



**BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS**  
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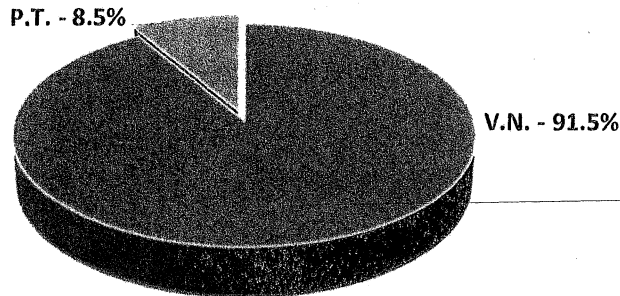
DATE: November 6, 2014  
 TO: Board Members  
 FROM: Cheryl C. Anderson, M.S.N., R. N.  
 Supervising Nursing Education Consultant  
 SUBJECT: Education Division Report

**Program Status**

# Approved Programs	173	16	189
# Pre - Approved Programs	9	1	10
<b>Sub Total Programs:</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>199</b>
# Proposed Programs	34	4	38
<b>TOTAL PROGRAMS (Approved, Preapproved, Proposed)</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>237</b>

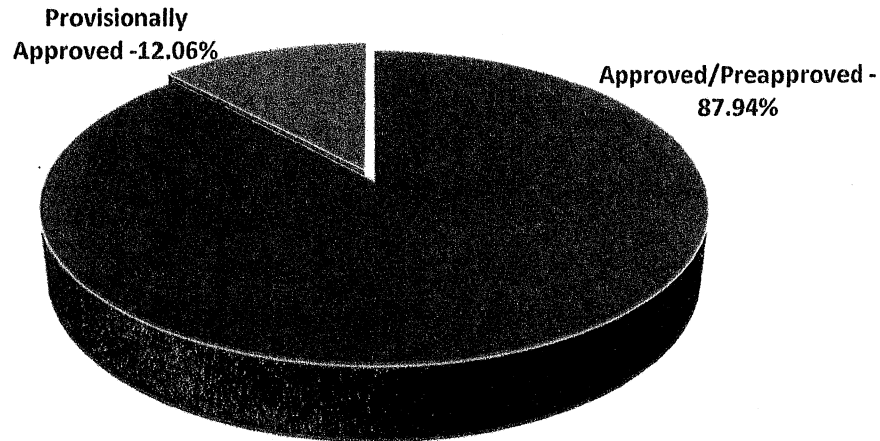
Currently, a total of 199 programs are approved to offer educational programs leading to vocational nurse (VN) and psychiatric technician (PT) licensure. Of the total programs, 91.5% are VN programs; 8.5% are PT.

**TOTAL VOCATIONAL NURSING  
 AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN PROGRAMS**



Of the total programs, 87.94% are approved or preapproved programs; 12.06% are provisionally approved programs.

**APPROVED/PREAPPROVED PROGRAMS vs  
PROVISIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAMS**



Of the total provisionally approved, 100% are VN programs.

➤ **Approved/Preapproved VN Programs.**

Of the total VN programs, 173 (95.05%) are approved/provisionally - approved programs. The remaining 9 (4.95%) are preapproved.

The following new VN programs have been approved for commencement of an initial class.

1. Institute of Technology, Clovis, VN Program.
2. Sri Sai Krish Institute VN Program.

Based on published examination statistics for Quarter 3, 2014, the **quarter** pass rate for first – time candidates from approved VN programs is **74.57%**; the **average annual** pass rate is **75.98%**.

➤ **Provisionally Approved VN Programs.**

Effective October 1, 2014, the number of programs on provisional approval totals 24. Based on published examination statistics for Quarter 3, 2014, the **quarter** pass rate for provisionally approved VN programs is **55.32%**; the **average annual** pass rate is **52.58%**.

➤ **Approved/Preapproved PT Programs.**

Of the total PT programs, 16 (94.1%) are approved programs. The remaining program (5.9%) is preapproved. Based on published examination statistics for Quarter 3, 2014, the **quarter** pass rate for approved PT programs is **76.85%**; the **average annual** pass rate is **82.93%**.

➤ **Program Pass Rate Statistical Comparison.**

▪ **Vocational Nursing Programs.**

Overall, the pass rate for all first – time candidates from California vocational nursing programs who completed the NCLEX/PN® during Quarter 3, 2014 is **72.26%**.

By comparison, the national pass rate for first – time program candidates who completed the NCLEX/PN® during Quarter 3, 2014 is **84.16%**.

▪ **Psychiatric Technician Programs.**

Overall, the pass rate for all first – time candidates from California psychiatric technician programs who completed the California Psychiatric Technician Licensure Examination during Quarter 3, 2014 is **72.26%**.

The Education Division continues to provide assistance to all programs for whom deficiencies have been identified. Prior to placement on provisional approval, the goal is identification of problems negatively impacting student achievement and the development and implementation of effective strategies for resolution of the identified problems.

After placement on provisional approval, the Education Division prepares and mails the official notice advising the program director of specific areas of noncompliance and requirements for correction, as specified by the Board. Additionally, consultants continue to provide assistance in identifying program elements that negatively impact student comprehension. Strategies are recommended to maximize student achievement.

➤ **Program Complaints.**

Since September 15, 2014, the Education Division has received complaints from faculty and students alleging misconduct by **nine (9)** programs. Each complaint is thoroughly analyzed by a Nursing Education Consultant (NEC) relative to regulatory authority and compliance, adequacy for the enrolled and projected student populations, and other factors based on the allegation. Upon completion, the NEC forwards a response to the complainant.

➤ **Program Requests.**

Since September 15, 2014, the Education Division has processed **22** major requests from VN and PT programs. Those requests include, but are not limited

to, program approval, major curriculum revisions, approval to admit students, approval to alter class size, and other critical program elements.

From August 18, 2014, through November 4, 2014, the Education Division processed **481** requests for approval of new faculty and **245** requests for approval of new clinical facilities for existing and proposed VN and PT programs. Each request was analyzed and evaluated relative to regulatory compliance, consistency with the Board – approved curriculum, and adequacy for the enrolled and projected student populations.

➤ **Program Inspections.**

Since January 1, 2014, the Education Division has completed inspections of **46** programs (On – Site Inspections – 20; Program Record Surveys – 26). Of the total on – site inspections, 14 programs on provisional approval were inspected; three (3) programs were inspected as a result of deficiencies and submitted complaints; and three (3) programs were inspected prior to completion of the initial class, as required by California Code of Regulations § 2526 (c). An additional 26 programs were inspected per Program Record Survey. The purpose of these inspections is to determine the programs' compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and required corrections specified by the Board. Such inspections serve to identify existing and potential program deficiencies, elements negatively impacting student achievement, and strategies for correction.

➤ **Director Forums**

The Education Division convened the 2014 Directors Forum on Thursday, September 11, 2014 (Ontario) and September 26, 2014 (Sacramento). The purpose of the forum is the discussion of issues of mutual concern to vocational nursing and psychiatric technician programs and strategies for resolution of programmatic elements impacting student achievement. Attendees included directors, instructors, administrators, owners of vocational nursing and psychiatric technician programs.

➤ **Annual Reports.**

On June 20, 2014, the Education Division disseminated the 2014 Annual Report to all VN and PT programs. Completed reports are due September 5, 2014. To date, **162 (81.82%)** programs **have** submitted the required report; **36 (18.18%)** programs **have not** submitted the 2014 Annual Report.

➤ **Meetings.**

Since August 15, 2014, the Education Division has conducted meetings and teleconferences with representatives of **40** existing programs to facilitate resolution of programmatic issues.

Additionally, the Education Division has continued to meet and consult with representatives of DCA's Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) relative to programs that are also under the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

➤ **Proposed Programs.**

On February 28, 2014, the Board authorized a moratorium on the analysis of new proposals until February 28, 2015. Additionally, the Board authorized staff to send follow – up letters to those non – responsive proposed programs advising that the Board would remove them from the queue effective April 18, 2014. At that time, 146 requests for commencement of new vocational nursing and psychiatric technician programs awaited initial analysis. That backlog resulted from the prolonged shortage of NECs the Board experienced from 2009 through January 7, 2014.

As reported at the September 12, 2014, Board meeting, 48 proposals for commencement of new programs remained. Effective November 6, 2014, 38 proposals (34 VN; 4 PT) await initial analysis. Analysis of the remaining proposals and correspondence advising the submitting director of identified deficiencies and required corrections is projected to be completed by May 2015.

**Correspondence.**

Since August 1, 2014, the Education Division has responded to **1,207** written inquiries regarding the scopes of practice of VNs and PTs; **6,632** email and fax inquiries were received from programs and **6,632** responses were sent; and **1,323** telephone inquiries from programs, consumers, and other agencies.

**PERSONNEL.**

- **Recruitment of Nursing Education Consultants** – The Board continues recruitment to fill the remaining NEC vacancy. Margo Cooper, Manager, DCA Selection Services and Recruitment, and Cheryl Anderson, SNEC, completed a review and rating of all submitted applications on October 17, 2014. All candidates meeting minimum qualifications were added to the Nursing Education Consultant (NEC) Certification List.

Scheduling and interviews of all interested candidates are projected to be completed by November 25, 2014.