinical site.
- Textbooks:
 - Added two (2) new texts-Anatomy and Physiology and Medical Terminology.
- Attendance:
 - Consistent tracking of student attendance has improved student attendance to 96 to 100%.
- Remediation:
 - Remediation is strictly enforced. Students not attending required remediation sessions must make up double of the time owed. This has increased compliance with the remediation policy.
 - Students that failing a test must attend remediation the following Friday.

- Struggling students are identified early, give individual counseling, review of study habits.
- Evaluation of theory and clinical faculty:
 - Director identified deficiencies in theory to clinical correlation. The director met with the instructors and training was implemented.
- Evaluation of Theory Presentations:
 - Theory instructor replaced after deficiencies were identified.
- Evaluation of Clinical to Theory:
 - Initiated concept mapping.
- Evaluation of Student Achievement:
 - ATI exit exam performance-required score of 92% or above. Fourteen (14) of the current 17 students have taken and achieved the required 92% or higher.

In summary, the program was placed on Provisional Approval for a two (2) year period from November 10, 2011 through November 30, 2013 due to low licensure pass rates. The current quarter and average annual pass rate is 0%. It must be noted that the program had **no candidates** test during **six (6) of the previous seven (7) quarters**. Further, only **two (2) program candidates** completed the licensure examination **during the last eight (8) quarters; one (1) candidate passed and one (1) failed**. The program has implemented several corrective actions and the current director ensures the Board her commitment to keeping consistency and stability in the program's leadership.

Recommendation:

1. Deny InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing Program's request for approval to admit a class of 30 full-time, day, students on March 25, 2013, graduating on May 30, 2014.
2. Require the program to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board.

Rationale: Published examination statistics identify the difficulty the program has had maintaining average annual pass rates that are compliant with regulatory requirements. Currently, there are 13 quarters of data recorded for the program. The first seven (7) consecutive quarters, the program's average annual pass rates were 13 to 51 percentage points below the state average annual pass rate. Based on the noncompliant performance statistics for the first seven (7) quarters, the program was placed on Provisional Approval for a two (2) year period from November 10, 2011 through November 30, 2013.

In quarter one (1) of 2011 the program recorded a 100%. This was based on one (1) student testing. This one (1) student's recorded 100% pushed the program's average annual pass rate up to 100% for the subsequent three (3) consecutive quarters. The program then recorded 0% for the most recent three (3) quarters. This was due to no candidates testing.

The most recent quarter data is also based on one (1) candidate testing and failing. As such, the current average annual pass rate is 0%. Based on these extreme variances in the program's average annual pass rates that are based on single candidates testing or no candidates testing, it is difficult to

assess if the interventions the program made to bring up their licensure pass rates has been effective.

Seventeen (17) students graduated August 21, 2012. It is anticipated, the program's efforts to bring up the licensure data would be demonstrated in this class. It is anticipated, these students will test in Quarter 2 of 2013. The recommendation to deny the requested class is based on the extreme variances of the licensure data and single graduates testing or no candidates testing. It is advisable to wait until more than one (1) or two (2) students take the licensure examination, in order to see if the program's interventions will reverse the downward trend that led to the program being placed on provisional approval on November 10, 2011.

Currently twelve (12) students are enrolled in classes at Info Tech Career College.

Attachment A: History of Prior Board Actions.

Attachment B: Notice of Change in Approval Status dated November 22, 2011.

Attachment C: Board Correspondence dated December 13, 2012.

Attachment D: Program Correspondence dated December 28, 2012.

Agenda Item #13.B.3., Attachment A

INFO TECH CAREER COLLEGE HISTORY OF PRIOR BOARD ACTIONS

History of Prior Board Actions

- On May 14, 2008, the Executive Officer approved InfoTech Career College's request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial class of 30 students commencing May 19, 2008 only, with a projected graduation date of August 11, 2009; and approved the program curriculum for 1560 hours, including 600 theory, and 960 clinical hours.
- On September 9, 2008, a new program director was approved.
- On March 11, 2009, a new program director was approved.
- On July 6, 2009, a new program director was approved.
- On July 13, 2009, the Board received the program's Program Records Survey.
- On July 20 – 21, 2009, the program was inspected for compliance with regulatory requirements for initial accreditation. Fourteen (14) violations of the California Code of Regulations were identified. Recommendations for correction of each violation and a timeline for correction were discussed.
- On August 28, 2009, the Board forwarded correspondence to the director relative to the absence of required corrections of violations identified during the survey visit. A response was requested by September 10, 2009.
- On September 10, 2009, the Board received the program's response to identified survey violations.
- On October 5, 2009, the assigned consultant met with the program director relative to the proposed corrections of the fourteen (14) violations identified during the July 20 – 21, 2009 survey visit. Required revisions were specified. The director agreed to submit the required revised documents to correct all previously identified violations by Friday, October 30, 2009.
- On November 2, 2009, the Board received the program's revised documents addressing violations identified during the survey visit.
- On December 16, 2009, the assigned consultant, per telephone conference call, advised the director that the submitted information did not completely address violations identified during the July 2010 survey visit. Corrections specified during the visit and during the October 5, 2009 meeting were reiterated. Additional revisions were requested by Tuesday, December 29, 2009.

- On December 30, 2009, the Board received the program's final revisions addressing violations identified during the survey visit.
- On January 7, 2010, the Executive Officer approved initial full accreditation for the InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing Program for the period from January 6, 2010, through January 5, 2014, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and**, approved the program's request to admit a class of 30 students commencing February 1, 2010, to **replace** students graduating August 24, 2009. That class was projected to graduate March 7, 2011.
- On March 1, 2010, the Board received electronic correspondence from the school owner advising of the director's termination.
- On March 2, 2010, the SNEC discussed the program's status with Ashok Garg, President, and Owner. Mr. Garg advised that commencement of the next class would be delayed due to the lack of financial aid. The owner projected commencement of that class for August 2010.
- On October 1, 2010, the Board received correspondence from A. Garg reporting the school's plans to admit a class on October 25, 2010 and the hiring of a new program director.
- On October 5, 2010, the Board forwarded correspondence per certified mail to A. Garg relative to the lack of submission of an application for a new director and information relative to the planned class.
- **On November 30, 2010, a new program director was approved.**
- On December 4, 2010, the program was notified that its average annual pass rates had fallen below 10 percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for the past four (4) quarters. The director was requested to submit a written plan for improving the program's NCLEX-PN[®] pass rates by December 20, 2010.
- On December 29, 2010, the Board received correspondence from the director and supporting documents related to the program's plan to increase licensure pass rates.
- February 17, 2011, the program was notified that its average annual pass rates had fallen below 10 percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for the past five (5) quarters. The program was requested to submit a written plan for improving their NCLEX-PN[®] pass rates by March 4, 2011.
- On March 4, 2011, the Board received correspondence from the director and supporting documents related to the program's plan to increase licensure pass rates.
- On May 16, 2011, the program was notified that its average annual pass rates had fallen below 10 percentage points of the state average annual pass rates for the past six (6) quarters. The program was requested to submit a written plan for improving their NCLEX-PN[®] pass rates by June 3, 2011.

- On April 13, 2011, a new program director was approved.
- On June 15, 2011, a new program director was approved.
- On November 10, 2011, the Board placed the InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing Program on provisional accreditation for the two-year period from November 10, 2011, through November 30, 2013, and issue a notice to the program to identify specific areas of noncompliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of Regulations. The Board denied the program's request for approval to admit a class of 30 full-time day students on January 17, 2012, graduating on March 23, 2013, at this time, and required the program to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board. The program was required to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate for four consecutive quarters.

Additionally, the program was required to submit follow-up reports in 9 months, but no later than **August 1, 2012**, and 21 months, but no later than **August 1, 2013**. The reports must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken to improve program pass rates, timeline for implementation, and the effect of employed interventions. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis.

- a. Admission Criteria.
- b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
- c. Terminal Objectives.
- d. Curriculum Objectives.
- e. Instructional Plan.
- f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
- g. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
- h. Textbooks.
- i. Attendance Policy.
- j. Remediation Policy.
- k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
- l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
- m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
- n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
- o. Current Enrollment.

Further, the Board required the program to comply with all accreditation standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526. The program is required to continue to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violations. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's accreditation. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's accreditation.

The program was placed on the **November 2013** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional accreditation.

- On November 22, 2011, the Board forwarded to the director the Notice of Change in Accreditation Status.
- On January 19, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of fifteen (15) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider.
- On January 20, 2012, the program director submitted fifteen (15) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider.
- On February 6, 2012, the Board approved InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing Program's request for approval to admit a class of 15 full-time, day, students on April 9, 2012, only, graduating on July 1, 2013; and, required the program to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board.
- On December 13, 2012 the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider.
- On December 28, 2012, the program director submitted eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider.

Agenda Item #13.B.3., Attachment B



STATE AND COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AGENCY • TO SERVE THE PUBLIC GOOD

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2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833-2945
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CERTIFIED MAIL

November 22, 2011

Elizabeth Estrada
Director, Vocational Nursing Program
Info Tech Career College
16900 S. Lakewood Blvd., Suite 209
Bellflower, CA 90706

Subject: Notice of Change in Accreditation Status

Dear Ms. Estrada:

Pursuant to the action of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) on November 10, 2011, the provisional accreditation status of the Info Tech Career College Vocational Nursing Program has been changed from full accreditation to provisional accreditation for the two – year period from November 10, 2011 through November 30, 2013. The purpose of this letter is to explain the areas of non-compliance found and the corrections required of your program to avoid losing accreditation completely.

Once you have reviewed this letter, please sign and return the enclosed "Acknowledgement of Change in Accreditation Status" form by **Friday, December 2, 2011**.

AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE [VIOLATION(S)]

In accordance with Section 2526.1(c) of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations,

"The Board may place any program on provisional accreditation when that program does not meet all requirements as set forth in this chapter and in Section 2526..."

Section 2530(l) of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations states:

"The program shall maintain a yearly average minimum pass rate on the licensure examination that does not fall below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates of accredited vocational nursing schools for the same period.

- (l) Failure to maintain the required yearly average minimum pass rate for two years or eight consecutive quarters may be cause to place a program on provisional accreditation."

The program pass rates of the Info Tech Career College Vocational Nursing Program for the past seven (7) quarters are set forth in the following table.

NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Pass Rates			
Quarter	State Annual Average Pass Rate	Program Annual Average Pass Rate	Variance from State Annual Average Pass Rate
Oct – Dec 2009	73%	60%	-13
Jan – Mar 2010	74%	44%	-30
Apr – Jun 2010	75%	42%	-33
Jul – Sep 2010	75%	39%	-36
Oct – Dec 2010	76%	25%	-51
Jan – Mar 2011	77%	40%	-37
Apr – Jun 2011	76%	50%	-26
Jul – Sep 2011	76%	100%	+24

This data substantiates the program's history of non-compliance with Section 2530(l) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations for 7 of 8 Quarters. Based on statistics reported for Quarter 3, 2011, the program is compliant with regulatory requirements.

REQUIRED CORRECTION(S)

1. The Info Tech Career College, Vocational Nursing Program shall obtain full Board approval prior to the admission of additional students.
2. Require the program to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate for four consecutive quarters.
3. The program shall submit a follow-up report in 9 months, but no later than **August 1, 2012**, and 21 months, but no later than **August 1, 2013**. The report must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken to improve program pass rates, timeline for implementation, and the effect of employed interventions. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis:
 - a. Admission Criteria.
 - b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
 - c. Terminal Objectives.
 - d. Curriculum Objectives.
 - e. Instructional Plan.
 - f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
 - g. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
 - h. Textbooks.
 - i. Attendance Policy.
 - j. Remediation Policy.
 - k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
 - l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.

- m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
 - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
 - o. Current Student Enrollment.
4. The program shall comply with all accreditation standards in article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code section 2880, and article 5 of the Board's regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 2526.
 5. The program shall continue to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violations. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's accreditation.
 6. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's accreditation.

In the event additional violations of the accreditation standards are identified, such violations may result in further corrective action or revocation of provisional accreditation.

FUTURE BOARD ACTION

Your program will be placed on the **November 2013** Board Meeting agenda, at which point the Board may revoke or extend the program's accreditation. If you have additional information that you wish considered beyond the required corrections listed on page 3 and 4, you must submit this documentation by the fifteenth day of the second month prior to that Board meeting.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please be advised that, pursuant to the Board's regulations, the program will not be authorized to admit new classes beyond the established pattern of admissions previously approved by the Board. The established pattern of admissions approved by the Board is as follows: **Prior Board approval was required for the admission of each class; however, based on the above corrections, the full Board's permission will be required for each future class admission.**

In the event your program is required to submit any report(s) as a corrective action pursuant to this notice, such reports are required in addition to any other reports required pursuant to 2527 of the Board's regulations.

The program may no longer advertise that it has full accreditation, and should take steps to correct any ongoing advertisements or publications in that regard.

A copy of title 16; California Code of Regulations, section 2526.1, regarding provisional accreditation is attached for your reference. A complete copy of the Board's laws and regulations can be found on the Board's web site at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.



TITLE 16 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

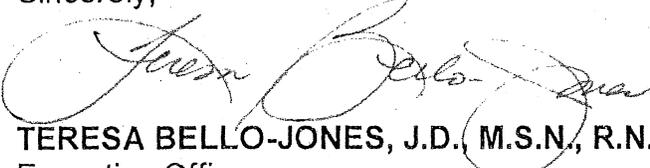
Section 2526.1

2526.1. Provisional Accreditation.

- (a) Provisional accreditation means a program has not met all requirements as set forth in this chapter and in Chapter 6.5, Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (b) Provisional accreditation shall be granted for a period determined by the Board.
- (c) The Board may place any program on provisional accreditation when that program does not meet all requirements as set forth in this chapter and in Section 2526. If the program has not met all requirements at the end of the initial provisional accreditation period, provisional accreditation may be extended if the program demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Board a good faith effort to correct all deficiencies.
- (d) Any program holding provisional accreditation may not admit "new" classes beyond the established pattern of admissions previously approved by the Board. The admission pattern is defined by the number of students per class and the frequency of admissions for the six class admissions that immediately precede the Board action to consider provisional accreditation.
- (e) A program placed on provisional accreditation shall receive written notification from the Board. The notification to the program shall include specific areas of noncompliance and requirements for correction. A program's failure to correct delineated areas of noncompliance is cause for revocation of provisional accreditation.
- (f) A material misrepresentation of fact by a vocational nursing program in any information submitted to the Board is cause for revocation of provisional accreditation.
- (g) A program whose provisional accreditation has been revoked shall be removed from the Board's list of accredited programs. The status of students as potential applicants for licensure will be determined by the Board.
- (h) A program that is removed from the Board's list of accredited programs subsequent to Board action based on the program's non-compliance with applicable regulations shall not reapply to establish a vocational nursing program for a minimum period of one calendar year.

Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Board.

Sincerely,



TERESA BELLO-JONES, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.
Executive Officer

Enclosures

cc: Board Members

TBJ:cca



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMOND G. BROWN JR.
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File

edee
BVNPT Received
on 12-2-11 with KR

Acknowledgement of Change in Accreditation Status

I, Elizabeth Estrada, director of InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing
 (Director's Name) Name of Program)

Program, hereby acknowledge that this program's status has been changed from full accreditation to provisional accreditation. I understand that in accordance with Section 2526.1 (f) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations and Section 2581.1 (f) of the Psychiatric Technician Rules and Regulations, the Board will consider any advertisement of full accreditation while on provisional accreditation as "material misrepresentation of fact". "Material misrepresentation of fact" may lead to revocation of the program's accreditation. Further, I understand the program's provisional accreditation status will be reflected on the Board's internet website.

Please complete and return this form to the Board by December 2, 2011.

Received by certified mail on 12/2/11

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Elizabeth Estrada
 (Signature of Director)

12-2-11
 (Date)

Agenda Item #13.B.3., Attachment C



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

BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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CERTIFIED MAIL

December 13, 2012

Elizabeth Estrada, Director
Info Tech Career College
Vocational Nursing Program
16900 S. Lakewood Boulevard, Suite 209
Bellflower, CA 90706

Re: Consideration of Request to Admit Students While on Provisional Approval

Dear Ms. Estrada:

On December 13, 2012, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) received your correspondence requesting Board approval to admit students to the ***InfoTech Career College Vocational Nursing Program***. The Board is scheduled to consider that request at its meeting scheduled February 22, 2013. That meeting will be held in Los Angeles, California.

To ensure dissemination and review by individual Board members and relevant staff for timely consideration prior to the February Board meeting, please submit the following written information by **Friday, December 28, 2012:**

- Eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents related to subsequent actions taken by the program to correct identified problems ***that you desire Board members to consider***. Please remember existing statutes require that any document considered by the Board will become a public record. Accordingly, please redact all names of students.
- In addition, please provide information on a compact disc (CD) for Board use. Again, please remember to redact any student names prior to copying information onto the CD.

Although the primary purpose of this letter is to convey the Board's need for the copies, please be assured that, if timely submitted, any correspondence and attachments will be reviewed and, if appropriate, information submitted may be included in the report of the assigned consultant.

The Board strongly recommends that you plan to attend the meeting and be prepared to respond to questions from Board members relative to your program.

Please contact the Board at (916) 263-7843 should further clarification be needed.

Sincerely,

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InfoTech Career College

REPLACEMENT COHORT REQUEST FOR THE BVNPT

BVNPT Received edu
on 12/28/12 with MC

To Present at February 2013 Board Meeting

It is our intention to continue delivering quality education in the vocational nursing field. Because of the resources developed and the consistency of the program, the college is requesting the admittance of 30 students in the new cohort started March 25, 2013.

Throughout this program, we have reviewed, revised and improved the delivery of vocational nursing educational content. The faculty has been active in providing personal attention to each of the students and keeping on top of student progress.

As of this report, we have graduated 14 students from cohort 2011-2012. More information about this successful class further in this report.

The new cohort approved by the BVNPT (Cohort 2012-2013) has started and currently in Module II.

Administration of Program:

Historically, from 2009 through 2011, there were seven directors that filled that Director of Nursing position during the transition period when the college needed to completely re-evaluate their offering and enhance their content.

It is important to note that the current director, Elizabeth Estrada, has maintained a strong position in directing the program's growth and development. By the board meeting in February 2013, Ms. Estrada would have held the position of director for 20 months. As director, the program has undergone improvements in theory and clinical content and has **maintained stability**. The Director of Nursing has had 1 year of teaching at a university level BSN program and now almost 5 years of theory, clinical, and vocational nursing school management experience. She has published articles in professional journals, developed national certification exams, and directed a national nursing organization.

As Director, the program has undergone improvements in theory and clinical content. In addition, she has been able to devote individual attention to each student. She has worked collaboratively with the College Administration and is well supported in implementing changes necessary to the success of the program.



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New Location – 8527 Alondra Blvd., Paramount, CA

In line with plans to expand the nursing college courses, Infotech Career College moved in this year in July 2012. The educational space increased from **7,000 square feet to over 10,000 square feet**. This provides a more adequate space for additional cohorts. It also can house our other programs easily.

In the old location, the skills lab and classroom were in the same room. In our new facility, the skills lab and classrooms are separated. This allows for skills lab and classroom to be used simultaneously. It will accommodate a new cohort in our plans for further expansion.

Note: Pictures of old and new facility included in CD sent with this document to BVNPT. Pictures will be brought with Director of Nursing to show the board at the February meeting.

Admissions Criteria, Screening and Selection Criteria

The following changes have been made to improve the admissions criteria for our new cohort:

1. In the past we were setting a 50% overall combined passing score for the TEAS test. For our new cohort, we have set the passing scores as 50% individually on each of the following: Writing, Reading and Mathematics sections of the TEAS test. This has resulted in better prepared students.
2. We also require a prerequisite class in Anatomy & Physiology and Intro to Pharmacology math. This prerequisite class last four weeks. This was incorporated in our present cohort graduating in 2013. It has proven to be valuable.
3. We continue to have one-on-one interviews with each possible candidate with the Director of Nursing. Their essays are discussed and evaluated and the candidate's motivation and commitment to achieving their goals are evaluated.

Terminal Objectives

Our terminal objectives have not changed. We continue to strive to educate safe competent vocational nurses who will make a difference in their patients' lives.

Curriculum Objectives –

The four modules have been re-evaluated and deficiencies were identified. Specifically, content related to the Genitourinary System was lacking in the previous curriculum. The Genitourinary System was added as an important content necessary for core knowledge needed by the students..



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Instructional Plan –

The instructional plan was revised to be consistent with changes in the curriculum objectives. Also, the references and assignments given to students were revised to reflect updates in textbooks, study guides, and other resources.

There is additional emphasis on "Virtual Clinical" content which assist students to apply theory and improve critical thinking.

Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course

A new pediatric clinical facility was identified. After approval from BVNPT, our Module IV students were able to have an excellent pediatric clinical experience at Totally Kids Specialty Healthcare. This is a sub-acute facility where each child has acute and long-term needs in their health care.

The students have an opportunity to also work with parents and siblings in coordinating the overall care for the child. In reviewing the clinical objectives for the Pediatric clinical setting, with guidance from Ms. Hinckley, these objectives were revised and submitted to reflect the appropriate clinical activities that students are expected to meet.

Lesson Plans for Each Course

Each Lesson plan was modified in accordance with curriculum objectives and improved with addition of updated resources.

Textbooks

We have added two textbooks for Anatomy & Physiology and for Medical Terminology. These are more in-depth than the textbooks we had before. These textbooks are then utilized during their Module I classwork. By doing this, it gives the students a comfort level when starting their official courses by having textbooks that they are familiar with.

Each year, some of the textbooks come up with new editions. We have kept current with the requirements for the field and have provided the newest editions available.

Attendance Policy

Since faculty has been tracking attendance consistently, our students have been following the attendance policy. We have had minimal issues with attendance. The students who do miss have justifiable reasons. All the students are afforded make-up opportunities when needed. Attendance has consistently been between **96% and 100%**.



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Remediation Policy

1. In the past we have had a problem with students not attending their required remediation sessions. To increase participation at remediation sessions, we have implemented the policy that if students miss make up hours, they subsequently owe double the amount of hours they originally had to make up. This has improved participation for the remediation sessions.
2. We require that if a student fails a test that they must attend remediation the following Friday. This way, students are able to better understand content they've missed, and academic problems are caught early on. We believe that because of this, almost all the students (of the graduated class 2011-2012) who passed Module I have been able to pass Terms II, III, IV.

Preliminary monitoring of this process seems to rapidly identify weaknesses in individual student knowledge and give them specific guidelines for remediation. Students who are not doing well are given individual counseling on study habits and goal setting by the Director of Nursing and the Instructor. Results of the counseling session are documented in the students' files. This individual, intensive counseling has dramatically increased students' performance in the class. The students that are following the guidelines are showing significant increase in their knowledge and performance on exams.

Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty:

1. Our previous clinical instructors were found to need improvement in correlating theory and clinical content. These instructors were given training by the Director of Nursing to remedy this area. Our current clinical instructor has successfully worked with the graduated cohort (2011-2012) to correlate their theory and clinical concepts.
2. A new clinical instructor was hired with a Masters' Degree and significant teaching experience. This instructor also had significant Pediatric, Maternity, and Med-Surg experience. She was able to facilitate a strong Module IV for the graduate cohort (2011-2012) in the specialty areas.

Evaluations of Theory Presentations:

Last year in 2011, when the current Director of Nursing was hired, one of the theory instructors for Fundamentals had already been hired to teach Fundamentals. After a reasonable evaluation period, it was found that the Instructor needed improvement in classroom management and teaching methods. This Instructor had taught mostly clinical at other colleges, not theory. The Director of Nursing coached this Instructor in teaching methods. A new and well experienced instructor was hired to replace the original instructor to start Term II. During cohort 2011-2012 Term I and beginning



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of Term II, the original 30 students went down to 17 due to academic or attendance reasons.

The current Instructors were evaluated highly by the Director of Nursing and the students on their theory presentation skills. In addition, the students' evaluations were extremely positive. Our lead instructor has continued with the program and has just completed teaching Module I.

Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations:

We noticed that Instructors needed more training on how to do care plans for the clinical rotations. We have revised the care plan training forms. In addition, we have found that students have more understanding now of how to do care plans correctly. Care plans are submitted every time students have a new patient assignment.

The new cohort (2012-2013) will be taught patient care concept mapping later in the Module II which will improve the important success quotient of care, content, and correlation.

Evaluation of Student Achievement:

Students are instructed early on if there is any concern about their achievement in the module that they have study time and tutoring available. We have created and implemented a written notice of non-compliance forms. At checkpoints throughout the module, the students are counseled both by the Director of Nursing and the Instructor.

An in-depth discussion follows about the student's study habits and what else they could be doing to improve their achievement in the module. We have noticed that students are underutilizing the resources that they have, namely the ATI practice exams and remediation tools. We emphasize this to them during our counseling meetings.

Here is a summary grade chart which shows that 2011-2012 graduate cohort has worked hard to improve their results. This shows that 10 students have a year average of B and 7 students have a year average of C+

STUDENT ID	MOD I	MOD II	MOD III	MOD IV	YR AVERAGE
201001946 AGU	78	78	83	79	80
201002058 AND	88	79	83	82	83
201002056 BUK	77	76	81	78	78
201001943 DOU	83	77	79	80	80



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201001944 ESP	84	76	78	81	79
201001941 HER	82	76	78	81	79
201001960 LED	88	80	80	80	82
201001981 LOP	79	75	76	77	77
201001940 MAN	81	77	77	78	78
201001942 MON	88	79	81	84	83
201001958 NOR	79	75	79	76	77
201001966 PAR	87	80	84	88	85
201001957 PAR	83	78	81	79	80
201002023 POI	86	81	78	85	83
201001939 SAN	77	79	83	80	80
201001983 VEN	79	76	78	76	77
201001961 ZAM	87	82	88	83	85

Student ID	NCLEX-pass probability
201001945	93%
201002058	99%
201001946	92%
201001943	96%
201001944	93%
201001941	92%
201001940	96%
201001942	99%
201001966	98%
201001957	98%
201002023	96%
201001939	95%
201001983	96%
201001961	92%

← **ATI EXIT EXAM RESULTS:**

This is the most **significant demonstration of success made by our program**. In order to graduate, the students in cohort 2011-2012 are required to obtain a 92% on their ATI exit exam. As you can see in the table to the left, 14 students have **met or exceeded our expectation**. Live and online NCLEX Reviews for students after finishing Module IV take advantage of the ATI testing process. As per discussion with other nursing programs that have high passing rates, we are requiring the students to pass the exit exam with a predictor score of 92 or above prior to releasing them to take the NCLEX exam.

ANTICIPATING NCLEX EXAM RESULTS: Only two students have been given a test date as of the writing of this document. When the results are available, we will report them in a separate communication. If available during the board meeting in February, the Director of Nursing will bring those results.

While they are waiting, students are utilizing the ATI **online review course** which guarantees their passing the first time if they follow their online mastered prepared instructor's coaching. Infotech is pushing each



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student to take advantage of this resource. Students who have been using the ATI Virtual Review product so far have described it as helpful.

Current Enrollment.

Cohort 2012-2013: There are 12 students who just started August 20, 2012.

The student handbook was revised and approved by BVNPT for the new cohort 2012-2013. The policies have been clarified and presented to the new cohort. Each student has signed a commitment contract outlining their willingness to meet the educational objectives and adhere to the policies of the program.

During this current cohort, the ATI resources were integrated with the curriculum from the beginning. The students were evaluated as having difficulty with critical thinking and content retention at the beginning of Module I. Upon aggressive inclusion of the ATI testing and critical thinking, Infotech Career College worked closely with a consultant and engaged the students into the use of the ATI online resources, encouraging them to develop their critical thinking skills.

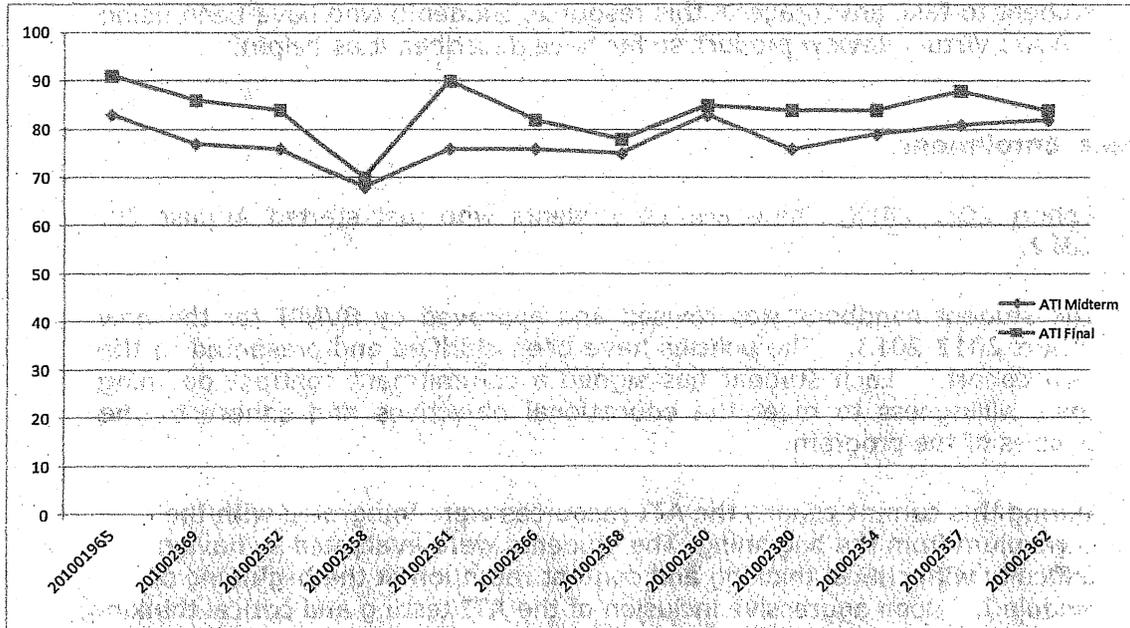
The **chart below reflects the improvement** of our students' scores on their midterm and their final for Mod I. This chart reflects scores solely on test questions provided by ATI that corresponds to curriculum content in Module One. Since the test questions on ATI are close to the questions on the actual NCLEX-PN exam, we believe their scores here reflect how well the students will actually do on the corresponding test content on the NCLEX-PN exam. The chart shows that the students improved significantly from their midterm to their final.

This improvement was achieved by constant monitoring, remediation, and mentoring by the faculty. In order to retain students through Module I, Infotech Career College implemented a study skills module in which we walked students through the study process step by step. This has made a **dramatic improvement in the students' scores.**

Module II is currently being monitored and information regarding this module will be provided when available. We are confident that when another cohort starts, incoming students will benefit from our individualized attention to their success.



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SUMMARY NOTE:

Infotech is anxious to establish ourselves as a quality nursing program and replace our graduated cohort 2011-2012 which was previously approved for 30 students. The entire college has moved to a new building providing expansion capabilities in preparation for accepting another cohort. We have implemented changes in both the curriculum and teaching which have significantly improved students' progress. These changes are reflected in the graduated cohort's strong ATI Predictor Exam scores, as well as the current cohort's strong Module I Final Exam scores.

In anticipating the future cohort 2013-2014, plans to upgrade their pre-requisite classes are underway. We will be adding several days of "How to Study" to improve their skills. We have learned that the Anatomy and Physiology, Math, and Pharmacology principles are essential in providing a good foundation prior to starting the first module.

I am looking forward to having the challenge of a new full cohort in March 2013 and welcome any questions or clarifications the BVMPT board needs.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth Estrada M.S.N., R.N.

Program Director, Infotech Career College

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