

## Agenda Item # 19.B.6.



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



**Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians**  
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DATE: February 9, 2018

TO: Board Members

FROM: Faye Silverman, MSN/Ed, RN, PHN, WOCN  
Nursing Education Consultant

SUBJECT: Summit Career College, Santa Ana, (formerly Summit Career College, Anaheim)  
Vocational Nursing Program – Request to Admit Students; and Request for  
Approval of a New Curriculum (Director: Renee Sheehan, Santa Ana, Orange  
County, Private)

### **STAFF SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION(S):**

The Summit Career College, Santa Ana, Vocational Nursing Program is presented for consideration of a request to admit one full-time class of 21 students and two alternates on March 5, 2018, with a projected graduation date of March 1, 2019.

Additionally, the program is requesting approval of a major revision of its curriculum.

The program's curriculum change is in compliance with regulations. The revision is educationally sound, consistent with regulatory requirements, and the program has demonstrated the resources to support the students utilizing this curriculum. This information supports approval of the recommendations.

### **RECOMMEND:**

- 1. Approve the Summit Career College, Santa Ana, Vocational Nursing Program's curriculum revisions, and**
- 2. Approve the Summit Career College, Santa Ana's request to admit one full-time class of 21 students beginning on March 5, 2018.**

### **History of Prior Board Actions**

(See Attachment A, History of Prior Board Actions)

## Enrollment

The program is required to obtain full Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

- The following table represents **proposed** student enrollment based on proposed class starts and completions. There are no students currently enrolled in this program as of **January 16, 2015**. Enrollment stopped in January 2014, based on a December 2013 decision by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education (ACCET) that the program cease admissions.

ENROLLMENT DATA				
CLASS DATES		#Students Admitted	#Students Current or Completed	Total Enrolled
Start	Complete			
3/5/18 FT Day (Class # 1) (*3/1/19)		21		21
*Indicates projected graduation date.				

## Licensing Examination Statistics

The following statistics, furnished by the Pearson Vue and published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing as “Jurisdictional Summary of All First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdiction,” for the period January 2016 through December 2017, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of the Summit Career College, Santa Ana, Vocational Nursing Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical (Vocational) Nurses (NCLEX-PN®) 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
Jan – Mar 2016	4	0	0%	73%	41%	72%	-31
Apr - Jun 2016	2	0	0%	75%	41%	74%	-33
Jul - Sep 2016	4	0	0%	76%	22%	75%	-53
Oct – Dec 2016	2	1	50%	70%	8%	74%	-66
Jan – Mar 2017	No Candidates Tested			72%	13%	73%	-60
Apr - Jun 2017	No Candidates Tested			68%	17%	74%	-57
Jul - Sep 2017	1	0	0%	74%	33%	71%	-38
Oct – Dec 2017	3	0	0%	69%	0%	71%	-71

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
*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(l) states:

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

This data substantiates the program’s non-compliance with regulatory requirements for the previous eight (8) quarters.

Based on the most recent data available (September to December 2017), the program's average annual pass rate is **0%**. The California average annual pass rate for graduates from approved vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time during the same period is **71%**. The average annual pass rate for the Summit Career College, Santa Ana, Vocational Nursing Program is **71** percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate.

### Faculty and Facilities

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

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

Based on the Board’s August 2017 decision, the program is required to provide no less than one (1) instructor for every ten (10) students in clinical classes. The current number of Board-approved faculty totals **five (5)**, including the program director. The director has 100% administrative duties. Of the total faculty, **4** are designated to teach in the clinical area.

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

“Schools shall have clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated, to provide clinical experience for all students in the areas 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 clinical facilities that are **adequate** as to type and variety of patients treated to enable proposed students to meet clinical objectives, in accordance with Section 2534(b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations.

### **Other Considerations**

Summit College, Anaheim, admitted the last class of **thirteen (13)** students into this program January 2014. **Three (3)** students graduated on January 16, 2015. No additional students have been admitted into this program.]

On August 25, 2017 Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program was placed on provisional approval for a two-year period from **August 25, 2017** through **August 31, 2019**. [Faye

Summit Career College, Anaheim was relocated and renamed Summit Career College, Santa Ana in December 2017. The program director has submitted all documents regarding the relocation and renaming of this campus.

The director submitted a total revision of the program’s curriculum in accordance with requirements specified in California Code of Regulations Section 2533, per recommendation in the July 18, 2017 Board report. The consultant’s review of the revision revealed that the document is educationally sound and fully compliant with applicable regulations.

Changes in the current NCLEX-PN® exam outline and an ongoing evaluation process to improve the nursing program evidenced several areas of weakness in the curriculum. The proposed curriculum has increased hours of instruction for nutrition, growth and development, patient education, and critical thinking. The program has also selected new books to supplement their existing book list. Curriculum changes included:

- Realigning of systems to create more balance and increase attention to sequential learning
- Updating clinical objectives for Term 1 by adjusting the order of the concepts from simple to complex
- Spreading Anatomy and Physiology throughout the entire program so students will be able to assimilate and connect the information when body systems are being introduced
- Moving reproductive nursing from Term 3 to Term 4
- Increasing the leadership theory and clinical hours
- Adding a comprehensive program review at the end of Term 4

- Redistributing study of body systems to balance academic rigor in Terms 2 and 3.

The updated curriculum includes the following changes, as described by the director:

- **Term 1**

1. Adjustments are primarily to change the order of the concepts within fundamentals to ensure better understanding. Building from simple to complex

- Redistributing the 54 hours of anatomy and physiology from Term 1 to all terms. This change will permit allotment of time for presentation of content specific to various systems throughout the curriculum.

- **Term 2**

1. Term 2 covered nine systems. This amount of content was found to be too burdensome for the students. Thus, urinary system instruction was moved from term 2 to term 3. The hours in term 2 remain the same so that time can be allotted more equitably among the other systems.

- **Term 3**

1. Term 3 currently has six systems, including the reproductive system. The revision moves reproduction from Term 3 to Term 4 to align and create a stronger conceptual foundation for Maternal/Child and Growth and Development.
2. The hours in Term 3 remain the same so that time can be allotted more equitably among the other systems

- **Term 4**

1. Term 4 currently has maternal child health and leadership. With the addition of the reproductive system there was a redistribution of the hours.
2. Based on data from students, faculty, and facility sites the recommendation was unanimous to increase the focus of the vocational nurse to preparing for leadership, communication and team dynamics. This prompted a review of the leadership hours which were found to be seriously lacking in the 2009 curriculum.
3. The revised Term 4 curriculum emphasizes leadership, and has adjusted Obstetrical and Pediatric hours to accommodate the changes.
4. The incorporation of a program comprehensive review and NCLEX prep will serve to better prepare students towards more optimal results with NCLEX pass rates.

CONTENT	OLD THEORY HOURS	OLD CLINICAL HOURS	NEW THEORY HOURS	NEW CLINICAL HOURS
Anatomy & Physiology	54		54	
Nutrition	4		27	
Psychology	19		11.5	
Growth & Development	5		15	
Nursing Fundamentals	96	198	79	198
Nursing Process	11		49	
Communication	2		6.5	
Communication - Patients with Psychological Disorders				
Patient Education	11.5		22	
Pharmacology	76		94.5	
Medical/Surgical Nursing	204.5	492	132	588
Communicable Disease	14.5		6	
Gerontological Nursing	13		8.5	
Rehabilitation Nursing	6		7	
Maternity Nursing	48	144	13	40
Pediatric Nursing	45	96	12.5	40
Leadership & Supervision	22.5	24	26.5	88
Ethics & Unethical Conduct			6.5	
Critical Thinking			22	
Culturally Congruent Care			31.5	
End-of-Life Care			8	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>954</b>

### Recommendations:

1. Approve the Summit Career College, Santa Ana, Vocational Nursing Program's curriculum revisions to include **1586** total program hours, including **632** theory hours and **954** clinical hours for the 52-week full-time class.
2. Approve the Summit Career College, Santa Ana's request to admit **one (1)** full-time class of **21** students beginning on **March 5, 2018**, with a projected graduation date of **March 1, 2019, only**.

3. Continue to require the program to obtain full Board approval prior to the admission of each class.
4. Continue to require the program to provide no less than one (1) instructor for every ten (10) students in clinical experiences.
5. Continue to require the director to submit documentation substantiating that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, etc., are available to support each admitted class of students.
6. Continue the program's requirement 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 California Code of Regulations, Title 16 commencing at Section 2526.
7. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's pre-approval status. In this case, the program would not be added to the Board's list of approved programs and students would not be eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure examination.

**Rationale:** The program's curriculum change is in compliance with sections 2532 (Curriculum Hours) and 2533 (Curriculum Content) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. The revision is educationally sound, consistent with regulatory requirements, and the program has demonstrated the resources to support the students utilizing this curriculum. This information supports approval of the recommendations.

Board staff will closely monitor the program, including performance on the licensure examination, estimated attrition rate, and compliance with regulations.

Attachment A: History of Prior Board Actions

# Agenda Item #19.B.6., Attachment A

## SUMMIT COLLEGE, SANTA ANA VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM

### History of Prior Board Actions

- On November 14, 2003, the Board approved Summit Career College, Anaheim's request to commence a vocational nursing program with an initial class of 72 students on November 17, 2003 with a projected graduation date of November 22, 2004. The Board also approved the program's curriculum for 1586 hours, including 632 theory and 954 clinical hours.

Due to insufficient available clinical hours for maternity and pediatrics, the start date was delayed to December 1, 2003, with a projected completion date of December 6, 2004.

- On September 10, 2004, the Board approved initial full accreditation for the Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program for the period September 10, 2004, through September 9, 2008, and issued a certificate accordingly.

The Board approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 72 students starting December 6, 2004 only, to **replace** students graduating December 6, 2004.

Additionally, the Board approved the program's request to admit a 19 month part-time class of 72 students commencing September 14, 2004, and graduating April 18, 2006.

- On November 15, 2004, the director notified the Board that commencement of the full – time replacement class would be delayed to January 31, 2005. The school desired to begin the new class at the beginning of a year instead of at the end.
- On February 4, 2005, the Board approved Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit 72 students into a second full-time class commencing May 2, 2005, with a projected graduation date of May 8, 2006. Additionally, the Board approved the program's request to admit a second part-time class of 72 students commencing March 7, 2005, contingent upon Board approval of two (2) additional clinical instructors by February 15, 2005.
- On March 17, 2005, the program notified the Board that commencement of the May 2, 2005 class was delayed to June 6, 2005, with a projected graduation date of June 12, 2006.
- **In April 2005, the Board was notified of a change of director.**

- On September 9, 2005, the Board approved the program's request to admit 72 students to a third full - time class on September 19, 2005, with a projected graduation date of September 25, 2006.

The Board approved the program's request to admit a fourth full – time class of 72 students on December 5, 2005, with a projected graduation date of December 6, 2006.

The Board approved the program's request to admit a fourth full – time class of 72 students on September 19, 2005, with a projected graduation date of April 16, 2007.

The Board also approved the program's request for ongoing admissions to **replace** graduating classes only, with the following stipulations.

- a. No additional classes are added to the program's current pattern of admissions without prior Board approval. The program's current pattern of admissions includes the admission of two (2) part–time classes and one (1) full–time class each school year.
- b. The director documents that adequate resources, i.e., faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.

- **On February 6, 2006, the Board was notified of a change of director.**

- On May 13, 2006, the Board notified the director that the pass rates for Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program had fallen below 10 percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for four (4) consecutive quarters.
- On June 29, 2006, the director submitted a strategic plan to improve its pass rates.
- On July 10, 2006, the consultant requested the director to revise and resubmit its strategic plan.
- On July 27, 2006, a more detailed strategic plan was submitted.

- **On October 11, 2006, the Board was notified of a change of director.**

- On December 12, 2006, the Board notified the director that pass rates for Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program had fallen below 10 percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for six (6) consecutive quarters.
- On January 20, 2007, the director submitted correspondence verifying implementation of the revised strategic plan.
- On March 21, 2007, the Board notified the director that the pass rates for Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program had fallen below 10

percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for seven (7) consecutive quarters.

- On April 11, 2007, the director submitted a follow-up report identifying modifications in its strategic plan.
- On May 31, 2007 the Board notified the director that the pass rates for Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program had fallen below 10 percentage points of the state average annual pass rate for eight (8) consecutive quarters.
- On July 16, 2007, the Board received the director's analysis of the correctional plan.
- On September 7, 2007, in the absence of a quorum, a committee of the Board heard the consultant's report and recommended approval by the full Board that Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program be placed on provisional accreditation. The report will be presented at the February 1, 2008, Board Meeting for full Board action.
- On February 1, 2008, the Board placed the program on Provisional Accreditation for the two-year period from February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2010, and issued a notice to the program identifying specific areas of non-compliance and requirements for corrections referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of Regulations. The program was placed on the agenda for the September 2009 Board meeting for reconsideration of the program's accreditation status.
- On March 12, 2008, the Board issued the program a notice identifying areas of non-compliance and requirements for corrections. (See Attachment A )
- **On April 22, 2008, a new director was approved.**
- On June 24, 2009, the Board forwarded correspondence to the program advising that the Board would reconsider its accreditation status at the September 11, 2009 meeting. A comprehensive report was requested by July 17, 2009.
- On July 20, 2009, the Board received the program's comprehensive report.
- On October 7, 2009, the Board approved full accreditation of Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program for the four-year period from September 17, 2009 through September 16, 2013. The program had been on provisional accreditation due to its low performance statistics on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical (Vocational) Nurses (NCLEX-PN®).
- On January 6, 2010, the Executive Officer approved Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit four full – time classes of 72 students each year.

- On August 15, 2013, the Luis Corrales resigned as program director.
- **On August 21, 2013, Renee Sheehan was approved as the new program director.**
- On September 19, 2013, the Executive Officer approved the following recommendations:
  1. Continue full approval for the Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program for a four-year period from September 17, 2013, through September 16, 2017, and issue a certificate accordingly.
  2. Rescind all previous approvals for ongoing admissions of full-time and part-time classes.
  3. Approve the projected full-time day class of 25 students to be admitted on September 23, 2013. That class will graduate on September 19, 2014.
  4. Require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class. **This requirement supersedes the program's previous approvals for ongoing admissions.**
  5. Require the program director to perform an analysis of the program and submit a written report by **November 1, 2013**. That analysis and report should include a determination of the root causes of the graduates not being successful on the licensure examination and a plan of action to address each of those causes. The analysis should address the following elements of the program:
    - a. Admission Criteria.
    - b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
    - c. Terminal Objectives.
    - d. Curriculum Objectives.
    - e. Instructional Plan.
    - f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
    - g. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
    - h. Textbooks.
    - i. Attendance Policy.
    - j. Remediation Policy.
    - k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
    - l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
    - m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
    - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
    - o. Current Enrollment

- In January 2014, the Board received documentation of a December 2013 decision by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education (ACCET) ceasing program admissions.
- On April 25, 2014, ACCET continues its order to cease new enrollments pending review at the August 2014 Commission meeting, due to below benchmark placement performance.
- August 18, 2014, ACCET notified the program that the Commission maintained its directive to cease all new enrollments for the Anaheim campus pending further review.
- On January 12, 2015, the Board received communication from ACCET regarding admissions for the Anaheim Vocational Nursing Program.
- On January 30, 2015, the Board received a request to admit students which included a letter regarding improvement plans underway.
- On February 25, 2015, the Executive Officer approved the following recommendations:

Defer action on the program's request to admit one (1) full – time class of **45** students beginning April 27, 2015 and graduating April 22, 2016, **only**, to replace the class that graduated January 23, 2015.

Defer the program's request to admit one (1) part – time class of **45** students beginning April 27, 2015 and graduating October 30, 2016, **only**, to replace the class that graduated May 11, 2014.

Continue to require the program to obtain Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Continue to require the director to document that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, are available to support each admitted class of students.

- On August 25, 2017, the Board adopted the following recommendations:

Place the Summit Career College, Anaheim, Vocational Nursing Program on provisional approval for a two-year period from **August 25, 2017** through **August 31, 2019**, and issue a certificate accordingly.

Place the program on the **August 2019** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

Require the program to complete a total revision of its curriculum in accordance with requirements specified in California Code of Regulations Section 2533, prior to commencement of additional classes.

Require the program to obtain Full Board approval prior to the admission of each class.

Require the program to provide no less than one (1) instructor for every ten (10) students in clinical experiences.

Require the director to submit documentation substantiating that adequate resources, i.e. faculty and facilities, etc., are available to support each admitted class of students.

Require the director to submit follow-up reports in 10 months, but no later than **June 1, 2018**, and in 22 months but no later than **June 1, 2019**. The report must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken with revisions to improve 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 approved by the Board (Final Version)
- f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course
- g. Lesson Plans for Each Course
- h. Textbooks as noted in course outlines and as library resources
- i. Attendance Policy
- j. Remediation Policy
- k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty
- l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations
- m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations
- n. Documentation of adequate faculty
- o. Documentation of adequate clinical facilities

Continue the program's requirement 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 California Code of Regulations, Title 16 commencing at Section 2526.

Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.