

Agenda Item #10.C.



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

BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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DATE: January 28, 2015

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 December 10, 2014

1. Centerpointe Learning Institute – Request to Begin a VN Program (Director: Neelam Chanda, Daly City, San Mateo County, Private)

Centerpointe Learning Institute submitted a request to begin a VN program with an initial full-time class of 20 students with 2 alternates on January 5, 2015. The projected graduation date is December 23, 2015.

The program's philosophy addresses the program's beliefs about Man, Society, Teaching, Education, Health, Nursing, Wellness and Illness. The program's conceptual framework is based on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

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 the Centerpointe Learning Institute request to begin a VN program with an initial full-time class of 20 students plus 2 alternates on January 5, 2015 only, and graduating December 23, 2015; **and** approved the program curriculum for 1534 hours, including 580 theory and 954 clinical hours; **and** required the program to obtain prior Board approval before admission of subsequent classes to maintain compliance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 2526(c) that states:

“(c) A Board representative shall make a survey visit prior to graduation of the initial class. A program shall not commence another class without prior Board approval.”

Rationale: The school has demonstrated compliance with requirements specified in California Code of Regulations Article 5. **Schools of Vocational Nursing.**

Board staff will to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of the curriculum and employed instructional methodologies, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

2. Cerro Coso College VN Program – Consideration of Unannounced Survey Site Visit (Director: Annette Hodgins, Ridgecrest, Kern County – Community College)

On October 7 and 8, 2014, an unannounced survey site visit and inspection of the Cerro Coso College VN Program was made. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. The program is utilizing interactive TV to communicate theory lectures. Some concerns have arisen about the effectiveness of this method of delivery. Two (2) violations were identified:

Currently the program is approved for ongoing admissions of 15 students admitted annually in January to **replace** graduating students. The program requests approved to increase from 15 students to 18 students for the class scheduled to begin on January 12, 2015; graduating December 11, 2015. This class will replace the class scheduled to graduate December 12, 2014.

The EO required the Cerro Coso College VN Program to submit documentation demonstrating the program's intent to follow the Board approved instructional plan, specifically related to clinical hours in Maternity and Pediatric clinical nursing by **January 30, 2015; and** required the director to submit a report that includes a plan to correct the issues related to theory presentation via interactive television as listed below by **January 30, 2015.**

- a. How classroom monitoring will occur.
- b. How students questions will be responded to during lecture.
- c. How the director will ensure the noise level in the classroom is kept to a minimum.
- d. Timeline for implementation and correction

The director was required to submit minutes of faculty meetings through 2015. Additionally, the EO approved the program's request to increase student enrollment from 15 to 18, one time only, for the class scheduled to begin on January 12, 2015; graduating on December 11, 2015. This class will **replace** the class graduating December 12, 2014.

The program's ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, was continued with the following stipulations:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's current pattern of admissions without prior approval. The program's pattern of admissions will include admission of one class of 15 students in January of each year; with the exception of January 2015.
- 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 is requesting approval to increase enrollment from 15 to 18 students for the January 2015 class, only. The program's average annual pass rate is currently 69%. As such, it is within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rate.

Two (2) violations were identified during the onsite program survey visit. A notice of violation was sent to the director on November 10, 2014. A plan to correct these violations was received.

3. **Eastern Sierra College Center VN Program - Report of Unannounced Program Site Visit (Director: Annette Hodgins, Bishop, Inyo County, Community College)**

On October 8 and 9, 2014, an unannounced site visit and inspection of the Eastern Sierra College Center VN Program was made. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. The program is utilizing interactive TV to communicate theory lectures since the campus is a significant distance from the main campus. Some concerns have arisen about the effectiveness of this method of delivery. During the site visit, two (2) violations were identified.

The EO required the Eastern Sierra College VN Program to submit documentation demonstrating the program's intent to follow the Board approved instructional plan, specifically related to clinical hours in Maternity and Pediatric clinical nursing **by January 30, 2015; and** required the director to submit a report that includes a plan to correct the issues related to theory presentation via interactive television as listed below by **January 30, 2015**.

- a. How classroom monitoring will occur.
- b. How students questions will be responded to during lecture.
- c. How the director will ensure the noise level in the classroom is kept to a minimum.
- d. Timeline for implementation and correction

The EO required the director to submit minutes of faculty meetings.

Additionally, the director was required to identify a plan to secure additional clinical sites for Maternity, Pediatrics and Medical Surgical Nursing. This plan must include a timeline for implementation and anticipated correction of the deficiency.

Approval of the Eastern Sierra College Center VN Program was continued for the period from May 5, 2013 through May 4, 2017. The program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class was also continued.

Rationale: Seven (7) students are currently enrolled and scheduled to graduate on December 14, 2014. On October 8 and 9, 2014 and onsite visit was conducted by the Board's representative. Two (2) violations were identified during the visit. A letter of violation was sent to the director on November 10, 2014, requiring her to respond with a plan to prevent future violations by December 4, 2014. These violations are considered corrected.

The director is not requesting a replacement class at this time. She anticipates requesting a replacement class in fall of 2015. Delaying a replacement class, at this time, will allow the director time to address identified problems encountered with the method of delivery of theory presentation, and the availability of marginal clinical experience in Maternity, Pediatrics and Medical Surgical Nursing.

4. Kern River Valley College Center VN Program – Consideration of Report of Program Records Survey for Initial Approval (Director: Annette Hodges – Lake Isabella, Kern County, Community College)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or review all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' inspections shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

The Kern River Valley College Center VN Program completed a Program Records Survey October 6 & 7, 2014. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. Three (3) violations were noted.

The EO approved the Kern River Valley College Center, VN Program for the period December 15, 2014, through December 14, 2018. The director was required to submit a plan to correct the following issues related to theory presented via interactive television prior to the admission of future classes by January 30, 2015. The deficiencies to be addressed are listed below:

- a. How classroom monitoring will occur.
- b. How students questions will be responded to during lecture.
- c. How the director will ensure the noise level in the classroom is kept to a minimum.
- d. Timeline for correction

The program is required to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of additional classes.

Rationale: Seven (7) students are currently enrolled and scheduled to graduate on December 14, 2014. On October 6 and 7, 2014 an onsite visit was conducted by the Board's representative. Three (3) violations were identified during the visit. A letter of violation was sent to the director on November 4, 2014, requiring her to respond with a plan to prevent future violations by November 26, 2014. The director submitted her response to the violations listed above. Violations 1 and 3 are corrected. Students have completed Maternity and Pediatric rotations consistent with the Board approved instructional plan. The director's plan to prevent future violations relevant to inconsistent faculty meetings, if implemented will correct this violation.

The director is not requesting a replacement class at this time. She anticipates requesting a replacement class in Fall of 2015. Delaying a replacement class, at this time, will allow the director time to address identified problems encountered with the method of delivery of theory presentation, and the availability of limited clinical sites mentioned above.

Effective December 15, 2014

5. Boston Reed College/Martinez Adult Education Center, Martinez, VN Program – Report of Closure (Director: Vacant, Martinez, Contra Costa County, Private)

On June 15, 2004, the Board approved Boston Reed College/Martinez Adult Education Center's request to commence a VN program on March 24, 2003. The program was initially accredited on June 15, 2004. On June 4, 2008, the Board continued full accreditation of the program. Board approval of the program expired June 14, 2012. On November 9, 2012 the Board received a letter from the director indicating that there had been a lack of enrollment and the relationship with Martinez Adult Education Center had ended.

On May 19, 2014, the NEC confirmed via phone contact with Dana Bernard, former program director, that Boston Reed College no longer has a VN Program. The program's last group of students graduated in 2010. No students are currently enrolled.

On June 30, 2014 a certified letter was sent to the program director requesting written confirmation of the closure.

On July 22, 2014, electronic transmission of confirmation of the closure of the Boston Reed College VN Program was received.

The EO removed the Boston Reed VN Program (formerly known as Boston Reed/Martinez Adult Education Center) from the Board's *List of Approved Vocational Nursing Schools*, effective immediately.

Rationale: Correspondence from the director confirmed that Boston Reed College has elected to close the VN program due to a lack of enrollment and the termination of its relationship with the Martinez Adult Education Center.

6. Charter College, Long Beach, VN Program – Report of Survey for Initial Approval (Director: Jayne Grint, Long Beach, Los Angeles County, Private)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or review all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' visits or reviews shall be made to the Board. Such inspections or reviews determine program compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

A Program Survey Visit was completed at the Charter College, Long Beach, VN Program in on October 30, 2014. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations. No violations were identified.

The EO approved the Charter College, Long Beach, VN Program for the four – year period from December 15, 2014 through December 14, 2018, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: The program is in compliance with Article 5 of the California Code of Regulations and has demonstrated sufficient resources to meet program objectives.

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.

7. Everest College, Anaheim, VN Program – Report of Closure (Director: Arvella Battick, Orange County, Private)

On August 11, 2004, the Executive Officer approved Bryman College, Anaheim's request to begin a VN program with an initial class of 40 students on August 16, 2004, only; **and** approved the program's curriculum for 1536 hours, including 580 theory, and 956 clinical hours.

On May 13, 2005, the Executive Officer approved initial accreditation for the Bryman College, Anaheim, VN Program for the period May 13, 2005, through May 12, 2009.

On April 4, 2007, the Board received correspondence stating that the name of the school would be changed to Everest College, effective April 9, 2007.

On March 17, 2014, the Board received correspondence stating that the VN program at Everest College, Anaheim, would be closing after completion of the last enrolled class, scheduled to graduate on October 29, 2014.

On November 19, 2014, the Board received correspondence stating that the teach-out of the Everest College, Anaheim, VN Program was complete and that the program had closed. The school denies plans to continue offering the VN program. No students are currently enrolled.

The EO removed the Everest College, Anaheim, VN Program from the Board's *List of Approved Vocational Nursing Schools*, effective immediately.

Rationale: The director of the Everest College, Anaheim, VN Program has confirmed the completion of a “teach-out” and the official closure of the Everest College, Anaheim VN Program. No students are currently enrolled.

8. Hanford Adult School VN Program – Report of Closure (Director: Vacant, Kings County, Adult School)

On September 22, 1965, the Board approved Hanford Adult School to begin a VN Program in Hanford, California.

On December 4, 2014, the Board received correspondence from the Alternative Education Manager of the Hanford Joint Union High School District that the VN program was closed and would not be re-instated due to district monetary constraints. The last students graduated in February 2011. No students are currently enrolled.

The EO removed the Hanford Adult School VN Program from the Board's *List of Approved Vocational Nursing Schools*, effective immediately.

Rationale: Hanford Adult School has confirmed the official closure of the VN program due to the district's monetary constraints. The district reports no plans to offer a VN program in the future.

9. Homestead Schools VN Program - Request to Admit Students (Director: Mila Rose Reyes, Torrance, Los Angeles County, Private)

The Homestead Schools VN Program requests approval to admit students as follows:

- 1) A class of **thirty (30)** students to the full – time day class “to start tentatively” on January 5, 2015 and graduating on December 21, 2015. This class would **replace** the class that graduated April 25, 2014.

Note: The class that graduated April 25, 2014 was approved on February 28, 2013 to begin on March 4, 2013. It began on May 6, 2013.

- 2) A class of **twenty (20)** students to the part – time weekend class “to start tentatively” on January 10, 2015 and graduating on September 10, 2016.
- 3) A class of **thirty (30)** students to the full – time evening class “to start tentatively” on January 5, 2015 and graduating December 21, 2015. This class would **replace** the class that graduated September 30, 2014.

The program stated that, “We are asking for this weekend class because there are many working students who can only join the school on weekends.” Currently, thirteen (13) students are enrolled in the part – time, weekend, class that is scheduled to graduate January 31, 2016.

The EO approved the program’s admission of a **full – time day** class of **thirty (30)** students to start on January 5, 2015 and graduating on December 21, 2015, to **replace** the class that graduated April 25, 2014; **and denied** approval of the program’s request to admit a class of **twenty (20)** students to the part – time weekend class to start on January 10, 2015 and graduating on September 10, 2016; **and** approved the program’s admission of a full – time evening class of **thirty (30)** students to start on January 5, 2015 and graduating December 21, 2015. This class would **replace** the class that graduated September 30, 2014.

The director was required to submit a report, due **by January 30, 2015**, identifying reasons for the disparity between the number of program graduates and the number of candidates taking the examination. The report must also identify a plan of correction.

Further, the EO required the program to admit classes on the date approved, **only; and** continued the program’s requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: The program’s average annual pass rate has consistently been below the state average annual pass rate since the first quarter of 2010, with an exception of two (2) quarters in 2013 when the program’s average annual pass rate equaled the state average annual pass rate. On **average**, the program’s average annual pass rate has been **7.3 percentage points below** the state average annual pass rate since the first quarter of 2010 and has been as much as thirteen (13) percentage points below the state average annual pass rate.

Based on submitted enrollment data, there are currently one-hundred and one (101) students enrolled in classes. Approving the request to replace both the day and evening classes will allow the program to utilize the newly added clinical sites and the recently revised methodology for evaluation of student progress.

Denial of the additional part – time class is recommended at this time. This will allow the program to focus on currently enrolled students and develop and implement strategies to increase the number of program graduates completing the licensure examination.

Additionally, the Board has serious concerns relative to the program's administration and adequacy of resources. The program has repeatedly admitted classes that are noncompliant with the Board's approval and in violation of California Code of Regulations Section 2530 (k) which 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. Criteria to evaluate a school'[s] request to increase the number of students per class and/or increase the frequency of class admissions include but are not limited to:

- (1) Sufficient program resources as specified in section 2530 (a).
- (2) Adequacy of clinical experience as specified in section 2534.
- (3) Licensure examination pass rates as specified in section 2530 (l).”

10. Medical Allied Career Center VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Alfie Ignacio, Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County, Private)

The Medical Allied Career Center VN Program requests Board approval to **admit** a part-time class of 20 students commencing December 15, 2014 with a projected graduation date of August 31, 2016. This class will **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate on December 22, 2014.

Additionally, the director requests approval to **admit** a part-time class of 20 students commencing March 3, 2015, with a projected graduation date of November 12, 2016. This class will **replace** students who are scheduled to graduate February 23, 2015.

The EO approved the program's request to admit 20 part – time students commencing December 17, 2014, graduating September 2, 2016, **only**, to **replace** the class scheduled to graduate December 19, 2014, **and** denied the program's request to admit 20 part-time students commencing March 3, 2015, graduating on December 8, 2016, **only**, to **replace** the class scheduled to graduate February 2015.

The EO required the program to admit students on the date requested and approved, **only**. Further, the EO continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: **On February 13, 2014, the Board approved** the program's request to admit a full-time, class of 30 students commencing May 19, 2014, **only**. On July 9, 2014, the director requested changes to an approved May class, which was not started due to insufficient number of applicants, to August 11, 2014. The director was instructed **to not start** the class **until approval** could be obtained. The director started a class of seven (7) students on July 17, 2014 one month prior to the new request date and without further notification to the Board. Per the September 2014 Board meeting, the **May class was rescinded**, the **November 2014 class was approved** and the **March 2015 class was deferred** to the Executive Officer for consideration. Bearing in mind the Board approved one class only, the early start in July covers the November 2014, approval.

Based on the most recent data available (July to September 2014), the program's average annual pass rate remains compliant with the Section 2530 (l) of the California Rules and Regulations. The program's average annual pass rate is 75%, which is two (2) percentage points **above** the state.

The program has provided documentation that indicates adequate resources, including faculty and facilities, to support the proposed enrollment. However, the Board has serious concerns relative to the program's administration.

On July 14, 2014, the program admitted a class without prior approval of the Board. In so doing, the program's class admission was noncompliant with the Board's approval and in violation of California Code of Regulations Section 2530 (k) which 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. Criteria to evaluate a school'[s] request to increase the number of students per class and/or increase the frequency of class admissions include but are not limited to:

- (1) Sufficient program resources as specified in section 2530 (a).
- (2) Adequacy of clinical experience as specified in section 2534.
- (3) Licensure examination pass rates as specified in section 2530 (l)."

On December 12, 2014, the SNEC and assigned consultant advised the director to refrain from further unauthorized admission of classes. Further, the director was advised that further violations may result in the program being scheduled to appear before the Board.

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.

11. NCP College of Nursing, Hayward, VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Felicidad Silva, Alameda County – Private)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect or review all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' inspections shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

The NCP College of Nursing, Hayward, VN Program submitted a completed Program Records Survey and supporting documents September 15, 2014. The program was evaluated to determine compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. Three (3) violations were identified.

While the program had not changed the curriculum, the program was not utilizing a conceptual framework. Further, the program was not utilizing the previously approved methodology for evaluation of clinical facilities and the credit-granting policy was not compliant with regulations. A conceptual framework, methodology for evaluation of clinical facilities, and revised credit granting policy were submitted on November 28, 2014. After submission of these documents, violations were corrected.

The EO continued approval for the NCP College of Nursing, Hayward, VN Program for the period November 6, 2014 through November 5, 2018, and directed staff to issue a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of the program's ongoing pattern of admissions to **replace** graduating students, 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 includes admission of three (3) full-time classes per year with 36 students per class.
- 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: The NCP College of Nursing, Hayward, VN Program is currently compliant with all sections of Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

Based on the **most recent data available** (July through September 2014), the program's average annual pass rate is **96%**, **twenty-three**

(23) percentage points **above** the state average annual pass rate. The program has maintained an average annual pass rate **above** the state average annual pass rate for the past five (5) quarters.

Board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rate quarterly, reviewing the program's Annual Reports, and performing accreditation surveys every four years.

12. Ukiah Adult School VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Alice L. Gilbert, Ukiah, Mendocino County, Adult School)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' visits shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

The Ukiah Adult School, VN Program completed a Program Records Survey on November 5, 2014. 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 Ukiah Adult School VN Program for the four-year period from February 20, 2015, through February 19, 2019, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of the program's ongoing admission to **replace** graduating classes, only, 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 proposed pattern of admissions includes one full-time (54 week) class of 45 students every 18 months and one part-time (24 month) class of 36 students every 24 months.
- 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 maintained an annual pass rate that is within ten (10) percentage points of the State average annual pass rate, for first time candidates of accredited vocational nursing programs, for fifteen (15) consecutive quarters. As such, the program's current pass rate statistics are consistent with regulatory requirements, which supports a recommendation for full approval.

The Program Record Survey provided by the director indicated that the program has maintained full compliance of Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. The program has the

resources, faculty, and facilities to adequately deliver the approved program at the current enrollment.

13. West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Karen Hall, Beverly Hills, Los Angeles County, Private)

West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, VN Program requests approval to admit 15 students into a full-time **day** class commencing on January 5, 2015 graduating March 24, 2016 to **replace** students that graduated on December 21, 2014.

The EO approved West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, VN Program's request to **admit** a full-time **day** class of 15 students on January 5, 2015, graduating March 24, 2016, **only**, to **replace** students who will graduate on December 21, 2014; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of future classes.

Rationale: The director of the program has implemented changes that have positively affected the pass rates. Published examination statistics substantiate that the program's average annual pass rate has shown incremental improved over the past three (3) quarters. The 2014-quarter 3 annual pass rate is **79%**, which is **6** percentage points above the state.

The program has demonstrated that it has sufficient faculty, facilities, and other necessary resources to support the current and proposed enrollment. Such resources and improved average annual pass rates support, the recommendation to approve the requested class.

Board staff will continue to monitor closely the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, resources, and the program's quarterly annual average pass rates.

Effective January 13, 2015

14. Technology Training Institute – Request to Begin a VN Program (Director: Ruby Pugh, Panorama City, Los Angeles County, Private)

Technology Training Institute submitted a request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial full-time class of 15 students on January 17, 2015. The projected graduation date is April 8, 2016.

The program's philosophy addresses the program's beliefs about Man, Environment, Health, Nursing and Education (see Attachment A).

The program's conceptual framework is based on Orem's Self-Care theory and Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs (see Attachment B).

The full-time program is 60 weeks in length divided into four terms of 15 weeks each. Students will have the following holidays: New Year's Day and day after, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and day after, and Christmas Day, and a one-week summer break.

Faculty includes the director who is full-time, one instructor and two teacher assistants. The director will have 50% administrative time and 50% teaching time for theory and clinical. The instructor will teach theory and clinical.

The EO approved the Technology Training Institute request to begin a VN program with an initial full-time class of 15 students on January 17, 2015 only, graduating April 8, 2016; **and** approved the program curriculum for 1550 hours, including 590 theory and 960 clinical hours; **and** required the program to obtain prior Board approval before admission of subsequent classes to maintain compliance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 2526(c) that states:

“(c) A Board representative shall make a survey visit prior to graduation of the initial class. A program shall not commence another class without prior Board approval.”

Rationale: The school has demonstrated compliance with requirements specified in California Code of Regulations Article 5. Schools of Vocational Nursing.

Board staff will to monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of the curriculum and employed instructional methodologies, and the program's licensure examination pass rates each quarter.

Effective January 21, 2015

15. American Career College, Los Angeles, VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey (Director: Alice Campbell, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County – Private)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the VN Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' visits or inspections shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations.

American Career College, Los Angeles, VN Program completed a Program Records Survey September 2, 2014. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the VN Rules and Regulations. No violations were noted.

The EO continued approval for the American Career College, Los Angeles, VN Program for the period October 12, 2014 through October 11, 2018, and directed staff to issue a certificate accordingly; **and** required the director to perform a root

cause analysis of the program, relevant to declining pass rates, and submit a written report to the Board by **February 27, 2015** identifying the cause(s) of the program's declining program pass rates, a plan of correction, and timeline to correct the deficiency; **and** continued approval of the program's ongoing pattern of 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 is four (4) full-time day classes of 75 students each in January, April, July, and October to replace graduating students, only and four (4) part-time evening classes of 60 students every 20 weeks to **replace** graduating students, only.
- 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: The program completed and submitted the required Program Records Survey and documentation in support of its application for continued approval. No violations of the California Code of Regulations were identified.

The program's average annual pass rates on the licensure examination were compliant with regulatory requirements for the period **April 2008 through June 2014**. However, the program's noncompliance for the period **July 2014 through December 2014** is also noted.

The foregoing supports the program's continued approval. However, given the program's declining average annual pass rates it is prudent to require the director to investigate the finding, complete an analysis identifying causal factors, plan to correct identified causes, and timeline for implementation.

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.

16. American Career College, Ontario, VN Program – Request to Admit Students; Request for Ongoing Admissions (Director: Sharlene Dela Rosa, Ontario, San Bernardino County, Private)

American Career College, Ontario, VN program is requesting approval to admit students into the following classes:

1. Full – time, day, class of 60 students on February 9, 2015. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for February 5, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on February 6, 2015; **and**,
2. Part - time class of 50 students on March 9, 2015. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for September 20, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on April 16, 2013; **and**,
3. Full – time, day, class of 60 students on May 11, 2015. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for May 6, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on May 8, 2015; **and**,
4. Full – time, day, class of 60 students on August 10, 2015. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for August 5, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on August 8, 2015; **and**,
5. Part - time class of 50 students on September 15, 2015. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for March 21, 2017. This class would **replace** students graduating on September 14, 2015.
6. Full – time, day, class of 60 students on November 9, 2015. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for November 9, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on November 6, 2015.
7. The program is also requesting ongoing admission of four (4) full-time day classes with 60 students per class admitting in February, May, August and November.
8. Additionally the program is requesting ongoing admission of two (2) part-time evening/week-end class of 50 students admitting in March and September.

The EO approved American Career College, Ontario, VN Program's request to admit a full – time, day, class of 60 students on February 9, 2015. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for February 5, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on February 6, 2015. The program's request to admit a part - time class of 50 students on March 9, 2015, was approved. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for September 20, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on April 16, 2013. The program's request to admit a full – time, day, class of 60 students on May 11, 2015, was approved. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for May 6, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on May 8, 2015. The program's request to admit a full – time, day, class of 60 students on August 10, 2015, was approved. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for August 5, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on August 8, 2015. The program's request to admit a part - time class of 50 students on September 15, 2015, was approved. Graduation of the proposed class is projected for March 21, 2017. This class would **replace** students graduating on September 14, 2015, was approved. The program's request to admit a full – time, day, class of 60 students on November 9, 2015. Graduation of

the proposed class is projected for November 9, 2016. This class would **replace** students graduating on November 6, 2015.

Additionally, the EO approved American Career College, Ontario, VN Program's request for ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes, only, beginning February 2016, 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 four (4) full-time day classes of 60 students four (4) times per year, only, in February, May, August and November; **and**, two (2) part-time evening/week-end classes of 50 students two (2) times per year, only, in March and September.
- 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 (I) of the Code.

Rationale: The program's average annual pass rates are above the state average annual pass rate. Currently, the program's average annual pass rate is 80%. As such it is eight (8) percentage points **above** the state average annual pass rate. The program's licensure pass rates have been **above** the state average annual pass rate since 2009. Therefore, the requested classes are recommended and ongoing admission of the classes as described above.

17. American College of Nursing VN Program – Consideration of Unannounced Site Survey; Consideration of Request to Admit Students. (Director: Cynthia Illicito, Concord, Contra Costa County, Private)

On October 14 – 15 2014, Board representatives conducted an unannounced onsite survey of the American College of Nursing VN Program. The program is presented for consideration of survey findings.

Additionally, the director requests approval to admit 30 students to an evening class commencing on January 27, 2015. The requested class is projected to graduate on February 25, 2016.

The EO denied the American College of Nursing VN Program's request for approval to admit a class of 30 evening students on January 27, 2015 and graduating on February 25, 2016; **and** continued to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class; **and** required the program to submit a documentation confirming the program's active administration by a director as required by California Code of Regulations Section 2529 (b) by **February 1, 2015; and** required the program to submit for Board approval clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated to provide clinical experiences of like character and quality and consistent with the approved

Maternity and Pediatric Nursing curriculum for the enrolled students by **February 1, 2015**.

Additionally, the EO required the program to correct deficiencies identified during the onsite visit and submit documentation confirming correction of the following no later than **March 1, 2015**.

- a. Implementation of the program's approved methodology including a timeline for initial and ongoing evaluation of the curriculum.
- b. Names of faculty terminated since September 1, 2014, including utilization and dates of termination.
- c. Plan to ensure maintenance of accurate faculty data and Board notification of faculty terminations as prescribed by Section 2527 (b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.
- d. Lesson plans for the approved curriculum.
- e. Availability of the program's instructional plan for all approved faculty.
- f. Implementation of the program's attendance policy to include identification of students for whom absences are identified and assigned follow – up.
- g. Clinical facilities that offer clinical experiences consistent with the approved curriculum in Maternity Nursing and Pediatric Nursing including care of sick children.
- h. Implementation of the program's approved methodology including a timeline for the initial and ongoing evaluation of clinical facilities utilized for student clinical experience.

The program is required to submit a report no later than **March 1, 2015**, regarding how, when, and where enrolled students will obtain clinical experiences in Maternity Nursing and Pediatric Nursing, including sick child experience, in approved clinical facilities prior to students' graduation; **and** required the program to submit an instructional calendar that substantiates theory and correlated clinical experience provided for enrolled students, including clinical facilities to which students are assigned by **March 1, 2015**.

Rationale: As stated previously, on September 24, 2014, the Interim Administrator sent via email a detailed letter regarding the termination of the Vocational Nursing Program Director effective immediately. On October 14 and 15, 2014 an unannounced onsite program survey was conducted. Eleven (11) violations of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations were identified. On November 26, 2014, the director was sent via certified mail a notification of the eleven violations and actions needed to correct the violations by December 15, 2014. The director responded to the violations. Two (2) of the eleven violation have been corrected.

The program has failed to obtain adequate clinical sites as to number, type and variety of patients treated to provide clinical experiences to students, specifically Pediatric and Maternity nursing clinical sites. The director was informed during the survey, and in the violation letter that clinical sites must be obtained and available for

the current and proposed students. At this time, there remains no approved clinical sites for Pediatric or Maternity Nursing.

The program's average annual pass rates is **69%** which is **four (4) percentage points below** the state average annual pass rate, and has consistently remained within **10 percentage points** of the state.

Given the foregoing, denying the program's request to admit students is warranted. Should the program fail to correct the identified violations, the program may be placed on the May 2015 agenda for the Board's consideration of placement on provisional approval.

18. California Nurses Educational Institute VN Program – Request for Curriculum Change (Director: Virginia Armstrong, Cathedral City, Riverside County, Private)

California Nurses Educational Institute VN Program's Director requests approval of a major curriculum change. The change includes a modification in the structure from a six (6) term to an eight (8) level format, with an increase of total program hours from 1628 to 1675.

The EO approved California Nurses Educational Institute VN Program's request for a major curriculum revision with a total of 1675 hours, including 691 theory and 986 clinical hours; **and** continued approval of the program's 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 thirty (30) students, three (3) times per year, only.
- 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 2585 (l) of the Code.

Rationale: The newly designed curriculum change is directed at progressively building student's knowledge from beginner to complex nursing skills, and insuring that they have a solid understanding of the content prior to progressing to a higher level.

The revised curriculum is consistent with the program's philosophy and conceptual framework and will enhance student learning. The program has adequate faculty, facilities, and resources to support the curriculum change.

19. College of the Redwoods, Eureka, VN Program – Report of Program Records Survey for Continued Approval (Director: Allison Pritchard (Stull), Humboldt County – Community College)

In accordance with Section 2883 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, it is the Board's duty, through an official representative, to inspect all schools of vocational nursing in California. Written reports of the representatives' visits or inspections shall be made to the Board. Such inspections determine program compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

College of the Redwoods, Eureka, VN Program completed a Program Records Survey October 1, 2014. The program was reviewed to determine compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. No violations were noted.

The EO Continue approval of the College of the Redwoods, Eureka, VN Program for the period November 17, 2014 through November 16, 2018 and issued a certificate accordingly; **and** continued approval of the program's current pattern of admissions which includes:

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's pattern of admission includes admission of 30 students to the full-time class each year to **replace** graduating students, only.
- 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 (I) of the Code.

Rationale: The program has demonstrated compliance with all sections of 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.

20. Community Enhancement Services (CES) VN Program – Requests to Admit Students (Director: Oleg Khilkevich, Burbank, Los Angeles County, Private).

The Community Enhancement Services (CES) VN Program requests Board approval to admit a class of 20 full-time, evening students commencing on February 3, 2015, graduating March 25, 2016. This class will **replace** students that graduated on November 21, 2014.

The EO denied the Community Enhancement Services (CES) VN Program's request for approval to admit a class of 20 full-time, evening students commencing on February 3, 2015, graduating March 25, 2016, only, to **replace**

the students that graduated on November 21, 2014; **and** required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of additional students.

The program is required to analyze the action plan submitted to the Board by the Director on August 11, 2014, and submit a detailed report. The report must contain what has been implemented, the effect it has had on the program, student learning and progression, and pass rate. Additionally, the report must contain a timeline for past, current and continued implementation of the action plan. **Due no later than February 28, 2015.** The report is to contain specific information regarding:

- a. Admission policy
- b. Attendance policy
- c. Curriculum evaluation
- d. Provide a lesson plan for each class
- e. Student evaluation and remediation
- f. Clinical site evaluations for each facility
- g. Faculty Development
- h. NCLEX prep
- i. Graduation requirements and HESI predictor testing
- j. ATI Live review for past graduates

Rationale: Published examination data verified by the statistics, furnished by Pearson VUE and published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, demonstrate the program's annual average pass rate has remained 9 to 26 percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate for the seven (7) most recent quarters. The current, Quarter 4, 2014, program pass rate is **29%**, the average annual average pass rate is **46%** which is **26** percentage **below** the state. Considering the program's low annual average pass rates, requiring the program analysis and denying the requested class is warranted.

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.

21. Mission College PT Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Shara Crary, Santa Clara, Santa Clara County, Community College)

The Mission College, PT Program requests Board approval to **admit** a class of **20** students commencing January 26, 2015 with a projected graduation date of August 31, 2016. This class will **replace** students who graduated on December 9, 2014.

The EO approved Mission College Psychiatric Technician Program's request to admit 20 students commencing on January 26, 2015 and graduating on August 31, 2016, only, to **replace** the students who graduated on December 9, 2014; **and** approved the program's admission of 15 students commencing on January 26, 2015 and graduating on August 31, 2016, **only**, to **replace** the students who

graduated on December 9, 2014; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Rationale: The program developed a curriculum revision to address its noncompliant pass rates that was approved by the Board, August 15, 2013. However, the program has not implement the revised curriculum, as the program has not started a class subsequent to the approval. The Director's intention has been to implement the new curriculum with the January 2015 class. The program currently has no students. Approving a class of 15, would allow the director to implement and evaluate the effectiveness of the new curriculum.

As previously noted, the program's average annual pass rates have been **noncompliant** for the last six (6) **Quarters**, July 2013 through December 2014. Approving the program to admit a reduced class of fifteen (15) students, allows the director to implement the new curriculum, which is expected to enhance the student learning experience, and assist in bringing the licensure pass rate into compliance with State 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.

22. Summit Career College, Colton, VN Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Renee Sheehan, Colton, San Bernardino County, Private)

On September 12, 2014, after considering the request of Summit Career College, Colton, VN Program for approval to admit students and the current status of Accrediting Council for Continued Education and Training (ACCET) determinations regarding restrictions on program admissions, the Board approved the program's request to admit a **full-time** class of **sixty (60)** students beginning **September 15, 2014**, graduating September 11, 2015, only, to **replace** the class graduating September 12, 2014. Additionally, the Board approved the program's request to admit a **part-time** class of **sixty (60) students** to start **October 27, 2014**, ending June 5, 2016, only, to **replace** the class graduating August 17, 2014.

The Board **deferred** to the Executive Officer decisions regarding the following program requests:

1. Request to admit a full-time class of sixty (60) students beginning December 15, 2014, graduating December 11, 2015, **only**, to **replace** the class graduating January 13, 2014.
2. Request to admit a full-time class of sixty (60) students to start March 16, 2015, ending March 11, 2016, **only**, to **replace** the class graduating March 6, 2015.

3. Request to admit a part-time class of sixty (60) students to March 23, 2015, ending October 30, 2016, **only**, to **replace** the class graduating January 11, 2015

The program was required to obtain approval by the Executive Officer prior to the admission of each class.

On October 28, 2014, the Board received a request to delay the December 15, 2014 admission and instead requested approval to admit a full – time class of **sixty (60)** students to start January 12, 2015, ending January 8, 2016 to **replace** the class that graduated January 13, 2014.

On January 7, 2015, after consultation with the assigned NEC, the Board received a request to change the admission and graduation dates as follows: A full – time class of sixty (60) students to start January 20, 2015 and to graduate January 15, 2016, **only**, to replace the class that graduated January 13, 2014.

The EO approved Summit Career College, Colton, VN Program's request to admit **one** full – time class of **sixty (60)** students to start January 20, 2015, ending January 15, 2016, **only**, to **replace** the class that graduated January 13, 2014; **and** continued the program's requirement to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class; **and** continued to require the director to document that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students;

Rationale: The program's average annual pass rates on the licensure examination have been compliant with regulatory requirements for the past 11 consecutive quarters. The program's current average annual pass rate of 77% is five (5) percentage points **above** the State average annual pass rate.

The program has documented adequate resources to support the current and proposed students.