

Agenda Item #17.C.2.



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

BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program – Consideration of Request to Admit Students (Director: Bernadette Bautista, Redlands, San Bernardino County, Private)

The Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program is presented to the Board for consideration of a request to admit a class of 15 students on April 4, 2016, with a graduation date of April 28, 2017. Denial of the request is recommended.

The Board initially placed the program on provisional approval for the two-year period from May 11, 2012 through May 31, 2014. That action was taken due to the program's noncompliance with regulatory requirements relative to program pass rates

On May 16, 2014, the Board extended the program's provisional approval through May 30, 2015. Further, the Board declined to consider any request to admit students until the program's submission of documentation substantiating that approval to operate has been granted by the Department of Consumer Affairs' Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau).

On May 15, 2015, the Board extended provisional approval for a period of two (2) years from May 30, 2015, through May 29, 2017, and approved the program's request to admit a class of 15 students to commence June 15, 2015, only, and projected to graduate on July 1, 2016. As reported, the approved class was not admitted.

Recommendations:

1. Require the Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program to submit a detailed report that includes an analysis of the curriculum including the instructional plan, identification of areas requiring revision, and timeline for completion to ensure inclusion of all areas of the current NCLEX/PN® no later than **March 1, 2016**.
2. Place the program on the **May 2016** Board agenda.
3. Deny the program's request to admit a class of 15 students commencing April 4, 2015 and graduating on April 28, 2017, only.
4. Continue the program's requirement to maintain an instructor-to-student ratio that does not exceed ten (10) students for each instructor in during clinical experience.

5. Continue the program director's requirement to submit, under penalty of perjury, the names of all enrolled students, date of admission, placement in the curriculum, and expected date of graduation within 15 days of the commencement of a class.
6. Continue the program's requirement to obtain approval by the full Board prior to the admission of future classes.
7. Continue the program's requirement to submit follow-up reports no later than **February 1, 2016**, and **February 1, 2017**. 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. Evaluation of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
 - l. Evaluation of Theory Presentations.
 - m. Evaluation of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
 - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
 - o. Current Enrollment; and,
8. Require the program to comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professional Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526.
9. Require the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violation. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval.

Rationale: The program was placed on provisional approval on May 11, 2012, the program's average annual pass rate was **29%, 45** percentage points below the state average annual pass rate. Subsequent to the program being placed on provisional approval, the program's average annual pass rate rose to a high of 50% during Quarter 2 - 2012 and Quarter 3 - 2013. Since Quarter 3 - 2013, the program has had no graduates completing the licensure examination.

As stated previously, on May 16, 2015 the Board extended the program's provisional approval for two years through May 30, 2017. The adequacy of

program resources to provide instruction for the proposed students has been verified. Those resources include Board - approved faculty, and clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated, to provide clinical experiences consistent with the curriculum and of like character and quality for the proposed enrollment.

The program's curriculum is based on an obsolete examination outline. The current NCLEX/PN® Examination Outline was implemented effective April 2014. The program's last class graduated February 2012. Further, of the total program graduates tested to date, 68.75% have failed on initial testing; 31.25% passed. It is prudent to require the director to complete the following **prior** to commencing a new class.

1. Analysis of the program curriculum.
2. Analysis of the program instructional plan.
3. Analysis of all program elements impacting student achievement.
4. Revision of curriculum.

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

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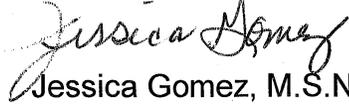
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Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
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DATE: January 25, 2016

TO: Board Members

FROM: 
Jessica Gomez, M.S.N., R.N.
Nursing Education Consultant

SUBJECT: Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program – Consideration of Request to Admit Students (Director: Bernadette Bautista, Redlands, San Bernardino County, Private)

The Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program is presented to the Board for consideration of a request to admit a class of 15 students on April 4, 2016, with a graduation date of April 28, 2017. Denial of the request is recommended.

The Board initially placed the program on provisional approval for the two-year period from May 11, 2012 through May 31, 2014. That action was taken due to the program's noncompliance with regulatory requirements relative to program pass rates

On May 16, 2014, the Board extended the program's provisional approval through May 30, 2015. Further, the Board declined to consider any request to admit students until the program's submission of documentation substantiating that approval to operate has been granted by the Department of Consumer Affairs' Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau).

On May 15, 2015, the Board extended provisional approval for a period of two (2) years from May 30, 2015, through May 29, 2017, and approved the program's request to admit a class of 15 students to commence June 15, 2015, only, and projected to graduate on July 1, 2016. As reported, the approved class was not admitted.

History of Prior Board Actions

(See Attachment A, History of Board Actions)

Enrollment

The program is approved by the Board to offer a 52-week full-time course of instruction. Board approval is required prior to the admission of each class.

The following table represents **past and proposed student** enrollment from February 2009 through June 2015. The table indicates a **maximum enrollment of 15** students for the period **February 2009 through April 2017**. Currently, there are no students enrolled in the program.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Complete			
2/09		24	21	21
	2/10 (2/09 Class)		-21	21 - 21 = 0
6/10		10	10	0 + 10 = 10
	7/11 (6/10 Class)		-10	10 - 10 = 0
2/11		8	8	0 + 8 = 8
	2/12 (2/11 Class)		-8	8 - 8 = 0
6/12 Approved 5/12; (Not Admitted)		15	0	0 + 0 = 0
6/15 (Approved 5/15; Not Admitted)		15	0	0 + 0 = 0
4/16	4/17	15		0 + 15 = 15

Licensing Examination Statistics

The following statistics, furnished by 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," specify pass percentage rates for graduates of the Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical/Vocational Nurses (NCLEX-PN®) for the period for the period of July 2010 through December 2015, and the variance from state average annual pass rates.

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 [CCR §2530(l)]	Variance from the State Average Annual Pass Rate
Jul - Sep 2010	1	1	100%	76%	100%	74%	+26
Oct - Dec 2010	5	2	40%	77%	50%	76%	-26
Jan - Mar 2011	8	1	12%	80%	27%	75%	-48
Apr - Jun 2011	4	0	0%	71%	22%	76%	-54
Jul - Sept 2011	No Candidates Tested			74%	18%	76%	-58

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 [CCR §2530(I)]	Variance from the State Average Annual Pass Rate
Oct – Dec 2011	No Candidates Tested			74%	8%	75%	-67
Jan – Mar 2012	3	2	67%	74%	29%	76%	-47
Apr – Jun 2012	1	0	0%	72%	50%	75%	-25
Jul – Sep 2012	8	3	38%	74%	42%	74%	-32
Oct – Dec 2012	1	1	100%	70%	46%	74%	-28
Jan – Mar 2013	No Candidates Tested			73%	40%	73%	-33
Apr – Jun 2013	No Candidates Tested			78%	44%	73%	-29
Jul – Sep 2013	1	0	0%	75%	50%	74%	-24
Oct – Dec 2013	No Candidates Tested			76%	0%	76%	-76
Jan – Mar 2014	No Candidates Tested			74%	0%	76%	-76
Apr – Jun 2014	No Candidates Tested			66%	0%	73%	-73
Jul – Sep 2014	No Candidates Tested			72%	N/A	73%	N/A
Oct – Dec 2014	No Candidates Tested			72%	N/A	72%	N/A
Jan – Mar 2015	No Candidates Tested			73%	N/A	71%	N/A
Apr – Jun 2015	No Candidates Tested			69%	N/A	73%	N/A
Jul – Sep 2015	No Candidates Tested			73%	N/A	72%	N/A
Oct – Dec 2015	No Candidates Tested			75%	N/A	72%	N/A

*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.

California Code of Regulations section 2530(I) 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 candidate of approved vocational nursing schools for the same period.”

It is noted that the program’s last class of eight (8) students graduated February 2012. The program has had no graduates tested since Quarter 3 – 2013, where one student took the licensure examination and failed.

Based on published examination statistics for the period October 2013 through December 2015, the program had no candidates take the NCLEX-PN®.

Faculty and Facilities:

Section 2534(d) of the California Code of Regulations (Code) states:

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

The current number of Board-approved faculty totals four (4), including the program director. The director has 50% administrative and 50% teaching duties. Of the total faculty, four (4) instructors are approved to teach clinical.

Given the proposed enrollment of 15 students and the Board’s requirement of May 15, 2015, specifying that the program shall maintain a 1:10 instructor-to student ratio in all clinical classes, two (2) instructors are needed. Therefore, the number of current faculty is adequate for the current and proposed enrollment.

Section 2534(b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states, in part:

“Schools shall have clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated, to provide clinical experiences for all students in the area specified by Section 2533. There must be available for student assignment, an adequate daily census of patients to afford a variety of clinical experiences consistent with competency-based objectives and theory being taught.”

The program has **sufficient** clinical facilities to afford the number, type, and variety of patients that will provide clinical experiences that are consistent with competency-based objectives and theory taught and adequate for the proposed enrollment.

Other Considerations

As noted previously, the Board placed the Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program on provisional approval for the two – year period from May 11, 2012 through May 31, 2014, due to noncompliance with regulatory requirements relative to program pass rates on the licensure examination. At that time, the program’s average annual pass rate was 29%. Additionally, the Board approved the program’s admission of a class of 15 students on June 11, 2012. Based on information submitted by the director, the program did not admit that class.

On April 16, 2014, the Board received information regarding actions taken by the Bureau relative to the program. As reported, the Bureau received a complaint on March 12, 2012, alleging the program’s refusal to provide an official transcript to a former student. Reportedly, the complainant had completed the program in March 2012. On April 11, 2012, the Bureau issued a notice directing the program to cease operation due to its lack of Bureau approval.

On May 13, 2014, the Board extended the program’s provisional approval through May 30, 2015. The Board noted that the program had a total of 11 graduates tested from April 1, 2012 through March 2014. Of the total tested, four (4) passed and seven (7) failed. The

Board declined to consider any additional request to admit students until the program obtains and submits documentation substantiating approval to operate by the Bureau.

On February 9, 2015, the Board received a copy of the Bureau's approval of Sierra Pacific College to operate a non – degree granting vocational nursing program. The approval is dated January 22, 2015. (See Attachment B).

As noted previously, the program's **current average annual pass rate** on the NCLEX-PN® is **0%**. Published examination statistics confirm that the program has had no graduates completing the licensure examination since Quarter 3 - 2013.

On March 5, 2015, the Board requested documentation from the director relative to the availability of critical resources, including, but not limited to faculty, clinical facilities, library, staff and support services, physical space, skills laboratory and equipment required to achieve the program's objectives. To date, four (4) faculty members have provided letters confirming their availability to teach in the Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program.

On April 13, 2015, the Board approved two (2) long term facilities for clinical placement of students. On April 17, 2015 the Board approved one (1) facility to provide clinical experience in Maternity Nursing, four (4) facilities to provide experience in Pediatric Nursing, and three (3) facilities that provide adult Geriatric and Medical/Surgical Nursing experience. The newly approved facilities provide adequate clinical sites to provide clinical experiences that are consistent with the curriculum and of like character and quality for the proposed enrollment.

On May 15, 2015, the Board extended the program's provisional approval for a period of two (2) years from May 30, 2015, through May 29, 2017. Additionally, the Board approved a class of 15 students to commence on June 15, 2015, and graduating on July 1, 2016, and required the program to maintain an instructor-to-student ratio that does not exceed ten (10) students per instructor in all clinical courses. (See Attachment C)

On September 9, 2015, the Director notified the Board via e-mail that no students had applied to attend the school and, was not sure when the program would be able to start the class approved for June 2015. (See Attachment D)

On December 13, 2015 the program submitted a request to admit students and provided documentation that there remains adequate faculty and facilities to provide the proposed class. The availability of resources including faculty and facilities was substantiated by the programs assigned NEC.

Published examination statistics confirm that 32 program graduates have completed the licensure examination since the program's inception. Of the total tested, 31.25% or ten (10) program graduates passed on initial testing; 68.75% or 22 program graduates failed on initial testing. The program's last class of eight (8) students graduated February 2012. The program has had no graduates tested since Quarter 3 – 2013, where one student took the licensure examination and failed.

It is important to note that the program's curriculum is based on an examination outline that is obsolete. The current NCLEX/PN® test plan was implemented April 2014. To date, the director has submitted no documentation that confirms the completion of a curricular analysis and identification of areas of the curriculum requiring revision to ensure the inclusion of all areas of the current NCLEX/PN® examination outline.

Recommendations:

1. Require the Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program to submit a detailed report that includes an analysis of the curriculum including the instructional plan, identification of areas requiring revision, and timeline for completion to ensure inclusion of all areas of the current NCLEX/PN® no later than **March 1, 2016**.
2. Place the program on the **May 2016** Board agenda.
3. Deny the program's request to admit a class of 15 students commencing April 4, 2015 and graduating on April 28, 2017, only.
4. Continue the program's requirement to maintain an instructor-to-student ratio that does not exceed ten (10) students for each instructor in during clinical experience.
5. Continue the program director's requirement to submit, under penalty of perjury, the names of all enrolled students, date of admission, placement in the curriculum, and expected date of graduation within 15 days of the commencement of a class.
6. Continue the program's requirement to obtain approval by the full Board prior to the admission of future classes.
7. Continue the program's requirement to submit follow-up reports no later than **February 1, 2016**, and **February 1, 2017**. 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.
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 - k. Evaluation of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
 - l. Evaluation of Theory Presentations.
 - m. Evaluation of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
 - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
 - o. Current Enrollment; **and,**

8. Require the program to comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professional Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526.
9. Require the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violation. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval.

Rationale: The program was placed on provisional approval on May 11, 2012, the program's average annual pass rate was **29%**, **45** percentage points below the state average annual pass rate. Subsequent to the program being placed on provisional approval, the program's average annual pass rate rose to a high of 50% during Quarter 2 - 2012 and Quarter 3 - 2013. Since Quarter 3 - 2013, the program has had no graduates completing the licensure examination.

As stated previously, on May 16, 2015 the Board extended the program's provisional approval for two years through May 30, 2017. The adequacy of program resources to provide instruction for the proposed students has been verified. Those resources include Board - approved faculty, and clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated, to provide clinical experiences consistent with the curriculum and of like character and quality for the proposed enrollment.

The program's curriculum is based on an obsolete examination outline. The current NCLEX/PN[®] Examination Outline was implemented effective April 2014. The program's last class graduated February 2012. Further, of the total program graduates tested to date, 68.75% have failed on initial testing; 31.25% passed. It is prudent to require the director to complete the following **prior** to commencing a new class.

1. Analysis of the program curriculum.
2. Analysis of the program instructional plan.
3. Analysis of all program elements impacting student achievement.
4. Revision of curriculum.

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

Attachment A: History of Prior Board Actions
Attachment B: Program Correspondence Dated February 4, 2015; Received February 9, 2015
Attachment C: Board Correspondence Dated May 20, 2015
Attachment D: Program Correspondence Dated September 9, 2015

Agenda Item #17.C.2., Attachment A

SIERRA PACIFIC COLLEGE VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM

History of Prior Board Actions

- On January 14, 2009, the Executive Officer approved Sierra Pacific College, Redlands, to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial class of 24 students on January 19, 2009 only, with a projected graduation date of February 5, 2010; **and**, approved the program curriculum for 1578 hours, including 596 theory and 982 clinical hours.
- On April 21, 2010 an initial site visit was completed by the Nursing Education Consultant.
- On June 3, 2010, the Executive Officer **approved** initial **full accreditation** for Sierra Pacific College, Redlands, Vocational Nursing Program for the four (4) year period from June 3, 2010 through June 2, 2014, **and**; directed staff to issue a certificate accordingly, **and**; approved the programs request admit 30 students on June 7, 2010 graduating on of July 10, 2011; **and**, required the program to submit revised admission criteria and procedures to include entrance testing for incoming students by June 25, 2010; **and**, required the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.
- On January 25, 2011, the Executive Officer **approved** the program to **admit** a full-time class of 30 students commencing on January 31, 2011 and graduating on January 27, 2012; **and**, **denied** the program's request to admit a class of 30 students commencing on July 11, 2011 and graduating July 27, 2012 to **replace** students graduating on June 17, 2011; **and**, board staff will continue to monitor the program by tracking its licensure examination pass rate quarterly.
- On March 15, 2012, the program was notified that its average **annual pass rates** had fallen more than **ten (10) percentage points below the state average annual pass rates** for the past **five (5) consecutive quarters** and the Board was scheduled to **consider** placement of the program on **provisional approval** at the May 2012 Board meeting. The following information was requested by March 23, 2012.
- On March 23, 2012, the program was notified that its average annual pass rate had **fallen** more than **ten (10) percentage points below the state average** annual pass rates for the past six (6) quarters, per **verbal communication**.
- On March 28, 2012, the Board received the program's plan to increase the licensure pass rates and related forms.
- On April 4, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents for Board consideration to include, but not be limited to, its plan to correct its noncompliant pass rates, and the effect of subsequent corrective action taken to correct identified deficiencies.

- On May 11, 2012, the Board **placed** Sierra Pacific College, Vocational Nursing Program, on **provisional approval** for the two-year period from May 11, 2012, through May 31, 2014; **and**, issued a notice to the program to identify specific area of non-compliance and requirements for correction as references in Section 2526.1 of the California Code of Regulations; **and** required the program to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate; **and**, Required the program to submit follow-up reports in nine months, but no later than **February 1, 2013**, and 21 months, but no later than **February 1, 2014**. 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. Evaluation of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
 - l. Evaluation of Theory Presentations.
 - m. Evaluation of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
 - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
 - o. Current Enrollment; **and**,

Required the program to **comply** with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professional Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526; **and**, required the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violation. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval; **and**, advised the program that failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval; **and, approved** Sierra Pacific College, Vocational Nursing Program's request **to admit 15 students** commencing on June 11, 2012 and graduating on June 28, 2013 to **replace** students who graduated on February 8, 2012; **and**, required the program to admit no additional students without prior approval by the full Board; **and**, Placed the program on the **May 2014** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

- On February 18, 2014, the Nursing Education Consultant notified Sierra Pacific College, Vocational Nursing Director and requested the follow-up report that was due on February 1, 2014.
- On March 6, 2014, the required follow-up report was submitted to the Nursing Education Consultant.

- On May 13, 2014, the Board extended provisional approval for the Sierra Pacific College, Redlands, Vocational Nursing Program for one year from May 16, 2014 to May 30, 2015, and issued a notice to the program to identify specific area of noncompliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of Regulations; **and** denied the program's request to admit a class of 15 full-time students on June 16, 2014 only, graduating on June 26, 2015; **and** declined to consider any request to admit students until the program obtains and submits documentation substantiating approval to operate by the Department of Consumer Affairs' Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education; **and** required the program to admit no additional students unless approved by the full board, including any previously approved classes that were not admitted; **and** required the program to submit a follow-up report in six (6) months after admission of the next class. 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 report must address all elements as identified in the comprehensive analysis submitted September 2013. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis.

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

Further, the Board required the program to bring its average pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the state annual pass rate; **and** required the program to comply with all approval 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; **and** required the program 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 approval. The Board specified that failure by the program to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval; **and** placed the program on the **May 2015** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

- On February 4, 2015, the Board received a copy of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education's approval for Sierra Pacific College, dated January 22, 2015.

- On May 15, 2015 the Board **extended** provisional approval of the Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program for the two (2) year period from May 30, 2015, through May 29, 2017, and issue a notice to the program to identify specific area of noncompliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of Regulations; and, **required** the program to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate; and, **approved** the program's request to admit a class of 15 students commencing June 15, 2015 and graduating on July 1, 2016, **only; and, required** the program to maintain instructor to student ratio that does not exceed ten (10) students for each instructor in during clinical experience, and, **required** the program director to submit, under penalty of perjury, the names of all enrolled students, date of admission, placement in the curriculum, and expected date of graduation by **July 1, 2015; and, continued** the program's requirement to obtain approval by the full Board prior to the admission of future classes. Additionally, the Board required the program to submit follow-up reports in nine months, but no later than **February 1, 2016**, and 22 months, but no later than **February 1, 2017**. 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:

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required the program to comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professional Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526; and, **required** the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violation. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval. Failure of the program to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval. The Board placed the program on the Board's May 2017, agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

Agenda Item #17.C.2., Attachment B



Sierra Pacific College

2015 FEB -9 PM 1:19

BVNPT Receiver Edu
on 2/4/15

Wednesday, February 04, 2015

Jessica Gomez MSN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant
Board of Vocational Nursing & Psychiatric Technicians
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205
Sacramento, CA 95833
916-263-7839

Dear Jessica:

After years of waiting, enclosed is the approval from Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). The agency requires a copy of the BPPE approval sent to you.

The school requests to start class on April 20, 2015 and program completion on April 29, 2016.

The school main concern at this time is regarding the Provisional status which is about to expire on May, 2015. Please inform the school regarding the Provisional status and what to do from here on.

Thanks for your kind consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Bernadette N. Bautista, RN, MSN
Director of Nursing
Sierra Pacific College



Agenda Item #16.C.2., Attachment B

Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency - Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor
Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95833
P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818



Approved Educational Program List

In accordance with the provisions of California Education Code 94866 or 94890, the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education approves:

Sierra Pacific College

*1200 Arizona St. Ste. A-2
Redlands, CA 92374*

*School Code #: 90919988
Site Type: Main*

to offer the following program(s)/course(s):

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Length of Instruction</u>	<u>Program Approved</u>	<u>Program Type</u>	<u>Distance Learning</u>
LVN 79 Units	1,578.00 Hours	01/22/2015	Non-Degree	No

Non-Degree (Vocational) Programs/Courses: 1
Total Programs/Courses: 1

The program list above represents all currently approved educational programs for this institution. The Main, Branch, or Satellite locations of this institution may offer any subset of this list.

Leeza Rifredi, Manager

This document is valid if all fees are current. Subject to earlier termination in accordance with the law.

Agenda Item #17.C.2., Attachment C.



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



May 20, 2015

Bernadette Bautista
Director, Vocational Nursing Program
Sierra Pacific College
1200 Arizona St., Unit A-2
Redlands, CA. 92374

Subject: Notice of Board Decision, Reconsideration of Provisional Approval and Consideration of Request to Admit Students

Dear Ms. Bautista:

On May 15 2015, the full Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) considered the consultant's report relative to the ***Sierra Pacific College, Vocational Nursing Program – Reconsideration of Provisional Approval and Consideration of Request to Admit Students.***

The following decisions were rendered.

1. Extend provisional approval of the Sierra Pacific College Vocational Nursing Program for the two (2) year period from May 30, 2015, through May 29, 2017, and issue a notice to the program to identify specific area of noncompliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of Regulations.
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.
3. Approve the program's request to admit a class of 15 students commencing June 15, 2015 and graduating on July 1, 2016, **only**.
4. Require the program to maintain to maintain and instructor to student ratio that does not exceed ten (10) students for each instructor in during clinical experience.
5. Require the program director to submit, under penalty of perjury, the names of all enrolled students, date of admission, placement in the curriculum, and expected date of graduation by **July 1, 2015**.
6. Continue the program's requirement to obtain approval by the full Board prior to the admission of future classes.
7. Require the program to submit follow-up reports in nine months, but no later than **February 1, 2016**, and 22 months, but no later than **February 1, 2017**. The reports

Notice of Board Decision

May 20, 2015

Page 2 of 3

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. Evaluation of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
 - l. Evaluation of Theory Presentations.
 - m. Evaluation of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
 - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
 - o. Current Enrollment; **and,**
8. Require the program to comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professional Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526.
 9. Require the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violation. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval.
 10. Failure of the program to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.
 11. Place the program on the Board's May 2016 agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

Rationale: The program was placed on provisional approval on May 11, 2012, the program's average annual pass rate was **29%, 45** percentage points below the state average annual pass rate. Subsequent to the program being placed on provisional approval, the program's average annual pass rate rose to a high of 50% during Quarter 2 - 2012 and Quarter 3 - 2013. Since Quarter 3 - 2013, the program has had no graduates completing the licensure examination.

As stated previously, on May 16, 2014 the Board extended the program's provisional approval for one year through May 30, 2015. Additionally, the Board declined to consider any request to admit students until the program

Notice of Board Decision

May 20, 2015

Page 3 of 3

obtains and submits documentation substantiating approval to operate by the Department of Consumer Affairs' Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau). On February 4, 2015, the Board received a copy of the Bureau's approval for Sierra Pacific College to operate a non – degree granting vocational nursing program. That approval was dated January 22, 2015.

The adequacy of program resources to provide instruction for the proposed students has been verified. Those resources include Board - approved faculty, and clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated, to provide clinical experiences consistent with the curriculum and of like character and quality for the proposed enrollment.

Given the foregoing, it is prudent to extend the program's provisional approval for two (2) years. Currently, no students are enrolled in the program. Approving the requested class will allow the implementation of the curriculum and corrective actions required to improve student comprehension and the program's pass rates on the licensure examination.

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

Please contact the Board should further clarification be needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Gomez".

Jessica Gomez, M.S.N., R.N.
Nursing Education Consultant



DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

Program Name: **Sierra Pacific College, Vocational Nursing Program**

Provider Name: Bernadette Bautista

Fax #: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: **1200 Arizona St., Unit A-2, Redlands, CA. 92374**

I declare:

I am employed in the County of Sacramento, California, I am over the age of 18, and not a party to the within action. My business address is 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, California 95833-2945.

On May 20, 2015, I served the following document(s) described as:

***Certified Mail: Bernadette Bautista, Sierra Pacific College, Vocational Nursing Program
RE: Notice of Board Decision, Reconsideration of Provisional Approval and Consideration of
Request to Admit Students***

By causing to be delivered a true and correct copy thereof to the addressee(s) as follows:

X VIA U.S. MAIL:

By placing a copy in each of two separate sealed envelopes with postage thereon fully prepaid and causing them to be deposited in the mail at Sacramento, California for delivery by way of Certified Mail and First Class Mail.

Certified Mail Number:

____ VIA PERSONAL SERVICE:

I myself, or a designated courier, delivered such document(s) by hand to the offices of the addressee.

____ VIA FACSIMILE:

Such document(s) were transmitted to the facsimile number(s) listed above. The facsimile machine I used was in working order and no communication or delivery error was reported by the machine.

____ VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION:

I caused the documents to be sent to the persons at the e-mail address listed above. I did not receive, within a reasonable time after the transmission, any electronic message or other indication that my transmission was unsuccessful.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. This declaration was executed at Sacramento, California on May 20, 2015.

Jessica Gomez
(Typed Staff Name)

Jessica Gomez
(Staff Signature)

Agenda Item #17.C.2., Attachment D.

Wed 9/9/2015 10:58 AM

Bernadette Bautista [REDACTED]

Re: Board Meeting

Dear Jessica,

I am writing to you to update you what is going on with our school. We received the letter from the Board regarding the approval to admit students and extension of our provisional status in the middle of June. We started to advertise that we are open for enrollment after we received the letter. We requested to start the class June, 2015, but unfortunately due to the delay in the advertisement, we are not able to start the class on time as we requested.

We have few inquiries but no one registered or enrolled up to this time. I did not call you or had a chance to e mail you because me and my daughter had a car accident last July, 2015. I am currently having treatment and therapy and could not do much at this time. We are still advertising and responds to all inquiries, but still no one wanted to enroll yet. I cannot set a permanent start class date at this time until we have a registered or enrolled student.

I will keep in touch with you after two weeks to see where we at that time.

Bernadette Bautista, RN, MSN
Director of Nursing
Sierra Pacific College
1200 Arizona St. Unit A-2
Redlands, CA 92374

[REDACTED]