



DATE	September 22, 2026
TO	Board Members
FROM	Judith D. McLeod DNP, CPNP, RN Supervising Nursing Education Consultant
SUBJECT	Education Division Report

Staff Updates

The Nursing Education Consultant position has an opening, due to the retirement of Dr. Cindy Fairchild in May. The education division will be interviewing candidates for the position. Dr. Lanette Sipes, the newest NEC, started on March 23, 2026. Jessica Gomez has accepted the position of Lead Nursing Education Consultant.

Site Visits

The Nursing Education Consultants (NECs) have continued conducting onsite program visits, mostly related to the continued approval process. During the period from January 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026, the NECs conducted 29 onsite program visits and 5 remote program visits. Eight visits required attendance by two NECs.

Initial Approval of New School or Program

The Board created its new Proposed Program Application Process in October 2022.

Since then, 75 proposed programs submitted Letters of Intent for Initial Approval of New School or Program. Of the 75 proposed program applications, 64 were VN programs and two were PT programs, 57 were private programs, 18 were community college programs and one was an adult school.

Twenty-six of the 75 programs were approved to start a program (25 VN programs and 1 PT program) and 42 programs were removed from consideration for one or more of the following reasons: They failed to submit all required documentation with the Letter of Intent; There was a lack of communication from the program; The program was unable to complete the proposed program process in the allotted time or The Program voluntarily withdrew their proposed program application.

Of the 75 proposed program applications, 59 were actively assigned an NEC, and 16 were not.

Currently, there are 11 proposed programs that are assigned to an NEC and are working toward program approval. Six proposed programs submitted Letters of Intent along with their required documents between January 1, 2026, and June 30, 2026. Seven new programs were approved between January and June of 2026.

Education Division Projects

The Education Division has revised the statistical measures included in the Board report to better reflect the workload of the division. The changes include tracking the reasons for site visits by the NECs and types of violations in anticipation of creating new cite and fine regulation. A new acuity system has been instituted in 2026 to create a mechanism for closer program monitoring as well as instituting identified interventions. The AGPAs have increased their number of projects and complexity of tasks, and this will be better reflected in the statistics. In addition, the supervising nursing education consultant will include statistical measures on the Board report.

The Education Division continues to work on projects such as updating forms for regulations and fee changes, reviewing Article 5 regulations with counsel to improve VN and PT regulations, and the creating a dashboard with the Office of Information Services to relay program analytics to prospective students and the public. The Education tab on the BVNPT's website continues to be reviewed for updates, including webpages like the LVN Fact Sheet and post-licensure certification, and information on continuing education providers and updating current statistics. This facilitates public access and helps reduce the number of calls to our division. The Education Division has been working with the Enforcement to help with evaluation of licensees' scope of practice while on probation to have their current employment approved.

Education Division Events

On October 1, 2025, the new Respiratory Care regulations for basic respiratory tasks and services (California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1399.365) took effect. The NECs continue to receive a number of inquiries from licensees about this, and approximately 40% of the scope of practice inquiries are about this issue. A notice clarifying these regulations was put on the Board's website and sent to the listserv for licensees, but inquiries continue. The Education Division will be working with the Respiratory Care Board (RCB) to clarify and update information regarding RCB's regulations and will participate in future planning with the RCB for education regarding respiratory tasks.

Currently, the Education Division is working with the California Department of Consumer Affairs Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) to assist with the fiscal year 2025-26 workshops for the California Psychiatric Technician Licensing Exam (CAPTLE). The latest workshop was held on March 12-13, 2026, with five PT subject matter experts. Jessica Gomez, the Lead NEC, attended both sessions to assist with analysis.

The Director's Forum was held on May 6, 2026. Subjects covered in the forum included the Annual Report by Nancy Spector, Burnout by Dr. Carel Mountain and Adapting AI into Programs by Dr. Kristen Riggs. There were 135 attendees and 98 attendees sent evaluations and received CEUs for the forum.

The next educational event to be held is the Practice Update forum on September 24, 2026.