



Agenda Item 8.0

Report of the Education/Licensing Committee

BRN Board Meeting | May 28-30, 2025

Report of the Education/Licensing Committee May 28-30, 2025

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Agenda Item 8.1

**Discussion and Possible Action Regarding ELC
Recommendations to the Board on Agenda Items
Presented at the April 17, 2025, Committee Meeting**

BRN Board Meeting | May 28-30, 2025

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 8.1
DATE: May 28-30, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding Education/Licensing Committee (ELC) recommendations to the Board on agenda items presented at the April 17, 2025, committee meeting

REQUESTED BY: Jovita Dominguez, BSN, RN, Chair, Education/Licensing Committee

BACKGROUND:

Regarding ELC recommendations to the Board on items presented at the April 17, 2025, meeting of the ELC (a copy of the April 17, 2025 ELC meeting agenda is available [here](#).)

Actions under consideration include:

- Approval of the proposed curriculum revisions and clinical facilities and to acknowledge the receipt of program progress reports;
- Continuing approval of approved nursing programs: Prelicensure nursing programs and Advanced practice nurse practitioner nursing programs;
- Recommended actions on prelicensure programs in non-compliance;
- Acceptance of the request to teach out and close an approved advance practice nurse practitioner program
- Acceptance of the enrollment pattern change for an approved prelicensure nursing program
- Initial approval of new prelicensure nursing programs(s)
- Defer taking action on the request for enrollment increase for approved prelicensure nursing program(s) with a new campus location

ELC April 17, 2025		
Agenda Items and Descriptions		Motions and Votes
4.1	<p>Discussion and possible action regarding whether to recommend approval of the proposed curriculum revisions and clinical facilities and to acknowledge the receipt of program progress reports. Schools are identified within the meeting materials in tables titled Prelicensure Curriculum Changes, Progress Reports, and Clinical Agency or Facility Approvals</p> <p>Note: See tables within the materials for full lists of curriculum revisions, progress reports and clinical facility approvals.</p>	<p>Recommend approval of the proposed curriculum revisions and clinical facilities and to acknowledge the receipt of program progress reports</p> <p><u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes</p>

ELC April 17, 2025		
Agenda Items and Descriptions		Motions and Votes
4.2	<p>Discussion and possible action regarding whether to recommend continuing approval of approved nursing programs</p> <p>Prelicensure nursing programs</p> <p>4.2.1 Sonoma State University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program</p> <p>4.2.2 University of San Francisco Baccalaureate Degree and Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program</p> <p>4.2.3 Rio Hondo College Associate Degree Nursing Program</p> <p>4.2.4 Santa Barbara City College Associate Degree Nursing Program</p> <p>Advanced practice nurse practitioner nursing programs</p> <p>4.2.5 Sonoma State University Family Nurse Practitioner Program</p> <p>4.2.6 University of California Davis Family and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Programs</p> <p>4.2.7 University of San Francisco Family and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Programs</p>	<p>Recommend continuing approval of prelicensure programs and continuing approval of an advance practice (nurse practitioner) nursing program.</p> <p><u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes</p>
5.1	<p>Discussion and possible action regarding prelicensure nursing programs in non-compliance.</p> <p>5.1.1 Merritt College Associate Degree Nursing Program (two years with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)</p>	<p>1st Motion to recommend deferring taking action on the continuing approval status for Merritt College Associate Degree Nursing Program (two years with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit) while they work to clear the areas on non-compliance</p> <p>2nd Motion. Recommend to return to ELC quarterly until all areas of non-compliances are cleared</p> <p><u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes</p>

ELC April 17, 2025		
Agenda Items and Descriptions		Motions and Votes
5.1.2	Copper Mountain College Associate Degree Nursing Program (one year with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)	1 st Motion to recommend deferring taking action on the continuing approval status
5.1.3	Fresno City College Associate Degree Nursing Program (program with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)	2 nd Motion recommend to return to ELC in one year with quarterly reports to the assigned NEC
5.1.4	Los Angeles City College Associate Degree Nursing Program (program with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)	<u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes
5.1.5	Fresno Pacific University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (program with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)	
5.2	Discussion and possible action regarding a request to teach out and close an approved advance practice nurse practitioner program	
5.2.1	University of Southern California Family Nurse Practitioner program	Recommend acceptance of the request to teach out and close an approved advance practice nurse practitioner program at the University of Southern California Family Nurse Practitioner track. This teach-out closes admissions to the Nurse Practitioner program with a projected end date of December 31, 2027 <u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes
5.3	Discussion and possible action regarding a request for an enrollment pattern change for an approved prelicensure nursing program	
5.3.1	REGION 10 Southern Border University of San Diego, Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science, Entry Level Masters Nursing program.	Recommend acceptance of the enrollment pattern change for an approved prelicensure nursing program at the University of San Diego, Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science, Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program with an enrollment pattern of 40 students each Fall and 20 students each Spring for a continued annual enrollment of 60 students year. <u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes

ELC April 17, 2025			
Agenda Items and Descriptions			Motions and Votes
5.4	Discussion and possible action regarding a request to grant initial approval of a new prelicensure nursing program		
	5.4.1	REGION 5 Central Coast and REGION 8 Los Angeles Pepperdine University Baccalaureate Degree and Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program	Recommend granting initial approval of a new prelicensure nursing program at their previously approved enrollment pattern from the feasibility study of 80 new students every Fall (64 BSN and 16 ELM) and 32 (16 BSN and 16 ELM) every Spring for a total annual enrollment of 112 students. <u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes
	5.4.2	REGION 3 San Francisco Bay Saint Mary's College Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program	Recommend granting initial approval of a new prelicensure nursing program at their previously approved enrollment pattern from their feasibility study of 50 students twice per year beginning Fall 2025, for an annual enrollment of 100. <u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes
	5.4.3	REGION 7 Inland Empire Westcliff University Baccalaureate Degree and Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program	Recommend granting initial approval of a new prelicensure nursing program with an enrollment pattern of 40 students three (3) times a year for the BSN program yielding 120 students annually, and 20 students twice (2) a year for the ELM program yielding 40 students annually, for a total of 160 students for both programs. <u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes
5.5	Discussion and possible action regarding a request for a new campus location with an enrollment increase for an approved prelicensure nursing program		

ELC April 17, 2025			
Agenda Items and Descriptions			Motions and Votes
	5.5.1	REGION 1 Sacramento Samuel Merritt University Entry Level Masters and Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (request for reconsideration to change February 2025 board action from denial to deferment)	Recommend accepting the request for reconsideration and defer taking action on the request for an enrollment increase for approved prelicensure nursing program, Samuel Merritt University Entry Level Masters and Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program at the Sacramento Campus of Samuel to allow the program to consider other options for future Board approval consideration. <u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes
5.6	Discussion and possible action regarding a request to accept a feasibility study for new prelicensure nursing programs		
	5.6.1	REGION 1 Sacramento Arizona College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program	Recommend deferring taking action on the study to provide the program applicant with an opportunity to provide additional information. <u>ELC Vote:</u> Jovita Dominguez – Yes Dolores Trujillo – Yes Patricia Wynne – Yes

The Webcast of the April 17, 2025, ELC meeting can be viewed [here](#).

NEXT STEP:

Notify Program of Board Action

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Mary Ann McCarthy, EdD, MSN, RN, PHN
Supervising Nursing Education Consultant



For Review Only – Part of Agenda Item 8.1

Prior ELC Materials – April 17, 2025

Please note that the materials included in this section are from the prior ELC meeting held on April 17, 2025. These pages (11-124) are provided for review only and are part of Agenda Item 8.1.

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**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 4.1
DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding whether to recommend approval of the proposed curriculum revisions and clinical facilities and to acknowledge the receipt of program progress reports

Schools are identified within the meeting materials in tables titled Prelicensure Curriculum Changes, Progress Reports, and Clinical Agency or Facility Approvals

REQUESTED BY: Mary Ann McCarthy, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Curriculum of a nursing program shall meet the requirements set forth in [16 CCR § 1426](#) and shall be approved by the Board. Additionally, any revised curriculum shall be approved by the Board prior to its implementation. According to Board policy, Nursing Education Consultants (NEC) may review curriculum changes that do not significantly alter philosophy, objectives, or content and programs can implement, as needed, prior to Board approval. These requests are then reported to the Education/Licensing Committee and the Board for approval.

In accordance with [16 CCR § 1427](#) a nursing program shall not utilize any agency or facility for clinical experience without prior approval by the Board. Each program must submit evidence that it has complied with the requirements set forth by the board and shall only assign students to facilities that can provide the experiences necessary to meet the program's written objectives for student clinical learning experiences.

The NECs review all curriculum changes, progress reports and clinical agency and facility approvals. Upon review, the NEC assist nursing education programs in eliminating education barriers and course or content redundancies and support efforts in the development and use of effective instructional methods and delivery models. These requests are reported to the Education/Licensing Committee and the Board for approval.

A list of schools who have submitted Curriculum changes, Program Progress Reports, and Clinical Agency or Facility Approvals, that have been reviewed for implementation by the NECs, are in your materials packet. These are consent agenda items.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board Agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Mary Ann McCarthy, EdD, MSN, RN, PHN
Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

Prelicensure Curriculum Changes
Education/Licensing Committee
April 17, 2025

SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	Date	FULL COMPLIANCE REPORT
ELM (alpha a-z)			
University of California Davis	K. Daugherty	02/10/2025	<p>Program Request-Effective July 2025, increasing units in MS, OB and Peds and separating and resequencing courses. These changes increase the units classified as total nursing units from 64 to 66 unit. Additionally, the program has increased units, separated and re-sequenced coursework in the other degree requirements. Content Required for Licensure (CRL) units increased from 104 to 106 units, Total other degree units increase from 23 to 25 units, and Total units for graduation increase from 127 to 131 units.</p> <p>Rationale for Revisions- provides more time to cover essential content, distributes units in each semester and reduces OB clinical placement challenges when offered summer instead of spring quarter.</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern-48 students 1x a year in summer quarter</p> <p>Current Enrollment-42 students</p> <p>Accredited By-CCNE</p> <p>Last Accreditation Visit-Fall 2022</p> <p>NCLEX Pass Rates for Past 2 Years</p> <p>2022-23-93.02%</p> <p>2023-24-92.68%</p> <p>Attrition Per Annual School Survey for Past 2 Years</p> <p>2021-2022-4%</p> <p>2022-23-6.8%</p> <p>Consortium-No</p> <p>Matriculation and or Concurrent Enrollment-No</p> <p>Total Cost of Program-\$129, 766</p> <p>Program in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
University of San Diego	M. Johnson	02/07/2025	<p>Program Request – Effective Fall 2025, the program will reduce from a 5-term (21 months) to a 4-term (18 months) and move towards a competency-based education format, with updated program goals, outcomes, and course descriptions to reflect the National Nursing</p>

Prelicensure Curriculum Changes
Education/Licensing Committee
April 17, 2025

			<p>Education Standards. The program will also reduce the units classified under total units for licensure from 71 to 43 units. Clinical Nurse Leader certification courses discontinued. Health Assessment courses and Fundamentals of Nursing courses removed to have content integrated into their existing Nursing Practice courses. The curriculum forms have been updated to reflect these changes.</p> <p>Rationale for Revision – Update curriculum and to align with AACN 2021 Essentials Competencies and the Debt-to-Earnings ratio standards.</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern – 60 students once a year</p> <p>Current Enrollment – 81 students</p> <p>Accredited By - CCNE</p> <p>Last Accreditation Visit – Fall 2019</p> <p>This was not a joint visit with CCNE</p> <p>NCLEX Pass Rates For Past 2 years</p> <p>2023-2024= 100%</p> <p>2022-2023= 88%</p> <p>Attrition Per Annual School Survey For Past 2 Years</p> <p>2022-2023= 3.5%</p> <p>2021-2022= 12.1%</p> <p>Consortium – Yes, the San Diego Consortium</p> <p>Matriculation Agreements – No</p> <p>Concurrent Enrollments – No</p> <p>Total Cost Of Program. \$129,220</p> <p>Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
BSN (alpha a-z)			
California State University Bakersfield	MA. McCarthy	03/29/2025	<p>Program Request –Revision of course descriptions and course objectives and renumbering of previously approved pharmacology sequence so that our courses are numbered sequentially.</p> <p>Rationale for Revision - American Association of Colleges of Nursing's (AACN) New Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education.</p>

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			<p>Enrollment Pattern – 60 students annually Current Enrollment – 178 Accredited By - CCNE Last Accreditation Visit – Spring 2021 NCLEX Pass Rates For Past 2 years 2023-2024= 95.74 2022-2023= 96.59 Attrition Per Annual School Survey For Past 2 Years 2023-2024= 8.3% 2022-2023= 5.0% Consortium – No Matriculation Agreements – Yes. Bakersfield College, Antelope Valley College, College of the Sequoias Concurrent Enrollments – No Total Cost Of Program - \$22,266 Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
California State University San Bernardino	D. Shipp	02/24/2025	<p>Program Request – Effective Fall 2025 CSUSB wishes to make curriculum changes to align with American Association of Colleges of Nursing's (AACN) New Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education. Rationale for Revision -It is an expectation of their accrediting body, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education that they align their curriculum with the AACN Essentials for entry-level professional nursing education. Enrollment Pattern – 66 students twice a year, 132 annual enrollment Current Enrollment – 319 students Accredited By - CCNE Last Accreditation Visit – Fall 2016 NCLEX Pass Rates For Past 2 years 2023-2024= 97.06% 2022-2023= 95.76% Attrition Per Annual School Survey For Past 2 Years</p>

Prelicensure Curriculum Changes
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			<p>2023-2024= 0%</p> <p>2022-2023= 12.7%</p> <p>Consortium – Inland Empire Healthcare Education Consortium</p> <p>Matriculation Agreements – No</p> <p>Concurrent Enrollments – Chaffey College, Riverside Community College, Golden West and San Bernardino Valley College</p> <p>Total Cost Of Program. \$29,500</p> <p>Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
Westmont College	D. Shipp	03/11/2025	<p>Program Request – Program has removed Intro to Sociology as a prerequisite</p> <p>Rationale for Revision – Program currently required two Sociology courses, they have removed Introduction to Sociology and will continue to have students take SOC 200 that aligns with End-Program-Student-Learning-Outcomes.</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern – 24 students/3 times a year - starting Summer 25; then to 36 students/3 times a year - starting Spring 26</p> <p>Current Enrollment – 63 students</p> <p>Accredited By - ACEN</p> <p>Last Accreditation Visit – February 2023</p> <p>NCLEX-RN Pass Rates For Past 2 Years</p> <p>2022-23 = 100%</p> <p>2023-24 = 94.29%</p> <p>Attrition Per Annual School Survey For Past 2 Years:</p> <p>2021-2022 = No school data</p> <p>2022-23 = 0.0%</p> <p>Consortium - No</p> <p>Matriculation Agreements - No</p> <p>Concurrent Enrollments – No</p> <p>Total Cost Of Program. \$68,000</p> <p>Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
ADN (alpha a-z)			
Contra Costa College	D. Shipp	01/28/2025	Program Request- Effective Fall 2025 and moving forward, the program

Prelicensure Curriculum Changes
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			<p>offers a concept-based curriculum and will reduce Nursing theory and clinical semester units from 52.9 to 48.9 units. Pharmacology and Drug Dosage Calculations moved to Other Degree Requirement as prerequisites for the Nursing Program. Anatomy, Physiology and Microbiology decreased from 5-unit courses to 4-unit. Additionally, the college removed the need for multiple psychology courses for degree completion. These changes yield a current requirement of 72.9-74.9 units classified in the total units for licensure and a total of 79.9-81.9 units required for graduation.</p> <p>Rationale for Revision- Align with school requirements for graduation.</p> <p>Enrollment pattern- 40 students every Fall</p> <p>Current Enrollment – 72 students</p> <p>Accredited By- None</p> <p>Last Accreditation Visit- N/A</p> <p>NCLEX Pass Rates For Past 2 years</p> <p>2023-2024= 94.29%</p> <p>2022-2023= 86%</p> <p>Attrition Per Annual School Survey For Past 2 Years</p> <p>2022-2023= 3.9%</p> <p>2021-2022= 0.0%</p> <p>Consortium- No</p> <p>Matriculation Agreements - None</p> <p>Concurrent Enrollments – None</p> <p>Total Cost Of Program. \$3900</p> <p>Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
Cuesta College	L. Kennelly	01/10/2025	<p>Program Request – Effective Fall 2025 and moving forward, the program will transition their preceptorship course to a traditional clinical group.</p> <p>Rationale for Revision – Program reports difficulty securing clinical sites for preceptor clinical hours</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern – 46 students in the fall, 34 students in the spring.</p> <p>Current Enrollment – 66 students</p>

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			<p>Accredited By - None Last Accreditation Visit – N/A NCLEX-RN Pass Rates For Past 2 Years 2022-23 = 95.74% 2023-24 = 100% Attrition Per Annual School Survey For Past 2 Years: 2021-22 = 8.9% 2022-23 = 6.3% Consortium - No Matriculation Agreements - None Concurrent Enrollments – None Total Cost Of Program. \$5,148 Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
Mission College	K. Knight	02/12/2025	<p>Program Request – Effective Fall 2025, the program will expand from a 3-term to a 3-semester schedule to meet CCR 1426 regulation of 500 direct patient care hours, with 30 hours in each specialty. Mission College is an LVN to RN advance placement ADN program. The required nursing content units for licensure will increase from 23 to 31 units. Course content has been realigned and Assessments, Fundamental Nursing, Beginning Clinical Judgment/Simulation/Skills and Beginning Clinical Practicum/Preceptorship have been added. Maternal Child Nursing will be split into separate courses of Obstetric and Pediatric Nursing to facilitate an ease of clinical placement. Rationale for Revision – To meet CCR 1426 by increasing direct patient care hours and adding a preceptorship class to help and assist students to become more practice ready. Enrollment Pattern – 30 students, once per year Current Enrollment – 29 students Accredited By – None NCLEX-RN Pass Rates For Past 2 Years 2022-23 = 83.3% 2023-24 = 96.0%</p>

Prelicensure Curriculum Changes
Education/Licensing Committee
April 17, 2025

			<p>Attrition Per Annual School Survey For Past 2 Years: 2022-23 = 0.0% 2023-24 = 6.7% Consortium - No Matriculation Agreements – N/A Concurrent Enrollments – None Total Cost Of Program. \$7,000 Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
Napa Valley College	D. Shipp	01/23/2025	<p>Program Request- Effective Fall 2025, program has decreased overall number of clinical hours from 1245 down to 999, and a reduction in theory hours from 432 down to 405 hours. This is evidenced by an overall reduction in Nursing units from 47 to 41 as well as decreasing units for graduation from 80 units to 74. Rationale for revision- Program reports difficulty securing clinical sites for higher clinical hours. Enrollment pattern- 40 students every Spring Current Enrollment - 77 Accredited by- None Last Accreditation Visit-N/A NCLEX RN Pass Rates past 2 years 2023-2024= 96.88% 2022-2023= 89.19% Attrition per Annual School survey for last 2 years 2022-2023= 12.8% 2021-2022= 7.5% Consortium – No Concurrent enrollment – None Total cost of program - \$5293 Program is in compliance with BRN regulations.</p>
Rio Hondo College	D. Shipp	02/10/2025	<p>Program Request- Error correction of previously approved curriculum revision from Spring 2024. Duplicate Social Science requirement in the Other Degree Requirements section was removed and 4-unit Math</p>

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			<p>requirement included. Additionally, Microbiology course was listed as 4 units and should have been 5 units. Other Degree Requirements now 20 units.</p> <p>Rationale- Error correction</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern- 40 students twice a year</p> <p>Current Enrollment – 162</p> <p>Accredited by -N/A, initial ACEN visit scheduled March 2025</p> <p>Last accreditation visit – N/A</p> <p>NCLEX RN Pass Rates past 2 years</p> <p>2023-2024= 100%</p> <p>2022-2023= 94.1%</p> <p>Attrition per Annual School survey for last 2 years</p> <p>2022-2023= 20.3%</p> <p>2021-2022= 19.5%</p> <p>Consortium – No</p> <p>Concurrent enrollment – None</p> <p>Total cost of program - \$3279</p> <p>Program is in compliance with BRN regulations</p>
Weimar University	K. Daugherty	12/30/2024	<p>Program Request-Effective Spring 2025 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing will now be offered either in-person face to face or an online, on hybrid/blended format based on the availability of faculty resources.</p> <p>Rationale for Revision-flexibility in instructional delivery method formats provides more effective use and management of psych mental health faculty and teaching loads. Sufficient technology support is readily available to use any of the three formats.</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern-1x per year-Fall semester, up to 20 students</p> <p>Current enrollment-15 students</p> <p>Accredited By-ACEN</p> <p>Last Accreditation Visit-Spring 2020; next site visit Fall 2026</p> <p>2020 was a joint visit-No</p> <p>NCLEX RN Pass Rates</p> <p>2022-2023=100%</p>

Prelicensure Curriculum Changes
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			2023-2024=100% Attrition Rate Per Annual School Survey Last 2 Years 2021-2022=25% (3) 2022-2023=25% (3) Consortium-Yes, Sacramento Academic Clinical Alliance for Nursing Education (SACANE) and Northern CA Sacramento Psych/MH group Matriculation Agreement/Concurrent Collaboratives-No Total Cost of Program-\$101,000 Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations
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PROGRESS REPORTS
Education/Licensing Committee
April 17, 2025

SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	DATE APPROVED	PROGRESS REPORT
Clinical Concerns Reported from Programs			
Mission College	K. Knight	02/12/2025	Curriculum revision submitted to split the combined Maternal Child course into separate courses of Obstetric and Pediatric Nursing to facilitate an ease of clinical placement.
Napa Valley College	D. Shipp	01/23/2023	Curriculum revision submitted to decrease overall number of clinical hours from 1245 down to 999, and a reduction in theory hours from 432 down to 405 hours as the program states they have difficulty securing clinical sites for higher clinical hours.
California State University San Marcos School of Nursing	H. Hunter	03/10/2025	Program reported that clinical rotations for their students at Hemet Hospital had to be canceled due to an unidentified odor on the units that caused the hospital to close units. Students would not be returning until the issue is resolved.
University of California, Los Angeles	MJ Rosenblatt	01/14/2025	Program reported that students were unable to complete clinical rotations as planned related to wildfires.
University of California, Davis	K. Daugherty	02/10/2025	Curriculum revision submitted to reduce OB clinical placement challenges when offered summer instead of spring quarter.
Faculty Concerns Reported from Programs			
Feasibility Abandonment			
Marian College	MA. McCarthy	01/16/2025	Marian College has abandoned the application for a new prelicensure registered nursing program. New ADN program letter of intent was received 8/15/2022. Requirements specified in 16 CCR 1421, document EDP-I-01) were not met and the application has been abandoned.
Feasibility Extension Request			
Homestead Schools Inc.	D. Shipp	10/9/2024	Homestead Schools Inc came to the Board with a feasibility study in

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SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	DATE APPROVED	PROGRESS REPORT
			November 2023. At that time, the Board deferred action and requested Homestead Schools to consider a location outside of the Los Angeles and Orange County region due to clinical placement concerns. Homestead Schools is requesting a one-year extension to allow additional time to explore options. They plan to return to ELC in October 2025.
The Nurse Academy	MA. McCarthy	03/07/2025	The Nurse Academy has requested an extension of their feasibility until April 2026 to continue to work completing requirements.
Initial Self-Study Extension Request			
Cerro Coso Community College	L. Kennelly	02/11/2025	BRN approved Cerro Coso College feasibility study in March 2023. The college is currently seeking instructor level faculty to teach the program. Cerro Coso has requested an extension of one year to be submitted by April 2026.
ELM (alpha A-Z)			
BSN (alpha A-Z)			
Angeles College	M. Johnson	03/09/2025	Angeles College requesting to relocate their approved Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program campus from current location at 3440 Wilshire Boulevard Suite 310, Los Angeles, 90010 to a new location 6.7 miles away, at 710 South Central Avenue, Glendale, 91204. Projected date of complete relocation after renovations and retrofitting of building to fully accommodate information technology capabilities set for September 2025. Nursing program operations will continue at current location to avoid disruptions to student learning. A complete relocation plan and operational process reviewed to assure continuity of services. A walk-through virtual tour conducted March 6, 2025 with program leadership and Nursing Education Consultant (NEC) to assure adequate space and resources. No areas of concern noted at the time.
Mount St Mary's University	D. Shipp	01/21/2025	MSMU has 2 campuses in the Los Angeles area. The Chalon, CA campus has been affected by the southern CA wildfires. Program

PROGRESS REPORTS
Education/Licensing Committee
April 17, 2025

SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	DATE APPROVED	PROGRESS REPORT
			Director advised of the temporary closure of this campus and the temporary need to conduct theory courses remotely, via on-line platform. Clinical experiences were not affected. As of 1/24/2025 the Chalon campus had reopened to students and classes resumed as they were prior to closure.
Sonoma State University	K. Daugherty	03/04/2025	Per the SSU nursing program leadership the following statement was provided to board staff related to recent changes in SSU collegewide financial condition changes. "Due to decreased enrollments at the university in recent years, SSU has been working to address a significant budget deficit. The recent faculty and program cuts made were specifically mandated by the Chancellor's office to address this deficit and bring the university budget to balance for AY 25-26. No cuts have been made in Nursing, and in fact, Nursing is receiving additional support from the University as they are in receipt of a 2.5 million grant specifically designated for Health Science (to be shared across several programs) and are prepared to continue supporting all current programs and proposed additional Health Professional Studies program. We fully anticipate continued support to be able to offer all our current programs and, additionally, to expand enrollment. We have been in direct communication with the Board and will continue to notify the Board of Registered Nursing of all anticipated changes in a timely manner."
University of Massachusetts Global	MA. McCarthy	02/03/2025	"Ceased to operate as of October 20, 2024. The 41 graduates from Cohorts 8 and 9 have all been verified with the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN). Only 10 students from all cohorts have not yet taken the NCLEX-RN exam per the available date. Maintenance of records of graduates of the school will be provided by the University Registrar. The University of Massachusetts Global Registrar responsible for transcripts is Marilyn Payan, T 949.341.7677, mpayan1@umassglobal.edu."
ADN (alpha A-Z)			

PROGRESS REPORTS
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SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	DATE APPROVED	PROGRESS REPORT
Santa Ana College	K. Knight	01/26/2025	The Extended Campus Program (ECP) partnership with St. Joseph Hospital was dissolved at their request effective July 1, 2024. This decision was made due to the recent merger with Providence and their strategic goals moving in a different direction. The ECP will continue to hold clinical rotations at St. Joseph Hospital. The program formerly known as the ECP will now be referred to as the Traditional 2 (T2) Program. The program structure has been maintained with classes will be held on Santa Ana College campus instead of at St. Joseph Hospital and will continue to occur on the same days of the week and times.
Carrington College	K. Daugherty	03/14/2025	The Board deferred taking action on the continuing approval of the associate degree advanced placement LVN to RN in May 2022 due to two areas of non-compliance. The program came into compliance with the NCLEX pass rate requirement in 21/22 and remained in non-compliance with CCR 1424 total program evaluation area. While working to clear the remaining non-compliance the 22/23 NCLEX pass rate dropped below 75% to 72.86%. Program continued to submit regular progress reports and implement the detailed NCLEX improvement action plan. The total program evaluation processes are routinely completed. Annual NCLEX pass rate for 2023/24 is 93.98%. Program is now in compliance with BRN regulations.
San Joaquin Valley College	MJ Rosenblatt	02/01/2025	San Joaquin Valley College, located in Visalia, Ontario and Rancho Mirage, California, is making a name change to Carrington College beginning with the Spring 2025 cohort. Carrington College currently has a campus in Rancho Cordova and is a sister program to San Joaquin Valley College. Both San Joaquin Valley College and Carrington College are part of a parent organization, Ember Education, where all health careers programs will be renamed to Carrington College. The three campuses of San Joaquin Valley College will continue as one program with the same approved enrollment, program director, reporting structure, policies and curriculum. Currently enrolled students will continue under the SJVC brand.

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SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	DATE APPROVED	PROGRESS REPORT
APRN (alpha A-Z)			
Sonoma State University	K. Daugherty	03/04/2025	Per the SSU nursing program leadership the following statement was provided to board staff related to recent changes in SSU collegewide financial condition changes. "Due to decreased enrollments at the university in recent years, SSU has been working to address a significant budget deficit. The recent faculty and program cuts made were specifically mandated by the Chancellor's office to address this deficit and bring the university budget to balance for AY 25-26. No cuts have been made in Nursing, and in fact, Nursing is receiving additional support from the University as they are in receipt of a 2.5 million grant specifically designated for Health Science (to be shared across several programs) and are prepared to continue supporting all current programs and proposed additional Health Professional Studies program. We fully anticipate continued support to be able to offer all our current programs and, additionally, to expand enrollment. We have been in direct communication with the Board and will continue to notify the Board of Registered Nursing of all anticipated changes in a timely manner."
University of California Davis	K. Daugherty	03/13/2025	The UC Davis DNP-FNP program has updated the BRN NP curriculum general information survey form and the total curriculum plan forms to reflect accuracy and alignment of curriculum forms, program website, college catalog and course syllabi as part of a BRN/CCNE joint initial accreditation site visit of this degree option in October 2024. The former UC Davis MSN-FNP had CCNE accreditation until 2026 and completed that degree teach out in September 2023. The new DNP-FNP completed an initial accreditation review in Fall 2024. The program met all the CCNE standards with no recommendations and expects official written notification of initial CCNE accreditation for five years by the end of the Spring 2025 quarter.
University of California Irvine	D. Schutte	01/28/2025	UCI DNP/FNP Program has submitted a curriculum revision with an implementation date of September 1, 2026 to be consistent with the

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SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	DATE APPROVED	PROGRESS REPORT
			<p>updated American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials for Doctoral Education and shift to AACN Level 2 Essentials for Advanced-Level Nursing Education (2021), the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) Nurse Practitioner (NP) Role Competencies (2022), the National Task Force (NTF) Standards for Quality Nurse Practitioner Education (2022) which increases the supervised direct patient care clinical hours in the program from 500 to 750 hours, and the new Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Education Standards (2024). Course sequencing has been revised to frontload several courses in the DNP/FNP track to allow students to begin clinical rotations sooner and complete required hours more consistently across nine quarters. DNP and FNP courses have been integrated across quarters to balance the workload throughout the program and provide an additional quarter to complete the DNP Scholarly Project. DNP practicum hours have been removed from the clinical practicum courses and placed in the respective DNP scholarly project courses. In addition, new subject codes and course numbers were created to expand the graduate course numbers and differentiate FNP specialty courses from the DNP core courses. Some courses were also renamed to reflect major course changes. Graduate Core units move from 41 to 25 units, APRN Core Units remain the same at 12 units and NP role and Population Focused units move from 45 to 57 units. Supervised direct patient care clinical increase from 24 units (720 hours) to 25 units (750 hours). NNP Form - 07 Total Curriculum Plan, Advanced Practice Nursing Program has been updated.</p>
University of Massachusetts Global	MA. McCarthy	02/03/2025	<p>"The Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Program has taught out and Dr. Schine oversees as the program director. The director of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Program is Dr. Haidy Willis. Dr. Willis is also the validator for the Graduate NP applications."</p>

CLINICAL AGENCY OR FACILITY APPROVALS
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SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	DATE APPROVED	CLINICAL SETTING Name of Facility, Type of Facility → details if not obvious (Acute/Non-Acute), Average Daily Census (ADC), Content Areas (MS/O/C/PMH/G)
ELM (alpha a-z)			
BSN (alpha a-z)			
Angeles College	M. Johnson	01/14/2025	All Saints Healthcare, Acute, Long-Term Care, ADC 35, C
California State University, East Bay	L. Kennelly	01/31/2025	Stanford – Tri-Valley, Acute, ADC – 29, MS/G
California State University, East Bay	L. Kennelly	03/06/2025	Kaiser Antioch Medical Center, Acute, ADC – 44, MS/O/G
California State University, Fullerton	G. Clerk	02/02/2025	Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles, Acute, ADC 84, C
Chamberlain University Irwindale	D. Schutte	01/16/2025	San Dimas Community Hospital, Acute, ADC 25, MS, G
Concordia University	M. Johnson	02/03/2025	Northridge Hospital Medical Center, Acute, ADC 30-32, MS/G
Concordia University	M. Johnson	02/05/2025	Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center, Acute, ADC 3-90, MS/O/G St. Bernadine Medical Center, Acute, ADC 4-200, MS/O/G
Dominican University	M. Johnson	03/06/2025	US Renal Care, Clinic, ADC 26, MS
Fresno Pacific University	L. Kennelly	02/10/2025	St. Agnes Medical Center, Acute, ADC – 100, MS/O/G UCSF Mobile Heal, Clinic, ADC – 20, MS/G
Gurnick Medical Arts Concord	k. Daugherty	01/22/2025	Alameda Health Care System-Highland Hospital, Acute, ADC-132, MS G, O, C
San Diego State University	G. Clerk	12/09/2024	Bayshore El Centro Post Acute, Non -Acute Long Term Acute, ADC 45, PMH/G Scripps Encinitas, Acute, ADC 158, MS, G, Scripps mercy La Jolla, ADC 160, Acute, MS, G, O, Scripps Chula Vista, Acute, ADC 35, MS, G, Scripps Green, Acute, ADC 32, MS, G, Scripps San Diego, Acute, ADC 40, MS, G, O, PMH, Jackson house, Non -Acute, Telehealth ADC 30, PMH

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Unitek College	MA. McCarthy	02/15/2025 03/28/2025	Crestwood Behavioral Health – Fremont, Clinic, ADC-20, MS-PMH-G Brentwood Union School District, Clinic, ADC 25, C Cottonwood Healthcare Center, Long-Term Care, ADC 100, MS-G Crestwood Behavioral Health – Fremont, Clinics, ADC 20, MS-G-PMH Crestwood Behavioral Health – San Jose, Clinics, ADC 20, MS-G-PMH Gold Country Health Center, Long-Term Care, ADC 80, MS-G Golden Heights Healthcare, Long-Term Care, ADC 90, MS-G Palo Alto Sub-Acute and Rehabilitation Center, Long-Term Care, ADC 96, MS-G Valley of the Moon Post Acute, Long-Term Care, ADC 75, MS-G Villa Fairmont Mental Health Rehab Center, Acute, ADC 97, PMH Vista Post Acute, Long-Term Care, ADC 35, MS-G Wolf Creek Care Center, Long-Term Care, ADC 50, MS-G Woodland Post-Acute, Long-Term Care, ADC 96, MS-G
University of California Irvine	D. Schutte	12/30/2024	Irvine Unified School District, Non-Healthcare, ADC-39,2015, C UCI Early Childhood Education Center, Non-Healthcare, ADC-82, C
University of California Irvine	D. Schutte	01/29/2025	Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Acute, ADC-147, C.
University of San Francisco	L. Kennelly	12/12/2024	Saratoga Pediatric Subacute Hospital (SASH), Non-Acute/Long-Term Care, ADC – 25, C
University of San Francisco	L. Kennelly	01/29/2025	California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) Van Ness, Acute, ADC – 50, MS/O/G
University of San Francisco	L. Kennelly	01/31/2025	San Leandro Hospital (Alameda Health System), Clinic, ADC – 23, MS/G
University of San Francisco	L. Kennelly	02/03/2025	Kaiser Permanente South Sacramento Medical Center, Acute, ADC – 34, MS/O
University of San Francisco	L. Kennelly	02/21/2025	Kaiser Permanente Oakland, Acute, ADC – 24, MS/C/G Mills Peninsula Medical Center, Clinic, ADC – 22, MS/O/PMH/G The Redwoods, Clinic, ADC – 40, MS/G
University of San Francisco	L. Kennelly	03/08/2025	Shriner's Children, Clinic, ADC – 15, C

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West Coast University	MA. McCarthy	12/15/2024 03/29/2025	Woodland Care Center, Long Term Care, ADC 107, MS-G West Valley Subacute and Nursing, Long Term Care, ADC 99, MS-G The Bellefontaine Healthcare Center, Long Term Care, ADC 115, MS-G Alexandria Care Center, Non-Acute, Long-Term Care, ADC 177, MS-G Montecito Heights Healthcare & Wellness Center, Non-Acute, Long-Term Care, ADC 75, MS-G Community Memorial Hospital, Acute, ADC 20, MS-G
Westmont College	M. Bauz	12/09/2024	Ventura County Health Care Agency, Acute, Non-Acute, Clinic, ADC 4-125, MS/G/O/C/P/MH
ADN (alpha a-z)			
Cabrillo College	D. Schutte	01/29/2025	Santa Cruz County Jail, Acute, Non-Acute, Clinic,, ADC-260, MS/PMH
California Career College	M. Johnson	12/16/2024	Kaiser Permanente Hospital Panorama City, Acute, Ambulatory Care, ADC 15-20, O/C Valley Presbyterian Hospital, Acute, Ambulatory Care, ADC 5-23, MS Kaiser Permanente Hospital Woodland Hills, Acute, Ambulatory Care, ADC 11-18, MS/O/C West Hills Health and Rehab, Non-Acute, Long-Term Care, ADC 50-70, MS/G
College of the Canyons	MA. McCarthy	03/28/2025	Providence Facey Clinic Copperhill, Ambulatory Care, ADC 30, C Providence Facey Clinic Valencia, Ambulatory Care, ADC 100, C Valencia Specialty & Women's Center, Ambulatory Care, ADC 150, OB
College of the Desert	MA. McCarthy	02/11/2025	Coachella Valley Unified School District, Ambulatory Care, ADC- 7 C
College of San Mateo	L. Kennelly	12/18/2024	Kaiser Permanente – Redwood City, Acute, ADC – 20, O
College of San Mateo	L. Kennelly	12/27/2024	Burlingame Parks and Recreation, Ambulatory/Non-Healthcare, ADC-15, G City of Daly City- Bayshore Community Center, Ambulatory/Non-Healthcare, ADC-30, G City of Daly City Dept of Recreation Services, Ambulatory/Non-Healthcare, ADC-125, C

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			Peninsula Health Care District Health and Fitness Center, Ambulatory Care/Non-Healthcare, ADC – 15, G Skyline Child Development Laboratory Center, Non-Healthcare, ADC-16, C
College of San Mateo	L. Kennelly	01/22/2025	Redwood City School District, Non-Healthcare, ADC – 292, C
College of San Mateo	L. Kennelly	01/29/2025	Sequoia Hospital, Acute, ADC – Unk, MS/O
College of San Mateo	L. Kennelly	02/10/2025	Kaiser Permanente San Francisco, Acute, ADC – 14, O
College of the Redwoods	L. Kennelly	01/15/2025	Fortuna Family Medical Group, Clinic, ADC – 25, G
College of the Redwoods	L. Kennelly	02/14/2025	Humboldt IPAP/Priority Care Center, Clinic, ADC – 12, C/G
College of the Redwoods	L. Kennelly	02/27/2025	United Indian Health Services – Potowat, Clinic, ADC – 44, MS/O/C/G
College of the Sequoias	L. Kennelly	01/15/2025	Adventist Medical Center Selma, Acute/Clinic, ADC – 75, MS/G Kaweah Health Medical Center, Acute/Clinic/Telehealth/Ambulatory Care, ADC – 37, MS/O/C/PMH/G
College of the Sequoias	L. Kennelly	01/17/2025	Adventist Health Hanford, Acute, ADC – 140, MS/O/G Adventist Health Reedley, Acute, ADC – 6, O Adventist Health Tulare, Acute, ADC – 15, MS/G Kaweah Health Medical Center, Acute/Clinic/Telehealth/Ambulatory Care, ADC – 37, MS/O/C/PMH/G Salt + Light, Non-Acute/Non-Healthcare, ADC – 50, PMH/G Sequoia Surgery Center, Ambulatory Care, ADC – 10, MS/G
Long Beach City College	H. Hunter	01/03/2025	Kindred Santa Ana, Acute/Non-Acute, ADC 44, MS
Los Angeles Southwest College	M. Johnson	12/31/2024	St. Francis Medical Center, Acute, ADC 25-40, MS, O, PMH, G
Los Angeles Pierce College	K. Knight	12/16/2024	Providence St. Joseph Medical Center, Acute, ADC - 158 MS, G, O
Los Angeles Pierce College	K. Knight	12/10/2024	Providence Holy Cross, Acute, LTC, ADC – MS, G
Los Angeles Pierce College	K. Knight	12/19/2024	Olive View Medical Center, Acute, ADC – 158, MS, PMH
Los Angeles Pierce College	K. Knight	12/08/2024	Valley Presbyterian Hospital, Acute, ADC – 24, C
Los Angeles Pierce College	K. Knight	12/31/2024	Providence Cedars Sinai Tarzana Medical Center, Acute, ADC-223, MS, G, O. PMH, C

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Los Angeles Pierce College	K. Knight	12/08/2024	Northridge Hospital, Acute, ADC – 326, MS, PMH
MiraCosta College	K. Knight	10/03/2024	Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation, Ambulatory Care, ADC 400, MS, C
MiraCosta College	K. Knight	01/28/2025	Align Treatment Center, Non- Acute, ADC – 6, PMH
MiraCosta College	K. Knight	12/11/2024	Silverado Senior Living (Escondido), LTC, ADC 64, PMH, G
Misson College	K. Knight	12/23/2024	El Camino Los Gatos, Acute, ADC - 58, O
Modesto Junior College	G. Clerk	01/31/2025	Valley children's hospital Group Madera, Acute, Ambulatory, ADC 164, C,
Monterey Peninsula College	G. Clerk	01/31/2025	Ohana Center for Child and Adolescent Behavior Health, Montage Health, Ambulatory, ADC 10, C, PMH.
Moorpark College	M. Johnson	03/05/2025	Turning Point Foundation of Ventura County, Non-Acute, ADC 12-50, MS, PMH, G
Pacific College	D. Schutte	01/22/2025	Centinela Hospital Medical Center, Acute, ADC-56, MS, G Chino Valley Medical Center, Acute, ADC- 60, MS, G Garden Park Care Center, Long Term Care, ADC-102, MS, G Huntington Beach Hospital, Acute, ADC-70, MS, PMH, G Irvine Unified School District, Non-Acute, ADC-4,400. C Mariners Christian School, Non-Healthcare, ADC-750, C Montclair Hospital Medical Center, Acute, ADC-19, MS, G San Dimas Community Hospital, Acute, ADC-65, MS, G
Palo Verde College	M. Johnson	01/03/2025	Betty Ford Foundation, Long-Term Care, 8-35, PMH
Palo Verde College	M. Johnson	01/13/2025	Desert Mountain Care Center, Non-Acute, ADC 25-85, MS, G Palo Verde Unified School District, Non-Healthcare, ADC 153-650, C
Porterville College	L. Kennelly	01/16/2025	River Walk Care Center, Long-Term Care, ADC – 81, MS/G
Sacramento City college	G. Clerk	01/31/2025	Sacramento City College-Basic Needs Center-Panther's Care, Non - Healthcare (on-campus mental health center, one shift 5hr shift per students) ADC 60, PMH.
Samuel Merritt University	K. Knight	01/09/2025	Mercy Hospital of Folsom – Dignity Health, Acute, ADC – (not given per

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			legal dept.), MS
San Joaquin Delta College	G. Clerk	01/31/2025	Dignity Health-St. Joseph's Medical Center Acute, Clinic, telehealth, Ambulatory, ADC 38, MS, G, PMH.
Sierra College	L. Kennelly	02/10/2025	SETA Head Start, Non-Healthcare, ADC – 20, C
Smith Chason	G. Clerk	12/09/2024	El Rancho Vista healthcare, Non -Acute Long-Term Care, ADC 90, MS /G Kennedy Care Center, Non-Acute Long-Term Care, ADC 90, MS/G
Ventura College	G. Clerk	01/31/2025	Westminster Free Clinic, Ambulatory, Clinic, Telehealth, ADC100, MS, G, PMH
Yuba College	K. Daugherty	12/23/2024	Sutter Roseville Hospital, Acute, ADC-201, MS, G

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 4.2
DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding whether to recommend continuing approval of approved Prelicensure nursing programs and Advanced practice nurse practitioner nursing programs

REQUESTED BY: Mary Ann McCarthy, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

The [California Business and Professions Code \(BPC\) section 2785](#) requires the Board to prepare and maintain a list of Board-approved nursing schools in California whose graduates, if they have the other necessary qualifications, shall be eligible to apply for a license to practice nursing in this state. Additionally, BPC sections [2786.2](#) and [2788](#) and the [California Code of Regulations section 1483.1](#), require the Board to inspect all Board-approved nursing schools and written reports of the visits to be made to the Board, which shall subsequently approve those nursing schools that meet the requirements provided by the Board.

The Nursing Education Consultants (NEC) conduct comprehensive program and interim approval visits and provide ongoing consultation to proposed and currently approved pre-licensure and advanced practice nursing education programs ensuring approved programs prepare safe competent registered nurses and advanced practice nurses.

The NECs have received and reviewed all documentation from program listed in Agenda Item 4.2. Information on these requests is on the lists provided in your materials packet. These programs have met all Board rules and regulations related to the requests and are consent agenda items.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board Agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Mary Ann McCarthy, EdD, MSN, RN, PHN
Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

Prelicensure Continuing Approval Visit Consent Agenda Items
Education/Licensing Committee
April 17, 2025

SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	VISIT DATES	FULL COMPLIANCE REPORT
ELM (alpha a-z)			
BSN (alpha a-z)			
Sonoma State University	K. Daugherty	03/013/205	BSN Nursing Degree Program Enrollment Pattern 24 students one time per year Current Enrollment-48 students Accredited By- CCNE Last Accreditation Site Visit-Fall 2024 Was this visit a joint visit with the BRN -Yes NCLEX Pass Rates 2019-20=94.44% 2020-21=100% 2021-22=90.48% 2022-23=100% 2023-24=100% Attrition Per Annual School Survey for Past 5 Years 2018-19=19% 2019-20=0% 2020-21=0% 2021-22=0% 2022-23=0% Consortiums-No Matriculation and/Concurrent Enrollment-No Total Cost of the Program-\$34 525 Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations
University of San Francisco	L. Kennelly	10/09/2024	Enrollment Pattern – BSN San Francisco: Fall (125 first-time first years and 30 transfers) and Spring (80 transfers) BSN Sacramento: Fall (20) and Spring (20) ELM San Francisco: Fall (36) and Spring (36) ELM Orange County: Fall (26) and Spring (26) Current Enrollment - 1,095 students Accredited By – CCNE

			<p>Last Accreditation Visit – Fall 2024</p> <p>Was this visit a joint visit with the BRN - Yes</p> <p>NCLEX-RN Pass Rates for Past 5 Years</p> <p>BSN-</p> <p>2020-21 = 87.65%</p> <p>2021-22 = 85.32%</p> <p>2022-23 = 86.54%</p> <p>2023-24 = 94.00%</p> <p>2024-25 = 89.26%</p> <p>ELM-</p> <p>2020-21 = 95.19%</p> <p>2021-22 = 88.00%</p> <p>2022-23 = 86.26%</p> <p>2023-24 = 95.05%</p> <p>2024-25 = 90.00%</p> <p>Attrition Per Annual School Survey for Past 5 Years:</p> <p>BSN-</p> <p>2018-19 = 11.1%</p> <p>2019-20 = 10%</p> <p>2020-21 = 11%</p> <p>2021-22 = 3.7%</p> <p>2022-23 = 4.9%</p> <p>ELM-</p> <p>2018-19 = 3.4%</p> <p>2019-20 = 5.0%</p> <p>2020-21 = 2.5%</p> <p>2021-22 = 0.8%</p> <p>2022-23 = 0%</p> <p>Consortium – Yes - Sacramento: SCANE Consortium, Orange County: OC and Long Beach Consortium, San Francisco Bay Area: Greater Bay Area Academic Practice Partnership</p> <p>Matriculation and/or Concurrent Enrollment With – N/A</p> <p>Total Cost of Program – BSN - \$250,092, ELM - \$115,740</p> <p>Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
ADN (alpha a-z)			
Carrington College	K. Daugherty	11/15-16/2021	Continuing Approval Visit (CAV) conducted November 2021 and presented to the Board in May 2022 with two (2) areas on non-

			<p>compliance (NCLEX pass rate and total program evaluation). The Board deferred taking action on the continuing approval and requested progress reports to the NEC and to return to ELC/Board in one year and when non-compliances cleared. In 2023 when they returned to the Board the low NCLEX pass-rates non-compliance had been resolved in 2022. While working to clear the remaining non-compliance the 22/23 NCLEX pass rate dropped below 75% to 72.86%. Program continued to submit regular progress reports and implement the detailed NCLEX improvement action plan. The total program evaluation processes are routinely completed and the remaining non-compliance regarding the total program evaluation has now resolved.</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern – 24 students 3 x per year, 72 students annually Current Enrollment - 72</p> <p>Accredited By – Not Accredited Last Accreditation Visit – Not Accredited Was this visit a joint visit with the BRN - No NCLEX-RN Pass Rates for Past 5 Years 2019-20 = 71.70% 2020-21 = 73.02% 2021-22 = 87.78% 2022-23 = 72.86% 2023-24 = 93.98%</p> <p>Attrition Per Annual School Survey for Past 5 Years: 2018-2019 = 2.4% 2019-2020 = 0% 2020-2021 = 0% 2021-2022 = 0% 2022-2023 = 0%</p> <p>Consortium – Sacramento Academic Clinical Alliance for Nursing Education (SACANE) and the Sacramento Area Psych/Mental Health Regional Planning Group Matriculation and/or Concurrent Enrollment With - No Total Cost of Program (LVN to ADN advance placement 2 semester program)– \$47,350 Program is now in Compliance with all BRN Regulations</p>
Rio Hondo College	D. Shipp	03/04/2025	<p>Enrollment Pattern – 40 students twice a year, 80 students annually Current Enrollment - 162 Accredited By – Not currently accredited, initial ACEN visit occurred</p>

			jointly with CAV Last Accreditation Visit – Initial visit March 2025 Was this visit a joint visit with the BRN - Yes NCLEX-RN Pass Rates for Past 5 Years 2019-20 = 98.7% 2020-21 = 96.1% 2021-22 = 98.1% 2022-23 = 94.1% 2023-24 = 100% Attrition Per Annual School Survey for Past 5 Years: 2018-2019 = 4.6% 2019-2020 = 3.5% 2020-2021 = 16.2% 2021-2022 = 19.5% 2022-2023 = 20.3% Consortium – Yes, CCPS Matriculation and/or Concurrent Enrollment With - No Total Cost of Program – \$3279. Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations
Santa Barbara City College	L. Kennelly	02/25/2025	Enrollment Pattern – 32 generic students twice a year in fall and spring, and 10 LVN Bridge students every fall. 74 students per year Current Enrollment - 137 students Accredited By – Joint visit with ACEN for initial accreditation. Last Accreditation Visit – N/A Was this visit a joint visit with the BRN - Yes NCLEX-RN Pass Rates for Past 5 Years 2019-20 = 94.6% 2020-21 = 96.20% 2021-22 = 91.14% 2022-23 = 93.85% 2023-24 = 98.04% Attrition Per Annual School Survey for Past 5 Years: 2017-2018 = 3.8% 2018-2019 = 11.9% 2019-2020 = 9.1% 2020-2021 = 4.1% 2021-2022 = 0%

			Consortium – No Matriculation and/or Concurrent Enrollment With - No Total Cost of Program – \$8,500 Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations

Nurse Practitioner Continuing Approval Visit Consent Agenda Items
Education/Licensing Committee
April 17, 2025

SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	VISIT DATES	FULL COMPLIANCE REPORT
APRN (alpha a-z)			
Sonoma State University	K. Daugherty	11/18/2024	<p>Date of Joint Visit-Fall 2024 with CCNE</p> <p>NP Programs Offered-MSN-FNP and Post Master's FNP Certificate</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern-Fall semester 1X annually, up to 65 new students</p> <p>Current Enrollment-91; 90 MSN-FNP; 1 PMC FNP.</p> <p>Accredited BY-CCNE</p> <p>Last Accreditation Visit-fall 2019 initial CCNE. Held ACEN before switching to CCNE in 2019</p> <p>Total Cost of the Program-\$22,796</p> <p>Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>
University of California Davis	K. Daugherty	10/21/2024	<p>Date of Joint Visit-Fall 2024</p> <p>NP tracks Offered-DNP-FNP & Post Graduate PMHNP Certificate tracks.</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern-DNP-FNP up to 35 students and Post Graduate PMHNP Certificate track-up to 40 students. Both admit once a year in the July summer quarter.</p> <p>Current Enrollment-DNP-FNP 63 students; Post Graduate PMHNP Certificate-32 students</p> <p>Accredited BY-CCNE</p> <p>Last Accreditation Visit- None for these two tracks. Last CCNE NP site visit done in fall 2016 only applied to the re-accreditation of formerly offered MS-FNP track. The MS-FNP track was taught out in September 2023 and had been replaced by the DNP -FNP track in 2022 with the necessary approvals by CCNE and BRN. The Post Graduate PMHNP Certificate UC multi-campus track enrolled its first cohort through UC Davis instead of UCSF in July 2024. Total Cost of Programs-DNP-FNP-\$124,338; Post Graduate PMHNP Certificate track-\$22,159</p> <p>Both tracks in Compliance with BRN Regulations.</p>
University of San Francisco	L. Kennelly	10/09/2024	<p>Date of joint visit – 10/09/2024</p> <p>NP Programs Offered – FNP and PMHNP tracks</p> <p>Enrollment Pattern – FNP and PMHNP tracks both admit 15 students</p>

Nurse Practitioner Continuing Approval Visit Consent Agenda Items
Education/Licensing Committee
April 17, 2025

SCHOOL NAME	APPROVED BY NEC	VISIT DATES	FULL COMPLIANCE REPORT
			<p>once a year in the fall.</p> <p>Current Enrollment – FNP: 31 students, PMHNP: 18 students</p> <p>Accredited By – CCNE</p> <p>Last Accreditation Visit – 09/17/2014</p> <p>Total Cost Of Program – \$138,805</p> <p>Program is in Compliance with BRN Regulations</p>

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.1
DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding prelicensure nursing programs in non-compliance

REQUESTED BY: Mary Ann McCarthy, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

The Board shall prepare and maintain a list of Board-approved nursing schools in California whose graduates, if they have the other necessary qualifications, shall be eligible to apply for a license to practice nursing in this state. The Executive Officer delegates the Board inspection of all California nursing schools and written reports of the visits to the assigned Nursing Education Consultant (NEC). At conclusion of the comprehensive program review, these reports are presented by the NEC to the Board, which shall subsequently approve those nursing schools that meet the requirements provided by the Board.

Upon receiving the report, if the Board determines that any Board-approved nursing school is not maintaining the standard required by the Board, a written notice specifying the non-compliance(s) shall be immediately given to the nursing school. If the non-compliance(s) are not corrected within a reasonable time, the Board may remove the approval for the nursing school and provide written notice of this Board action.

[California Code of Regulations section 1423.2](#) specifies:

(a) After review of evidence of non-compliance with Article 3 and lack of demonstrated corrective actions to remove noncompliance, the Board may take action to:

- (1) Deny approval of a nursing program; or
- (2) Revoke approval from a nursing program; or
- (3) Place a nursing program on a warning status with intent to revoke approval; or
- (4) Revoke approval when a program has been on a warning status for one year and the program fails to show substantive corrective changes.

(b) The Board shall provide specific requirements for correction of noncompliance findings and a return date for review of the program's approval status.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board Agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Mary Ann McCarthy, EdD, MSN, RN, PHN
Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 5.1.1

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding prelicensure nursing programs in non-compliance.
Merritt College Associate Degree Nursing Program (two years with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)

REQUESTED BY: Heather Hunter RN, MSN, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: In August 2023 the Board deferred taking action on the Continuing Approval of Merritt College Associate Degree Nursing Program located in Oakland within Alameda County due to 1 area of non-compliance and 7 related non-compliances from their February 2023 Continuing Approval Visit (CAV). The program came back in front of the Board in August of 2024 with continued non-compliances and per the request of the Board, the program is presented today for their second year in non-compliance. Since the original CAV the program has come into compliance with two areas of non-compliance.

The program has an annual enrollment approval for 40 students in the fall, but due to the lack of faculty, resources, and multiple challenges the program voluntarily held their enrollment in the Fall of 2023 and enrolled only 25 students in Fall of 2024. Current enrollment is 21.

Report on remaining progress to clear non-compliance in the following areas:

- 1424(d) The program shall have sufficient resources including faculty.
Related non-compliances:
 - 1424(b)(1) The nursing program shall have a written plan for evaluation of the total program,
 - 1424(g) Faculty members shall have the primary responsibility for developing policies and procedures, planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating all aspects of the program.
 - 1424(h) The faculty shall be adequate in type and number.
 - 1425.1(a) Each faculty member shall assume responsibility and accountability for instruction, evaluation of students, and planning and implementing curriculum content.
 - 1426(a) The curriculum of a nursing program shall be that set forth in this section and shall be approved by the board. Any revised curriculum shall be approved by the board prior to its implementation.

Currently the program is still in non-compliance with the regulations that were reported to the Board in August 2024 . The program's NEC has met and worked with the program director (PD), assistant director (AD), and administration multiple times throughout the year to assist the program in resolving the remaining non-compliances. The program did submit a total program evaluation draft to the NEC on 12/16/24 and the NEC met with the PD and AD on 12/18/24 to work with them on the edits needed to their total program evaluation draft so it could comply with regulation 1424(b)(1). The PD reported at this meeting, that they were contracting with a curriculum consultant who could assist them with the needed edits to the total program evaluation while also assisting them with their curriculum review and updates. The program reports they are currently waiting for a final approval from their college's legal team for curriculum consultant, Nurse Tim, to assist them with their curriculum review/revisions and total program evaluation. The program submitted a commitment letter from the President of the college to hire two full-time pediatric and psychiatric qualified instructors with a hopeful start date of

Fall 2025. The PD stated that, as of 2/26/2025, the positions have not been posted and the program is unable to recruit for these positions until they have posted.

The AD, who is also their psychiatric content expert, verbalized he is retiring at the end of this semester. The current PD also reported that she will be retiring within the next year and that the current dean for the program's department is leaving the college June of 2025. The PD reported that the two full-time positions that have been approved by the administration does not include the AD position.

Cost of the program = \$8500

NCLEX Pass Rates

2019-2020 = 100%
2020-2021 = 95.65%
2021-2022 = 77.78%
2022-2023 = 88.24%
2023-2024 = 89.47%

Attrition rates

2018-2019 = 27.3%
2019-2020 = 27.3%
2020-2021 = 39.4%
2021-2022 = 12.8%
2022-2023 = 20%

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Heather Hunter RN, MSN
Nursing Education Consultant

One Year Review of Report of Findings
Deferred CAV Status
Executive Summary
Revised March 2025
Prepared by Dawn Williams, Program Director

Merritt College Response to Continuing Approval Visit Report of Findings/Non-Compliances
This Executive Summary serves as an overall update to the non-compliances identified by
BRN Nursing Education Consultants in 2023.

Merritt College has a history of delivering excellent associate degree nursing instruction for over 20 years. We accept one new cohort of 40 students each fall to complete the two-year program following a college calendar. Our graduates have supported the bay area and have provided nurses that have stayed in the community to provide excellent compassionate and safe care.

Outstanding Non-Compliances
Updated as of February 2025

The most recent changes are listed below.

Ongoing:

Faculty Improvement – A total of 3 new full-time faculty positions (one already filled) have been provided for our program. We anticipate additional positions as faculty retires. With this new faculty member, we were able to support a small cohort to begin the program in Fall 2024. We did not accept a cohort in Fall 2023. We anticipate a gradual increase in cohort size as we replace faculty.

Total Evaluation Plan – The Program Evaluation Plan was submitted to our NEC in 2024. Upon review, we were encouraged to re-submit the document with the assistance of the curriculum consultant.

Curriculum Revision – The college has committed to support a curriculum consultant to direct and support the work of the faculty to update, recraft and ensure relevance of curriculum and the total program evaluation plan. Supportive documents were sent to the NEC.

A curriculum consultant (NurseTim) will guide faculty in updating the curriculum and total program evaluation plan, with implementation set for Spring 2025.

Grant Support and Program Expansion – Our Dean is leading a \$2 million "Rebuilding Nursing Infrastructure" grant application to expand nursing education in the Bay Area and increase enrollment. Key deliverables include hiring a Simulation Laboratory Coordinator and Clinical Coordinator, funding professional development, curriculum assessment, and mentorship opportunities for new faculty.

Historical Context

During the spring 2012 semester the department lost two full-time faculty. These positions were not replaced. During the fall 2018, we lost another full-time faculty member. In 2020 we had another full-time faculty member retire and in 2022 we had yet another retirement. None of these positions were replaced as full-time but were filled with adjunct part-time and temporary replacements. We struggled but were able to continue to deliver the program through the years of COVID restrictions and with decreased numbers until Fall 2023. At that time, we did not have the faculty to support a class in Fall 2023 and voluntarily placed the program on a pause. The department is now rebuilding with five full-time faculty, focused on hiring, curriculum development, and program support.

Response to Non-Compliances.

1424 (d) - Sufficient Resources

- Faculty and staff shortages impacted program objectives. The Program Specialist position has now been filled, providing administrative support.

1424 (f) - Assistant Director Responsibilities

- The Assistant Director's role has been updated to include 50% administrative duties, enhancing program leadership and continuity.

1424 (g) & (h) - Faculty Responsibilities and Adequacy

- Limited faculty affected curriculum development and program oversight. With no Fall 2023 cohort, faculty focused on curriculum updates for Fall 2025.
- A Medical-Surgical instructor was hired in 2024; Pediatrics instruction currently relies on part-time faculty, with a full-time hire planned for Fall 2025.

1424 (b)(1) - Total Program Evaluation

- A new evaluation plan will address attrition rates and include remediation strategies to support student success. Increased faculty hiring will enhance student support.

1425.1 & 1426 - Faculty Responsibilities & Curriculum Updates

- Faculty participation in curriculum development has been strengthened. An additional course was created to address a two-unit deficit and has been approved for Fall 2024 implementation.
- Faculty, are revising the curriculum, integrating simulation training, electronic health records, and refining course content. A fully updated curriculum will launch in Fall 2025.

Immediate Goals

- Hire additional faculty to support program implementation.
- Deliver a completed, approved curriculum and Total Program Evaluation for Fall 2025.
- Continue graduating competent, safe, and skilled nurses.

Merritt College remains committed to strengthening its nursing program and ensuring compliance with BRN standards while addressing the growing demand for nurses in the Bay Area.

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.1.2

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding prelicensure nursing programs in non-compliance.

Copper Mountain College Associate Degree Nursing Program (one year with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)

REQUESTED BY: Donna Shipp, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Copper Mountain College (CMC) associate degree pre-licensure program had a routinely planned Continuing Approval Visit (CAV) on December 5-6, 2023. During the December 2023 visit, CMC was found to be in non-compliance with two (2) BRN Pre-licensure Regulations: CCR 1424 Administration and Organization of the Nursing Program and CCR 1425 Faculty Qualifications. Within these two (2) regulations, the program was found non-compliant in five (5) related subsections. The May 2024 Board decision was to defer decision to allow the program to work with NEC to come into compliance. Quarterly report to NEC and return to ELC/Board in one year if noncompliance not resolved.

CMC has had five (5) Program Directors (PD) and a couple Assistant Directors (AD) over last five (5) years and the program has had one academic year of substandard NCLEX scores (2021-2022) in which a comprehensive assessment was conducted and various opportunities for improvement were noted and implemented and the NCLEX pass rate is now above the board's minimum requirement of 75% and showing improvement over the last two academic years.

Current enrollment pattern: 24 generic students every fall and 8 advanced placement students every spring; 32 students per year and current enrollment is 48 students. The program is not accredited.

Last five years of NCLEX pass rates

2019-2020 = 87.10%

2020-2021 = 100%

2021-2022 = 74.07%

2022-2023 = 78.26%

2023-2024 = 85.19%

Current attrition rate from the Annual Survey Report

2019-2020 = 3.6%

2020-2021 = 0%

2021-2022 = 2.3%

2022-2023 = 3.2%

2023-2024 = 9.7%

Total cost of program \$6,647.00

The program is continuing to work on the remaining non-compliances and once the final report is received it will be reviewed for evidence of full compliance with BRN pre-licensure regulations.

Non-compliances pending review to clear:

CCR 1424(d): The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology to achieve the programs' objectives. Findings at the time of the visit showed that the AD position was vacant, they had five (5) open faculty positions and no content expert in PMH and staff and PD with an overload assignment.

Progress: Over the last year, three (3) of four (4) PT faculty positions have been filled, a FT faculty position is posted and actively recruiting. The AD position has been filled and the PMH Content expert has been addressed. The NEC is awaiting a current report of faculty to evaluate the resources and ensure there is a plan to maintain compliance moving forward from

program director to clear this non-compliance.

CCR 1424(e): The director and assistant director shall dedicate sufficient time for the administration of the program. Findings at the time of the visit showed that several administrative processes were inadequate to meet the needs of program with items needing revisions, inconsistent processes, lack of faculty orientation and mentorship leading to a high turnover rate.

Progress: As of March 2024, CMC Board of trustees had approved a restructuring of the Nursing Department leadership, PD position is now a management position with authority to administer the pre-licensure program in accordance with BRN statutes and regulations. The PD is no longer responsible to teach semester one and has 100% release time to administer the program. Nursing organizational charts had been updated to reflect this new change. An AD has also been hired, as well as a Nursing Program Supervisor. PD has begun work on revising several outdated documents, including policies related Total Program Evaluation and faculty meetings and AD has been granted 60% release time and assisting the PD with ensuring areas of non-compliance are resolved. The NEC is awaiting the one-year update from PD on current teaching load and responsibilities of PD and AD, new organizational chart with addition of Nursing Program Supervisor to clear this area of non-compliance.

CCR 1424(h): The faculty shall be adequate in type and number to develop and implement the program approved by the board and shall include at least one qualified instructor in each of the areas of Nursing required by section 1426(d) who will be the content expert in that area. Nursing faculty members whose teaching responsibilities include subject matter directly related to the practice of Nursing shall be clinically competent in the areas to which they are assigned. Findings at the time of the visit showed that the AD position was vacant, they had 5 open faculty positions and no content expert in PMH and staff and PD with an overload assignment.

Progress: Over the last year, three (3) of four (4) PT faculty positions have been filled, a FT faculty position is posted and actively recruiting. The AD position has been filled and the PMH Content expert has been addressed. The NEC is awaiting a current report of faculty to evaluate the resources and ensure there is a plan to maintain compliance moving forward from program director to clear this non-compliance.

Non-compliances resolved:

CCR 1424(f): The program shall have a Board-approved assistant director who is knowledgeable and current regarding the program and the policies and procedures by which it is administered, and who is delegated the authority to perform the director's duties in the director's absence. The AD position has been filled and has a 60% release time from 2/2024-5/2024.

CCR 1425(f): A content expert shall be an instructor and shall possess the following minimum qualifications. Findings at the time of the visit showed no PMH Content Expert. The PMH Content expert has been hired.

The NEC is working with the currently approved PD and the Nursing Program Supervisor to ensure there is a plan to maintain program compliance and improve student outcomes. The report was received after the deadline and the materials are currently under review.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Donna Shipp MSN, PHN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

Copper Mountain College
Associate Degree Nursing Program
Executive Summary of Compliance
March 2025

1424 CCR Administration and Organization of the Nursing Program.

(d). The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff, and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology to achieve the program's objectives. Is

The program is in compliance. The program has an approved director and an approved assistant director. The program has three full-time faculty (2 permanent and 1 full-time temporary). The program has a content expert to cover all the required content areas.

(e). The director and the assistant director shall dedicate sufficient time for administration of the program.

The program is in compliance. The director Dr. Camille N. Reese is 100% administrative and has no teaching responsibilities. The assistant director Dr. Barbie Rasmussen carries a full-time teaching load. Both of these administrators are approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing.

(f). The program shall have a board approved assistant director who is knowledgeable and current regarding the program and the policies and procedures by which it is administered, and who is delegated the authority to perform the director's duties in the director's absence.

The program is in compliance. The assistant director Dr. Barbie Rasmussen is responsible and accountable and can provide leadership in the absence of Dr. Reese.

(h). The faculty shall be adequate in type and number to develop and implement the program approved by the Board and shall include at least one qualified instructor in each of the areas of nursing required by section 1426 (d) who will be the content expert in that area. Nursing faculty members whose teaching responsibility include subject matter directly related to the practice of nursing shall be clinically competent in the areas to which they are assigned.

The program is in compliance. There are currently three full-time faculty and 10 part-time faculty. Heidi Steines serves as the content expert for medical surgical nursing and geriatric nursing and Dr. Sheila Tyne serves as the content expert for obstetrics,

pediatrics, and PMH. There are currently two unfilled full-time nursing faculty positions, which are currently being advertised. One of those positions is currently being filled by a temporary full-time faculty who is interested in the permanent position. The Human Resources staff at the College is reviewing the applications that have been submitted for these positions. The search committee is waiting on the results of this review and will invite qualified applicants to an interview.

CCR 1425 Faculty Qualifications and Changes

(f). A content expert shall be an instructor and shall possess the following minimum qualifications.

(1). A master's degree in the designated nursing area; or

(2). A master's degree that is not in the designated nursing area and shall have completed 30 hours of continuing education or two semesters or three quarter units of nursing education related to the designated nursing area or have national certification in the designated nursing area from an accrediting organization such as the American Nurses Credentialing Center and have a minimum of 240 hours of clinical experience within the previous three years in the designated nursing area or have a minimum of one academic year of registered nurse level clinical teaching experience in the designated nursing area within the previous five years.

The program is in compliance, both Ms. Steines and Dr. Tyne meet the educational and experiential qualifications, are experienced nurse educators, and content experts for all of the BRN required content areas.

CCR 1424 Administration and organization of the nursing program.

1424 (b) (1). The nursing program shall have a written plan for evaluation of the total program, including admission and selection procedures, attrition and retention of students, and performance of graduates in meeting community needs.

The total plan for evaluation of the program is currently in development and is following the format suggested by ACEN. The TPE is currently being developed in two sections, addressing each of EPSLOs (development of the benchmark, assessment methods, data gathering, evaluation on meeting outcomes), and identification of other program benchmarks such as NCLEX-RN pass rates, graduation rates, employment rates, and graduate satisfaction). Nursing faculty have included the TPE as a topic of discussion at each faculty meeting.

CCR 1425.1 Faculty Responsibilities

1(b). Each faculty member shall participate in an orientation program, including, but not limited to, the program's curriculum, policies and procedures, strategies for teaching, and student supervision and evaluation.

The program is in compliance. In conjunction with the director, the full-time faculty have taken on the responsibility of onboarding and mentoring new nursing faculty (full and part-time). Some of the strategies for success of new nursing faculty include orientation, teaching support, reinforcement of policies and procedures, regular check-ins to provide additional information, answer questions, or identify areas needing development.

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.1.3

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding prelicensure nursing programs in non-compliance.
Fresno City College Associate Degree Nursing Program (program with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)

REQUESTED BY: Donna Shipp Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Fresno City College (FCC) associate degree pre-licensure program located in Fresno had a routinely planned Continuing Approval Visit (CAV) on December 3, 2024. The program is not accredited. Last BRN approval was fall 2019, with five (5) areas of non-compliance related to Administration and Organization of the pre-licensure program and Faculty Qualifications. FCC is currently approved to enroll 110 generic students and 12 advanced placement every fall and spring; 244 students annually and current enrollment is 434 students. FCC has had one academic year of substandard NCLEX scores (2022-2023) in which a comprehensive assessment was conducted and various opportunities for improvement were noted and implemented.

Last five years of NCLEX pass rates	Current attrition rate from the Annual Survey Report
2023-2024 = 89.27%	2022-2023 = 1.1%
2022-2023 = 74.26%	2021-2022 = 0.0%
2021-2022 = 75.24%	2020-2021 = 9.5%
2020-2021 = 80.68%	2019-2020 = 9.1%
2019-2020 = 86.50%	2018-2019 = 5.2%

Total cost of program \$10,651.00

During the December 2024 CAV, FCC was found to be in non-compliance with three (3) BRN Prelicensure Regulations (It is important to note these are similar non compliances as noted in the previous BRN review): CCR 1424 Administration and Organization of the Nursing Program and CCR 1425 Faculty Qualifications, and 1425.1 Faculty Responsibilities. Within these three (3) regulations, the program was found non-compliant in six (6) related subsections. In the interim, program has worked on getting these areas resolved. They have fully resolved one related subsection and have begun working on the other five (5) subsections.

Non-compliances pending review to clear

CCR 1424(b)(1): The nursing program shall have a written plan for evaluation...

Progress: Developing a Total Program Evaluation, however, not fully developed. Once fully developed, it will still need to be introduced to faculty and ensure faculty understanding and compliance.

CCR1424(c) There shall be an organizational chart which identifies the relationships...

1420 (h) "Director" means the registered nurse administrator or faculty member who meets the qualifications of section 1425(a) and has the authority and responsibility to administer the program...

Progress: Program Director (PD) Job Description has been revised and going through Institutional Approval process. Awaiting final approval.

A new Dean has been assigned to the Nursing Program who is a Registered Nurse and is also fulfilling the role of PD at this time.

CCR 1425: All faculty, the director, and the assistant director shall be approved by the board...

Progress: Immediate issues related to approvals and inactive license have all been resolved, however, no formal plan to ensure ongoing compliance has been provided. This area of noncompliance was noted in 2019 CAV as well as 2024 CAV. Indicating a potential for ongoing issues without a formal process.

CCR 1425.1(b): Each faculty member shall participate in an orientation program...

Progress: Program is actively working on developing an orientation manual as well as a defined process.

CCR 1425.1(d): Each faculty member shall be clinically competent in the nursing area in which he or she teaches.

Progress: Working with NEC on completion of report of faculty.

Non-compliance resolved

CCR 1425(c): An instructor shall meet minimum qualifications...

The NEC is working with the new Dean/PD to assist the program to come into compliance and to maintain that compliance going forward.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Donna Shipp MSN, PHN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant



Fresno City College

1101 East University Avenue, Fresno, California 93741 Phone: 559-244-2604 FAX: 559-499-6047

Allied Health, Physical Education & Athletics Division

February 25, 2025

Donna Shipp, MSN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant
Board of Registered Nursing
PO Box 944210
Sacramento, CA 944210

Dear Ms. Shipp,

I am pleased to submit the Fresno City College Associate Degree Nursing Program's Progress Report in response to the "Consultant's Approval Report," following the continuing approval evaluation visit that took place on December 3, 2024.

We have carefully reviewed the Consultant's Approval Report and taken its findings seriously. Each of the identified areas has been thoroughly addressed with the appropriate actions and improvements implemented. We are committed to ensuring the continued success and compliance of our program and are confident that the necessary adjustments have been made to meet the California Board of Registered Nursing regulations.

Sonia Duarte, Director of Nursing will represent Fresno City College at the Education/Licensing Committee meeting on April 17, 2025 as well as the Board meeting on May 21 – 22, 2025.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you for your visit and invaluable assistance during the evaluation process of the Fresno City College Associate Degree Nursing Program. Should you require any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 559-244-2612 or via email at sonia.duarte@fresnocitycollege.edu.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Sonia Duarte, DNP, MSN-Ed, RN, PHN

Sonia Duarte, DNP, MSN-Ed, RN
Director of Nursing – Dean of Nursing
Fresno City College

NON-COMPLIANCES:

CCR 1424 (b) (1) The nursing program shall have a written plan for evaluation of the total program, including admission and selection procedures, attrition and retention of students, and performance of graduates in meeting community needs.

Non-compliance: No evidence of a complete total program evaluation. Self-study speaks to 3 specific benchmarks; however, the summary information table does not align with self-study. TPE table does not reflect specific interventions or action items performed. Additionally, there is no follow up for the program outcomes that did not meet level of achievement indicated.

FCC Nursing Response to Finding: The Fresno City College nursing program has taken immediate and comprehensive steps to address the deficiency regarding the total program evaluation. We have conducted a thorough review of our program evaluation processes to ensure alignment between the self-study and the summary information table. To address the discrepancies, we have updated the summary table to accurately reflect the specific benchmarks and outcomes discussed in self-study. Furthermore, we have revised the TPE (Total Program Evaluation) table to clearly include specific interventions and action items that were implemented in response to identified issues. In addition, we have established a robust follow-up procedure for any program outcomes that did not meet the level of achievement indicated, ensuring that these outcomes are properly tracked and addressed moving forward. The revised evaluation processes now include documented follow-up actions, which will be reviewed regularly to monitor progress. With these changes in place, the nursing program is now in full compliance with the regulation, ensuring continuous improvement and accountability.

CCR 1424 (c) There shall be an organizational chart which identifies the relationships, lines of authority and channels of communication within the program, between the program and other administrative segments of the institution with which it is affiliated, and between the program, the institution, and clinical agencies. 1420 (h) "Director" means the registered nurse administrator or faculty member who meets the qualifications of section 1425(a) and has the authority and responsibility to administer the program. The director coordinates and directs all activities in developing, implementing, and managing a nursing program, including its fiscal planning.

Non-compliance: Despite the organizational chart depicting reporting structure, current job description for Program Director does not reflect the PD having authority and responsibility to administer the program.

FCC Nursing Response to Finding: The Fresno City College nursing program has thoroughly reviewed and revised the current job description for the Program Director with Human Resources to ensure full alignment with the organizational chart and regulatory requirements.

The updated job description now clearly defines the authority and responsibility of the Program Director to administer the entire nursing program. Specific duties related to program oversight, including curriculum development, faculty management, and program evaluation, have been incorporated into the role. Additionally, we have outlined decision-making responsibilities to reflect the Program Director's authority in ensuring the program meets accreditation and regulatory standards. To further clarify the Program Director's role, we have included accountability measures for managing

both the administrative and educational components of the program. These revisions have been communicated to all relevant staff, faculty, and administrators to ensure clarity and understanding of the Program Director's responsibilities.

With these changes, the nursing program is now in compliance with the regulation, ensuring clear leadership and effective program administration.

CCR 1425 Faculty Qualifications and Changes

All faculty, the director, and the assistant director shall be approved by the board pursuant to the document, "Faculty Qualifications and Changes Explanation of CCR 1425 (EDP-R-02 Rev 09/2012), which is incorporated herein by reference. A program shall report to the board all changes in faculty, including changes in teaching areas, prior to employment of, or within 30 days after, termination of employment of a faculty member. Such changes shall be reported on forms provided by the board: Faculty Approval/Resignation Notification form (EDP-P-02, Rev 09/2012) and Director or Assistant Director Approval form (EDP-P-03, Rev 09/2012), which are herein incorporated by reference. Each faculty member, director, and assistant director shall hold a clear and active license issued by the board and shall possess the following qualifications.

Non-compliance: One faculty member had an inactive license while teaching Fall 2024 semester. Faculty member is not currently teaching, as course has completed. Two other faculty members are teaching without prior BRN approval. EDPP-02 have since been submitted. Need to consider implementing a process to routinely check and verify all current faculty license are current and active.

Non-compliance: 2 faculty teaching without EDPP-02 on file.

FCC Nursing Response to Finding: The nursing program has taken swift action to address the deficiency related to faculty licensing. The faculty member with an inactive license has not been teaching since the completion of the Fall 2024 semester, and the issue has been resolved. For the two faculty members who were teaching without prior BRN approval, the necessary EDPP-02 forms have been submitted, bringing the program into compliance. To prevent this issue from recurring, we have implemented a process to routinely check and verify that all current faculty licenses are active and in good standing. This process will be incorporated into the program's regular faculty review procedures. Additionally, a designated staff member will be responsible for tracking faculty license status and ensuring timely updates to the Board of Registered Nursing. With these steps in place, the nursing program is now fully in compliance with the regulation and committed to maintaining ongoing faculty credentialing integrity.

1425(c) An instructor shall meet the following minimum qualifications: The education requirements set forth in subsection (a)(1); and Direct patient care experience within the previous five (5) years in the nursing area to which he or she is assigned, which can be met by: One (1) year's continuous, full-time or its equivalent experience providing direct patient care as a registered nurse in the designated nursing area; or One (1) academic year of registered nurse level clinical teaching experience in the designated nursing area or its equivalent that demonstrates clinical competency; and Completion of at least one (1) years' experience teaching courses related to registered nursing or completion of a post-baccalaureate course which includes practice in teaching registered nursing.

1425.1(b) Each faculty member shall participate in an orientation program, including, but not limited to, the program's curriculum, policies and procedures, strategies for teaching, and student supervision and evaluation.

Non-compliance: The Nursing Program has not established an orientation procedure. Faculty hired within last 6 months have not received an orientation manual or assigned mentor.

FCC Nursing Response to Finding: The nursing program has taken immediate steps to address the deficiency regarding the lack of an established orientation procedure. We have developed a comprehensive orientation manual that outlines key policies, procedures, and expectations for new faculty members. This manual includes critical information on the program's curriculum, student assessment, and compliance with regulatory standards. In addition, we have implemented a structured mentoring program to support new faculty, ensuring they are paired with experienced colleagues who can provide guidance and support during their transition. The clinical ambassadors have assisted with ensuring all faculty are now fully oriented. The Assistant Director of Nursing will work in collaboration with the ambassadors and designated tenured faculty mentors to ensure all new instructors receive proper orientation. All faculty hired within the last six months have now received the orientation manual and been assigned a mentor. The orientation procedure has been incorporated into the program's standard hiring process, ensuring that all new hires are properly oriented moving forward. With these changes, the nursing program is now fully compliant with the regulation and committed to supporting faculty development.

1425.1(d) Each faculty member shall be clinically competent in the nursing area in which he or she teaches. The board document, "Faculty Remediation Guidelines" (EDP-R-08 Rev. 02/09), which provides guidelines for attaining and documenting clinical competency, is herein incorporated by reference.

Non-compliance: Not all faculty have completed EDPP-10 (Report of faculty) and therefore cannot be deemed recent and current in the areas they are teaching.

FCC Nursing Response to Finding: The nursing program has taken immediate action to address the deficiency regarding the completion of the EDPP-10 (Report of Faculty). We have conducted a thorough review of all faculty records to ensure that the EDPP-10 forms are completed for all faculty members. Any faculty who had not previously submitted the required forms have now completed them, ensuring that all records are current and compliant with the regulation. We have also implemented a new tracking system to ensure that future EDPP-10 forms are submitted on time and maintained up to date for all faculty members. Additionally, a designated staff member will be responsible for monitoring compliance with this requirement to prevent future gaps. By completing the EDPP-10 forms, we have ensured that all faculty members are deemed recent and current in the areas they are teaching. With these corrective measures in place, the nursing program is now fully in compliance with the regulation.

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.1.3

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding prelicensure nursing programs in non-compliance.
Los Angeles City College Associate Degree Nursing Program (program with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)

REQUESTED BY: Michelle Johnson, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Los Angeles City College (LACC) associate degree nursing program had a routinely planned Continuing Approval Visit (CAV) on November 5-7, 2024. The program does not currently hold nursing accreditation. LACC is currently approved to enroll 100 students annually, 50 students twice a year, and currently has a total enrollment of 83 students. The program has decreased annual enrollment as reported due to limited faculty.

During the November 2024 CAV, LACC was found to have one (1) non-compliance: CCR 1424 Administration and Organization of the Nursing Program. Within this regulation, the program was found non-compliant in three related subsections:

- 1424(d) The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology to achieve the program's objectives...
- 1424(h) The faculty shall be adequate in type and number to develop and implement the program approved by the board...
- 1426(d) who will be the content expert in that area. Nursing faculty members whose teaching responsibilities include subject matter...

Total cost of program \$8,392.

NCLEX pass rates	Attrition
2023- 24 = 89.06%	2023- 24 = 0.0%
2022- 23 = 81.25%	2022- 23 = 11.7%
2021- 22 = 74.4%	2021- 22 = 7.0%
2020- 21 = 91.6%	2020- 21 = 3.9%
2019- 20 = 92.2%	2019- 20 = 12.5%

LACC has experienced a change in nursing leadership within the past two years, with a new Interim Program Director initiated 2024, and two new Assistant Directors in 2023 and 2024, but the program continues to work with their Nursing Education Consultant on resolving all non-compliances and is committed to come into full compliance.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Michelle Johnson, MSN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

Department of Nursing
Los Angeles City College
Dates of Approval Visit: November, 5-7, 2024.
Executive Summary of Non-Compliance items

Introduction

On November 5th, 2024, the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) conducted a routine continual approval visit (CAV) of the Nursing Department at Los Angeles City College (LACC Nursing). The purpose of the visit was to evaluate the program's compliance with BRN regulations and assess its ability to maintain approval while preparing students for licensure and professional practice.

As part of the approval review, LACC Nursing submitted a comprehensive self-study report to the BRN, detailing our program's structure, curriculum, faculty qualifications, student outcomes, clinical partnerships, and simulation resources. This self-study provided an in-depth analysis of our strengths, challenges, and efforts toward continued improvement. During the visit, the BRN approval team conducted interviews with faculty, students, administrators, clinical partners, reviewed documentation and assessed our instructional and simulation facilities.

Following their evaluation, the BRN identified two primary areas of non-compliance: Insufficient faculty and ancillary resources and the need for an improved simulation program to enhance student learning. These challenges can impact our ability to provide high-quality instruction, maintain appropriate faculty to student ratios and ensure that students receive the necessary hands-on simulated training to succeed in the clinical setting.

LACC's self-study reflected on the last five years of the department's history noting both some constraints and successes of the program. This included the impact of changes to instruction during covid and the impact on our graduate NCLEX testing scores. This was addressed with implementation of research-based classroom instructional methodologies, decrease in classroom size and implementation of a peer mentoring program to identify at risk students earlier and provide remediation. This proved to be efficacious with improved NCLEX scores from 2020-2021 at 74.36 percent increasing to the most recent NCLEX testing results of 2023-2024 at 89.06 percent.

The self-study highlighted LACC Nursing approval by the BRN to enroll up to 100 students annually. However, due to faculty and clinical site shortages, the department has maintained a capacity of 40 students since 2017 and in December 2022, then-President of LACC, issued a memorandum to then-Director of Nursing, limiting new student admissions to 20 students per semester due to concerns regarding NCLEX-RN pass rates and faculty hiring and retention. This enrollment cap was maintained through the 2023-2024 academic year.

With improvements in NCLEX pass rates and ongoing faculty hiring efforts, LACC Nursing has increased student admissions from 20 to 28 students per semester in Fall 2024. Despite these efforts, challenges remain in maintaining the required faculty-to-student ratio and securing adequate clinical placements, particularly after losing long-term adjunct faculty and several historical clinical rotations during our time with smaller cohorts. To address these concerns, LACC department of nursing is collaborating with both site level administration and district administration will new projects involving the hiring practices of qualified applicants.

The provisional projects not only expand on hiring practices but will include, college ACEN accreditation, securement of additional clinical site placements, and student NCLEX preparation and transition to hiring.

Our process of rebuilding our infrastructure includes developing curriculum course of records with concept-based curriculum (CBC) and competency-based education (CBE) with simulation integration. Creating a enhanced simulation program using the guidelines of International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) that offers students hands on experience in real situations to further their critical thinking skills.

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this executive summary is to provide an overview of the non-compliance findings identified during the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) continual approval visit to Department of Nursing at Los Angeles City College (LACC) on November 5-7, 2024. This report outlines areas where the program did not meet BRN standards, and presents a corrective action plan to ensure compliance and continued approval.

Approval Criteria: 1424(d) The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology, to achieve the program's objectives.

Comment - Non-Compliance: The program does not have sufficient resources including staff, support services, physical space and equipment including technology to achieve the program's objectives in the following areas: 1. Dedicated physical space for the conduction of simulation scenarios.

Progress on Compliance:

- Dedicated space was identified in one of our skills labs called "basic skills lab". The room has room dividers that will allow for a dedicated closed area to be used for simulation. The current tables and equipment will be re-organized to accommodate the simulation area. Anticipated completion date May 30th, 2025.
- Creation of a de-brief conference area with a large monitor/TV Screen to review recorded simulation, including tables and chairs for students. The area has several items that will be removed and relocated. As of 3/26/25 our student worker was hired and has begun the cleaning out of this area. An additional student worker should be on boarded by 4/4/25 to help facilitate the remodel of this area. Expected completion date of 5/30/25.

- Quotes are being obtained for updated recording equipment, monitor screen for review, conference tables and chairs. Purchase and placement of this equipment is anticipated to be completed by June 27, 2025.
- VP of Academic Services and LACC financial department provided LACC nursing department with VR headsets and docking stations. is speaking with the Vice President of Administrative Services for the relocation of VR equipment to be used for simulation. - Completion date has been extended until 3/28/25.

Approval Criteria: 1424(d) The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology, to achieve the program's objectives.

Comment - Non-Compliance: Simulation Technician assistance as part-time (20 hour per week) Simulation Technician position remains unfilled.

Progress on compliance:

- As of 3/7/25 Interviews are scheduled for March 14th for Simulation Tech. Once Applicant is chosen anticipated hire date is 5/15/25

Approval Criteria: 1424(d) The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology, to achieve the program's objectives.

Comment - Non-Compliance: Simulation technology and scenarios based on best practices as described in Code Section 2786.3 and published by the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, the Society for Simulation in Healthcare, or equivalent standards approved by the board.

Progress on compliance:

- INACSL "The cornerstone of best practice" is being submitted for approval to purchase for the nursing department faculty. This will comply with the requirement of simulation standards approved by the board. The online product to train and create a training document for staff from INACSL. Both sim tech and faculty. Date of compliance is May 25, 2025.
- Faculty names are being submitted for registration and attendance to the INACL conference in Denver, Colorado for June 19-22.
- Staff stipend has been approved for faculty and staff creation of a repository of simulation scenarios for the courses in the nursing program. The completion date for this will be June 2025.

Approval Criteria: 1424(d) The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology, to achieve the program's objectives.

Comment - Non-compliance: Open Skills Lab hours for student clinical skills practice.

Progress on compliance:

- Dr. Dones, VP of Academic Services is consulting with the non-credit workforce to add a remediation class. This would capture all data required for the college and students' remediation time and provide open skills lab hours for students. The anticipated date of completion is April, 2025

Approval Criteria: 1424(h) The faculty shall be adequate in type and number to develop and implement the program approved by the board and shall include at least one qualified instructor in each of the areas of nursing required by section 1426(d) who will be the content expert in that area. Nursing faculty members whose teaching responsibilities include subject matter directly related to the practice of nursing shall be clinically competent in the areas to which they are assigned.

Comment - Non-compliance: The faculty is not adequate in full time numbers to develop and implement the program as approved by the BRN: The program is approved to admit 50 students twice a year with an annual enrollment of 100 students. For Fall Semester 2024, there are 28 students newly enrolled. Current total student program enrollment is 83. The program reports decreased enrollment capacity due to low full time faculty numbers. There are currently 4 full time and 16 part time faculty. There is also an Interim Director, a filled temporary full time faculty position, and two unfilled faculty positions. Faculty role responsibilities are numerous and are described as overwhelming by faculty. There is need for the 8 full time faculty positions to be filled with permanency brought to the Director position. Program records demonstrate 12 full time faculty positions and one Director position assigned to the program with enrollments at 50 students each Fall and Spring Semesters.

Progress on compliance:

- The college has made a commitment to hire 2 full time faculty members to begin in Fall of 2025. The process is with the administration department and has an anticipated posting date of April 1, 2025, to onboard and hire for fall of 2025.
- The college has made a commitment to hire 3 additional part-time faculty members. This process just concluded by reviewing applicants with the next steps being to set up interviews following a union contract. The anticipated date of interviews is April 25, 2025, with an anticipated onboard and hire for fall of 2025.
- Director position is currently in INTERIM status to be re-evaluated in the summer of 2025 for permanent time status.
- After an internal evaluation of the ability for LACC to make a commitment to hiring 8 additional faculty it was deemed not feasible. At this time LACC will commit to two additional full-time faculty, three additional part time faculty and will review the staffing needs in summer of 2025. With this information a further internal assessment was needed to assess the number of students that can be accommodated each semester. A determination of 30 student for each cohort for a total of 60 a year. This is based on the two additional full-time faculty and three additional adjunct hires. The LACC nursing department will be sending a notice to the BRN of the lower approved acceptance number of 30 students each semester. The Director will send this notice to the NEC in March of 2025.

Conclusion

LACC pre-licensure nursing program has evaluated non-compliance items and discussed the plan of implementation with both our college and district administrations. We have confidence that the action plans being submitted will be completed by fall of 2025 placing our program within compliance.

Looking ahead, the LACC Nursing Department is committed to increasing enrollment in a sustainable manner. In the 2025-2026 academic year, we will advocate for additional full-time faculty positions through our college's Hiring Prioritization Committee to support program growth. With over 300 qualified applicants each semester, the demand for our program far exceeds available seats. Our long-term goal is to expand enrollment capacity in Fall 2026 by securing additional faculty and strengthening clinical partnerships.

The LACC Nursing acknowledges the findings identified during the BRN continual approval visit and remains fully committed to addressing all areas of non-compliance. We recognize the importance of adhering to BRN standards to ensure that our students receive a high-quality nursing education that prepares them for licensure and professional success.

In response to the BRN's findings, we have developed a comprehensive corrective action plan that outlines specific steps to achieve full compliance. Our faculty in collaboration with LACC administration, and LACCD leadership are dedicated to implementing these improvements and sustaining regulatory adherence through ongoing assessment and quality assurance measures.

We appreciate the guidance, recommendations and findings provided by the BRN and view this process as an opportunity to strengthen our program. Through these corrective actions, we affirm our commitment to maintaining approval, supporting our students and contributing to the excellence of nursing education in California.

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.1.5

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding prelicensure nursing programs in non-compliance.
Fresno Pacific University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
(program with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)

REQUESTED BY: Lisa Kennelly, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Fresno Pacific University (FPU) is a baccalaureate degree nursing program located in Fresno, California. The program was initially approved in May of 2021. FPU had a scheduled joint continuing approval visit (CAV) with CCNE for accreditation and BRN approval in November 2024. The program was found to be in non-compliance with the following BRN regulations.

1424(d) The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology, to achieve the program's objectives.

1424(e) The director and the assistant director shall dedicate sufficient time for the administration of the program.

1424(f) The program shall have a board-approved assistant director who is knowledgeable and current regarding the program and the policies and procedures by which it is administered, and who is delegated the authority to perform the director's duties in the director's absence.

Current enrollment pattern: 24 students once a year in the fall.

Cost of the program = \$170,672

NCLEX Pass Rates

2023-24 = 64.29% (First graduating class)

2024-25 = 77.78%

Attrition rate – (Attrition rates not listed on annual survey as program is too new to have completed.)

Upon review, three non-compliance's were found at the fall 2024 CAV. There has been a high rate of turnover on program directors (PD) for this college including the most recent change in leadership with the assistant director (AD) stepping up to PD role in January 2025. Both the current PD and AD are on significant overload that impacts much of their time to run the program efficiently and sustainably. There are two open full time faculty positions that have not been filled, reported due to low pay of faculty members creating a gap in resources.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Lisa Kennelly, DNP, AGPCNP, CNE
Nursing Education Consultant

March 12th, 2025
Lisa Kennelly DNP, AGPCNP, CNE,
Nursing Education Consultant
California Board of Registered Nursing
1747 N. Market Blvd. Suite 150
Sacramento, CA 95834

Sent via email

Subject: BRN Site Visit November 20, 2024
Response to Non-Compliance and Recommendations from Report of Findings

Dear Ms. Kennelly,
The following are responses to the Report of Findings for Fresno Pacific
University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program Continuing Approval Visit, November 20,
2024.

NON-COMPLIANCE:

- 1424(d) The program shall have sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology, to achieve the program's objectives.
 - There are two open faculty positions currently. PD/AD teaching when new program director and assistant director need greater release time to learn role and sustain program.

Response:

Our current Program Director and Assistant Director assumed their roles mid-year. The additional workload they experienced was partly due to the courses they taught during the Fall semester. To address this, they have been granted additional release time for the Spring semester. Beginning in the academic year 2025-2026, the BSN Program Director will receive full release time, while the Assistant Director will be allocated a half-load of release time. Please note that per the university Faculty Handbook (p.74), overload units are considered optional for faculty but must have the dean's prior approval and not exceed 18 units per contract year.

We are actively recruiting for three positions, each with strong candidates:

- Chief Nursing Officer and BSN Director – 3 candidates
- Faculty in Nursing, Assistant Director of BSN – 2 candidates
- Clinical Faculty in Nursing – 2 candidates

The initial interview process is underway, and we anticipate the new hires will commence their roles on or before July 1, 2025. Additionally, we are considering recruiting one more clinical faculty member over the summer to support the program further, along with our new adjunct hires.

- 1424(e) The director and the assistant director shall dedicate sufficient time for the administration of the program.
 - Program Director is on substantial overload with multiple teaching assignments which impact her 100% release time to effectively run the program.

Response:

Our current Program Director and Assistant Director assumed their roles mid-year. The additional workload they experienced was partly due to the courses they taught during the Fall semester. To address this, they have been granted additional release time for the Spring semester. Beginning in the academic year 2025-2026, the BSN Program Director will receive full release time, while the Assistant Director will be allocated a half-load of release time. Please note that per the university Faculty Handbook (p.74), overload units are considered optional for faculty but must have the dean's prior approval and not exceed 18 units per contract year.

We are actively recruiting for three positions, each with strong candidates:

- Chief Nursing Officer and BSN Director – 3 candidates
- Faculty in Nursing, Assistant Director of BSN – 2 candidates
- Clinical Faculty in Nursing – 2 candidates

The initial interview process is underway, and we anticipate the new hires will commence their roles on or before July 1, 2025. Additionally, we are considering recruiting one more clinical faculty member over the summer to support the program further, along with our new adjunct hires.

- 1424(f) The program shall have a board-approved assistant director who is knowledgeable and current regarding the program and the policies and procedures by which it is administered, and who is delegated the authority to perform the director's duties in the director's absence.
 - Assistant Program Director does not have adequate release time to assist Program Director in running and maintain the program due to her overload. Assistant Program Director is on substantial overload.

Response:

Our current Program Director and Assistant Director assumed their roles mid-year. The additional workload they experienced was partly due to the courses they taught during the Fall semester. To address this, they have been granted additional release time for the Spring semester. Beginning in the academic year 2025-2026, the BSN Program Director will receive full release time, while the Assistant Director will be allocated a half-load of release time. Please note that per the university Faculty Handbook (p.74), overload units are considered optional for faculty but must have the dean's prior approval and not exceed 18 units per contract year.

We are actively recruiting for three positions, each with strong candidates:

- Chief Nursing Officer and BSN Director – 3 candidates
- Faculty in Nursing, Assistant Director of BSN – 2 candidates

- Clinical Faculty in Nursing – 2 candidates

The initial interview process is underway, and we anticipate the new hires will commence their roles on or before July 1, 2025. Additionally, we are considering recruiting one more clinical faculty member over the summer to support the program further, along with our new adjunct hires.

- 1424(h) The faculty shall be adequate in type and number to develop and implement the program approved by the board and shall include at least one qualified instructor in each of the areas of nursing required by section 1426(d) who will be the content expert in that area. Nursing faculty members whose teaching responsibilities include subject matter directly related to the practice of nursing shall be clinically competent in the areas to which they are assigned.
 - Adequate faculty in amount are not present to effectively maintain the program. Recruitment has been a verbalized challenge due to reported low faculty pay rate.

Response:

We are actively recruiting for three positions, each with strong candidates:

- Chief Nursing Officer and BSN Director – 3 candidates
- Faculty in Nursing, Assistant Director of BSN – 2 candidates
- Clinical Faculty in Nursing – 2 candidates

The initial interview process is underway, and we anticipate the new hires will commence their roles on or before July 1, 2025. Additionally, we are considering the recruitment of one more clinical faculty member over the summer to further support the program, alongside our new adjunct hires.

Furthermore, with the approval of the provost and in collaboration with our Human Resources Department, we are currently undertaking a comprehensive review of full-time faculty nursing salaries within our university benchmarking group with the intention of increasing the pay rate. Additionally, we are in the process of evaluating adjunct faculty compensation and considering the implementation of a pay differential to better align with industry wage standards. We aim to complete our evaluation of both salaries and adjunct pay prior to the start of the next academic school year and implement the changes before the new school year begins.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The nursing program shall maintain a minimum pass rate of seventy-five percent (75%) for first time licensing examination candidates.
 - The program will work with faculty and curriculum development to keep pass rates above 75%. 1st year pass rates did not meet minimum.

Response:

The current nursing leadership is undertaking a comprehensive review of the BSN program tracks. To enhance student support, the NCLEX review course has been expanded from a one-unit course to a two-unit course. Additionally, the leadership is critically evaluating the existing ATI NCLEX review program and working to identify at-risk students, offer interventions, and develop follow-up plans to reassess the students. Interventions include test-taking strategies, 1:1 with faculty for study plans, focus review, and extra time for skill lab.

Moreover, we are actively collaborating with ATI to ensure that faculty effectively utilize the available resources. To further bolster student preparation, we are working towards establishing an onsite, in-class, three-day intensive review session for our current students, which is being supported by campus leadership.

Additionally, all graduates will receive surveys six months and one year after graduation to assess NCLEX completion and employment outcomes.

Sincerely,

Esther Igboerika, DNP, APRN, CPNP
Program Director
Fresno Pacific University

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 5.2.1

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a request to teach out and close an approved advance practice nurse practitioner program.
University of Southern California Family Nurse Practitioner program

REQUESTED BY: Michelle Johnson, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: The University of Southern California (USC), Master in Nursing-Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN-FNP) program has made the decision to teach out the program over the course of 2.5 years, with a projected completion date of December 31, 2027 in anticipation of the final cohort graduation. This decision was based on several factors that have developed over recent years, including a decline in recruitment and enrollment and a national trend among nursing schools to phase out MSN programs in favor of three-year Doctor of Nurse Practitioner programs. Admissions will be suspended beginning Spring 2025, to allow for a gradual sunset of the MSN-FNP program, concluding once 134 of the total currently enrolled students have completed their degrees or have “stopped out” of the program.

The USC MSN-FNP program was launched in August 2016 at the USC Suzanne Dwork-Peck School of Social Work Department of Nursing, obtained its initial accreditation status with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in November 2017, and its initial program approval from the Board in April 2019. The program continues its compliance with required statutes and regulations from its most recent approval visit with the BRN in October 2022, concurrent with an extension of their accreditation with CCNE.

Students will continue their coursework and required clinical experiences to complete their program in accordance with CCR 1484. The program faculty and staff will be working with students to ensure students successfully reach program completion and ensure continuity. The MSN-FNP students will progress through their program per their enrollment agreement with minimal disruptions, as level of instruction, accredited courses, and clinical placements will remain unchanged. Student services and academic advisors are available to achieve student success. However, failure of students to take the required course as offered will not obligate the institution to offer the courses again. Assistance is made available for potential placements for qualified students requesting to transfer to another institution of higher learning.

Maintenance of transcripts and records for graduates of the school will be provided by the USC Registrar Office and may be contacted at gtv@mailph.custhelp.com.

AANP Pass Rates:	ANCC Pass Rates:
2019 – 93%	2019 – 100%
2020 – 97.4%	2021 – 22%
2021 – 100%	2021 – 93.3%
2022 – 89%	2022 – 100%
2023 – 85%	2023 – 93%

Total cost of the program is \$107,550.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.
PERSON TO CONTACT: Michelle Johnson, MSN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

The University of Southern California's (USC) Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track will cease operations.

History and Description of the Program

In 2016, USC established a new Department of Nursing that collaborates closely with our colleagues in social work. By operating at the intersection of nursing and social work, we embraced important concepts from both fields and focused on the social determinants of health (SDoH). Over the past nine years, our department has developed an innovative and unique academic program that prepares nursing scholars, clinicians, educators, and advocates who collaborate closely with social workers to lead and drive impactful changes in our health system, strongly emphasizing SDoH.

Summary of Factors for Discontinuation

Unfortunately, despite its strong and well-intentioned beginnings, the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School has discontinued the MSN program. This decision is based on several factors that have developed over recent years, including a decline in recruitment and enrollment and a national trend among nursing schools to phase out MSN programs in favor of three-year Doctor of Nurse Practitioner (DNP) programs. While we considered the possibility of creating a DNP program, we concluded that our school, being primarily a school of social work rather than nursing, could not compete effectively in this area, especially given the presence of other well-established nursing schools that offer a comprehensive range of nursing education from bachelor's to doctoral degrees. It is essential to clarify that the decision to end the program was not due to a lack of clinical placements or faculty resources.

The process of sunseting the MSN program will be gradual, concluding only when all currently enrolled and accepted nursing students have completed their degrees. Admissions will be suspended starting in Spring 2025; no new students will be admitted to the MSN-FNP program after this date. We anticipate graduating our final cohort of students by December 31, 2027. Throughout the next three years, students will continue to receive the same high standard of instruction, accredited courses, and clinical placement opportunities that we have provided over the past nine years. The Department of Nursing faculty and staff are committed to ensuring continuity in education.

Maintenance of Records

As we transition the existing cohorts, we remain dedicated to providing our students with the highest quality of education. Currently, 134 are students enrolled in the MSN-FNP program, with the last cohort expected to complete their studies by December 2027. We are committed to ensuring these students receive the necessary support and resources to succeed. The School's Registrar will maintain records of graduates. The USC Office of the Registrar is responsible for transcripts and can be contacted at

gtv@mailph.custhelp.com. Additionally, I will remain available to keep records of graduates and assist with transcripts; I can be reached at zappas@usc.edu.

Teach-Out Plan

The University is committed to fully supporting the 134 remaining MSN-FNP students by offering all necessary courses for timely progress, ensuring that graduation occurs on or before the documented closure date of December 2027. Students are expected to enroll in and complete the required courses as scheduled. There will be no significant changes to the curriculum or plan of study for currently enrolled students; they will follow the existing curriculum outlined upon admission to maintain continuity and compliance with accreditation standards. A Cohort Course Sequencing. If students do not take the required courses as offered, the institution will not be obligated to provide those courses again. Currently, there are no reductions or changes to faculty or preceptor availability.

Students who are set to graduate on or before December 2027 and experience interruptions due to course failure may retake the failed course if a realignment to a new cohort is available. Students who take a leave of absence after the announcement of the teach-out or withdraw from the program may be unable to return. The University will assist any student wishing to transfer to another institution of higher learning; however, the student and/or the accepting institution will be responsible for any transfer processes or costs incurred.

"Stop outs" refer to interrupted enrollment when students cannot continue progressing through their program. They may occur any time after an admission decision is made and accepted. Stop outs may result from the following reasons:

- Requests from a student for personal financial reasons
- Academic failure in didactic or clinical practicum
- Failure to maintain compliance
- Academic integrity or conduct concerns

As stated above, the University of Southern California remains committed to supporting admitted students in completing the MSN-FNP program and achieving their academic and career goals.

# of Students	Courses Remaining	Graduation Term
18	NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK Elective	Spring 2025

15	NURS 600 NURS 603 NURS 604 NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK Elective	Summer 2025
24	NURS 507 NURS 600 NURS 601 NURS 602 NURS 603 NURS 604 NURS 605 NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK Elective	Fall 2025
11	NURS 503 NURS 505 NURS 600 NURS 602 NURS 603 NURS 604 NURS 605 NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK Elective SOWK Elective	Spring 2026
17	NURS 507 NURS 600 NURS 601 NURS 602 NURS 603 NURS 604 NURS 605 NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK Elective	Summer 2026

18	NURS 503 NURS 505 NURS 507 NURS 600 NURS 601 NURS 602 NURS 603 NURS 604 NURS 605 NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK Elective	Fall 2026
4	NURS 503 NURS 504 NURS 505 NURS 507 NURS 600 NURS 601 NURS 602 NURS 603 NURS 604 NURS 605 NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK 506 SOWK Elective	Spring 20 27

13	NURS 501 NURS 502 NURS 503 NURS 504 NURS 505 NURS 507 NURS 600 NURS 601 NURS 602 NURS 603 NURS 604 NURS 605 NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK 506 SOWK Elective	Summer 2027
14	NURS 500 NURS 501 NURS 502 NURS 503 NURS 504 NURS 505 NURS 507 NURS 600 NURS 601 NURS 602 NURS 603 NURS 604 NURS 605 NURS 606 NURS 607 NURS 608 SOWK 506 SOWK Elective	Fall 2027

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 5.3.1

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a request for an enrollment pattern change for an approved prelicensure nursing program
REGION 10 Southern Border
University of San Diego, Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science, Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Michelle Johnson, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: University of San Diego (USD), Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science (HSN), Entry Level Master's (ELM) Degree Nursing Program, is a private Catholic university in the San Diego County (Region 10). HSN is requesting a change in their current Board-approved enrollment pattern.

Current enrollment pattern: 60 students once a year, every Fall semester

Proposed enrollment pattern: 60 students annually, divided in semesters every Fall (40 students) and Spring (20 students). This is not a request for an enrollment increase.

This will be accomplished by splitting enrollment from once a year to twice a year, allowing the program to "optimize faculty and clinical site resources." HSN recently proposed a curriculum revision, which in turn decreased their clinical hours from 1,296 hours to 960 hours, acting to efficiently utilize their clinical sites and classroom sizes, to maximize learning opportunities, and avoid any impact to student clinical displacement.

HSN presented to the San Diego Regional Healthcare Workforce Partnership and San Diego Consortium meeting January 16, 2025, regarding their plans to split enrollment pattern to assure no displacement would occur in the clinical setting. It was reported that no concerns were raised since the program would not be increasing enrollment, rather splitting the enrollment pattern from once a year to twice a year.

HSN was approved in 2001 and the most recent site visit by the BRN was conducted in March 2019, when continuing approval was met with one area of non-compliance, pursuant CCR 1432, Changes to an Approved Program. It was found that the program had enrolled 65 students in 2018 which is more than the approved amount by the BRN at 60 students annually. They have since maintained compliance keeping student enrollment below the approved 60 student threshold. Although it was not a joint visit with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) at that time, their accreditation status continues until June 30, 2030.

Twenty-one hospitals and other community agencies have extended their partnership with USD as evidenced by their affiliate agreements, illustrating how these clinical facilities are able to accommodate a split enrollment with the program, also depicted in the Nursing Curriculum and Clinical Facilities form (EDP-P-11). Students will utilize the same resources currently available to them, led by their program director of 8 years, 8 full-time faculty (3 tenured faculty), and 62 part-time faculty.

Cost of the program: \$124,250

NCLEX Pass Rate:

2023-2024= 100%

2022-2023= 88%

2021-2022= 96.9%

2020-2021= 98.2%

2019-2020= 96.4%

Attrition rate:

2022-2023= 3.5%

2021-2022= 12.1%

2020-2021= 1.7%

2019-2020= 0.0%

2018-2019= 3.5%

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Michelle Johnson, MSN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

5.3.1 University of San Diego – Enrollment Pattern Change

University of San Diego (USD), Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science, Entry Level Master's (ELM) Degree Nursing Program is located in the San Diego County (Region 10). USD is not requesting an enrollment increase rather it is requesting to split enrollment pattern to twice a year, 40 students every Fall, and 20 students every Spring.

Their proposed enrollment is below:

- Fall 2025: 40 students every Fall
- Spring 2026: 20 students every Spring

Currently Approved:

USD is approved for 60 students once a year.

There have not been any enrollment requests from USD for the last six (6) years.

Region 10 Data 2019-2025

Enrollment decisions for Region 10 have resulted in the growth of 357 new students through the approval of three (4) enrollment increases (155 students annually), two (2) new campuses (130 students annually), and one (1) new program (72 students annually).

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Ty	City	County	Regi	Meeting Dat	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustme
Marsha Fuerst SON - Glendale Career College	ADN - Private	San Diego	San Diego	10	September-19	New Campus	90 annually	Approved	None
Brandman University	BSN - Private	San Diego	San Diego	10	April-19	New Program	72 annually	Approved	None
Imperial Valley College	ADN	Imperial	Imperial	10	November-21	Enrollment Increas	from 60 to 80 annually, increase 20	Approved	None
Marsha Fuerst SON - Glendale	ADN - Private	San Diego	San Diego	10	May-21	Enrollment Increas	from 90 to 135 annually, increase 45	Approved	None
San Diego State University	BSN	San Diego	San Diego	10	May-22	New Campus	40 annually	Approved	None
Imperial Valley College	ADN	Imperial	Imperial	10	November-24	Enrollment Increas	from 80 to 150, increase 70	Approved	None
Grossmont College	ADN	El Cajon	San Diego	10	February-25	Enrollment Increas	from 80 to 100 annually, increase 20	Approved	None

The University of San Diego (USD) Hahn School of Nursing & Health Science (HSON) is located in the County of San Diego, Region 10. The University is accredited by WASC-Senior College & University Commission and the Master's Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN) is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) through June 30, 2030. The program is in compliance per their last BRN visit on March 18, 2019.

Institution Name: University of San Diego Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science Program
Type: Entry-Level Master's Program

Current enrollment pattern: 60 students once an academic year (AY) in the fall semester.

Proposed enrollment pattern: A total of 60 students with admission divided between fall and spring semesters.

- Fall 2025: 40 students
- Spring 2026: 20 students

Background

Since its founding, the HSON has been committed to innovation and excellence in graduate nursing education. The MEPN program provides a specialized pathway designed for individuals with a bachelor's degree in a non-nursing discipline who aspire to transition into the nursing profession. This accelerated program enables students to earn a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) and prepares graduates for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for registered nurse (RN) licensure.

Developed as part of USD's commitment to addressing the evolving needs of the healthcare industry. The MEPN program provides opportunities for individuals who are seeking a change in careers with a pathway into the field of nursing. The program offers an intensive, fast-paced curriculum combining theoretical instruction and hands-on clinical experience to equip graduates with the competencies required for advanced nursing roles.

Request Overview

The HSON MEPN program is requesting BRN approval to implement an enrollment split, allowing student admission twice a year. Under this proposed change, 40 students will be admitted in the fall semester and 20 students in the spring semester.

The requested change aims to meet the demand from individuals with bachelor's degrees in other fields who seek to transition into nursing. Additionally, this change will optimize faculty and clinical site resources through a curriculum revision, reducing clinical hours from 1,296 hours to 960 hours, while maintaining small class sizes to ensure student success.

Rationale for Enrollment Pattern Change

The proposed enrollment split for the MEPN program is a strategic response to the high demand from applicants. By restructuring the program, HSON aims to uphold educational quality, optimize resource utilization, and better serve the healthcare community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, HSON reduced the MEPN cohort size to 45 students, determining this number as optimal for maintaining educational excellence. Currently, the program attracts over 350 qualified applicants for these limited spots. To expand access without compromising standards, HSON proposes splitting enrollment into two cohorts annually: one beginning in the fall and one in the spring. This approach will allow total enrollment to reach the approved 60 students.

Implementing this biannual enrollment strategy offers several benefits:

Optimized Resource Utilization: Distributing students across two cohorts reduces pressure on faculty and clinical sites, ensuring that resources are not overextended.

Enhanced Student Experience: Maintaining smaller class sizes promotes individualized attention, mentorship, and stronger learning outcomes. Research shows students in smaller cohorts report higher satisfaction levels, which can positively impact retention and success rates.

Current and Proposed Enrollment Patterns

	Approved	Fall Enrollment	Spring Enrollment	Total Enrollment
Current	60 students	45 students	0 students	45 students
Proposed	60 students	40 students	20 students	60 students

Academic and Clinical Partnerships

The proposed enrollment split was presented at the San Diego Regional Healthcare Workforce Partnership (SDRHWP) and San Diego Consortium meeting on January 16, 2025. A follow-up email was sent on January 19, 2025, to SDRHWP members, clinical partners, and representatives from nursing programs in Region 10. No concerns regarding the enrollment pattern change were raised during the meeting or in response to the follow-up communication.

The proposed enrollment split maximizes the utilization of the program's approved 60 seats. By reducing clinical units and shortening the program by one semester, this adjustment ensures the enrollment split does not impact clinical agencies or displace students from other nursing programs.

Program Resources and Support

The MEPN program is supported by a team of eight full-time faculty members, including three of whom are on the tenure track. HSON is committed to attracting and retaining highly qualified

educators by offering competitive compensation, a supportive academic environment, and robust professional development opportunities. Faculty members have access to ongoing training resources designed to strengthen their teaching effectiveness, including mentorship programs, workshops, and instructional technology.

Regular workload and compensation assessments guarantee faculty can effectively balance teaching responsibilities, clinical practice, and other obligations within HSON. Demonstrating a strong commitment to the MEPN program, both HSON and USD administration have approved additional faculty positions and are actively recruiting top- tier educators. This strategic investment is critical to implementing the enrollment change while upholding the program's high standards in education, student support, and clinical training.

Additionally, NCLEX pass rates have remained consistently strong since our last report, ranging between 88% and 100%, reflecting the quality of instruction and student support within the program.

	AY 2023-2024	AY 2022-2023	AY 2021-2022
NCLEX Pass rate	100%	88%	96.92%

Student Support & Success Strategies

HSON is committed to fostering student success through a comprehensive range of support services tailored for MEPN students. These services include faculty office hours and personalized academic advising, ensuring students have direct access to guidance and mentorship.

To support student retention, the MEPN program emphasizes early identification of students requiring additional assistance, coupled with proactive interventions and continuous support to keep them on track for graduation. Recognizing the importance of licensure readiness, NCLEX preparation is seamlessly integrated throughout the curriculum. This includes dedicated review sessions, practice examinations, and extensive resources designed to optimize student performance on the licensing exam.

Beyond academic support, the Student Ambassador program plays a key role in fostering peer connections, building a sense of community, and enriching the overall student experience. Through these comprehensive support strategies, HSON ensures the MEPN students are fully prepared to excel both academically and professionally.

Financial and Facilities Capacity to Support Enrollment Split

The proposed enrollment split for the MEPN Program is financially feasible, supported by strategic budget allocations for faculty, facilities, and student support. In collaboration with the USD administration, HSON remains committed to investing in additional faculty positions to maintain small class sizes and uphold program quality. Institutional funding will provide the necessary resources to accommodate the multiple cohorts while maintaining academic excellence.

HSON has sufficient classroom space, simulation lab capacity, and clinical site placements to support this enrollment split. The reduction in program units and duration further ensures that existing facilities can effectively support the enrollment pattern without impacting other nursing programs. Additional resources will also be dedicated to strengthening academic support

services, ensuring students have access to the guidance and tools needed to succeed. These financial commitments reflect the institution's ongoing dedication to sustaining the MEPN program's growth while preserving the highest standards of nursing education.

Conclusion and Summary of Request

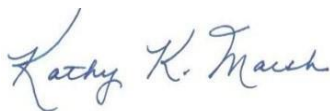
The USD HSON is seeking approval from the California Board of Registered Nursing to restructure enrollment in its MEPN program. The HSON proposes transitioning to a biannual enrollment, admitting 40 students in the fall and 20 students in the spring each AY. This admission strategy provides a streamlined pathway for individuals transitioning into nursing careers.

HSON is well-equipped to implement this enrollment change, supported dedicated faculty, robust student success initiatives, and strong institutional backing. A key component of this plan includes curriculum revisions that will reduce clinical hours from 1,296 to 960, effectively shortening the program duration from 21 to 18 months.

This adjustment allows for biannual admission without compromising educational quality or clinical placements. Additionally, HSON has sufficient classroom space, simulation labs, and clinical site partnerships to accommodate this growth without adversely affecting other nursing programs.

Through this strategic enrollment enhancement, HSON reaffirms its commitment to excellence in nursing education and dedication to meeting the evolving needs of students and the community.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathy K. Marsh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathy Ann Marsh, PhD, RN
Associate Dean, School of Nursing
University of San Diego
kathymarsh@sandiego.edu

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.3-5.6
DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding changes to approved prelicensure nursing programs.

REQUESTED BY: Mary Ann McCarthy, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

[California Code of Regulations \(CCR\) section 1432\(b\)](#) specifies: An approved nursing program shall not make a substantive change without prior board approval. These changes include:

- (1) Change in location.
- (2) Change in ownership.
- (3) Addition of a new campus or location.
- (4) Significant change in the agreement between an approved nursing program that is not an institution of higher education and the institution of higher education with which it is affiliated.
- (5) Any increase in total annual enrollment, or any change in the frequency, timing, or number of new student admissions for each board approved nursing program or degree option.

Additionally, [California Business and Professions Code \(BPC\) section 2786.2\(b\)\(1\)\(F\)](#) specifies: When considering a request to increase enrollment, the board may consider only the following factors related to the ability to adequately train additional students:

- (i) Adequacy of resources, including, but not limited to, faculty, facilities, equipment, and supplies.
- (ii) Availability of clinical placements.
- (iii) Complaints that have been verified by the board from students, faculty, or other interested parties.
- (iv) Licensing examination pass rates, graduation rates, and retention rates.
- (v) Any other similar factors specified by the board in regulations. The board shall not consider nursing workforce issues, including those identified under Section 2717, as factors for purposes of this subparagraph.

Furthermore, [BPC section 2786.2\(b\)\(2\)](#) states that upon complaint or other evidence that an approved nursing school does not meet the Board's standards, the Board may withhold approval under this subdivision or perform additional site inspections pursuant to [BPC section 2788](#).

An institution applying for approval of a new prelicensure registered nursing program (program applicant) shall be in the state and shall comply with the requirements specified in the Board's document entitled, "[Instructions for Institutions Seeking Approval of a New Prelicensure Registered Nursing Program or Addition of a New Campus or Location for a Currently Approved Nursing Program](#)".

This document specifies that the Board shall consider the feasibility study and accept, reject, or defer action on the study to permit the program applicant time to provide additional information to be considered, based upon the following criteria:

- (1) Evidence of initial and sustainable budgetary provisions for the proposed program;
- (2) Institution of higher education's authority to grant an associate of arts, baccalaureate, or higher degree;
- (3) For an affiliated institution, an agreement with an institution of higher education in the same general location authorized to grant an associate of arts, baccalaureate, or higher degree to students successfully completing the nursing program;
- (4) Evidence of availability of clinical placements for students of the proposed program;
- (5) Plans for administrative and faculty recruitment to staff the proposed program.

Additionally, the Board's designee, the assigned Nursing Education Consultant (NEC), shall review the self-study, conduct a site visit of the proposed program, and submit a written report to the Board that contains findings as to whether the application and supporting documentation for the proposed program comply with the requirements. The Board shall consider the application along with the written report and may grant or deny approval or defer action on the application. The Board's decision is based on the applicant's demonstration that it meets the requirements of [CCR sections 1424 through 1432](#) and [BPC section 2786.6](#).

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board Agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Mary Ann McCarthy, EdD, MSN, RN, PHN
Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.4.1

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a request to grant initial approval of a new prelicensure nursing program
REGION 5 Central Coast and REGION 8 Los Angeles
Pepperdine University Baccalaureate Degree and Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Katie Daugherty, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Pepperdine University (PU) submitted a Letter of Intent seeking approval for two new pre-licensure nursing education programs (BSN and ELM) in October 2023. The feasibility study was approved at the November 20, 2024, Board meeting. Pepperdine originally requested approval to enroll a total of 120 students annually. The Board requested a slight decrease in the annual enrollment from 120 to 112 students per year. The final approved annual enrollment for each degree program was 80 BSN and 32 ELM students annually. The school hired Program Director Dr. Angela Coaston PhD and began the Self Study phase for Initial Approval.

Enrollment Pattern: Enroll 2x a year with 80 new students every Fall (64 BSN and 16 ELM) and 32 (16 BSN and 16 ELM) every Spring for a total annual enrollment of 112 new students a year.

The BSN degree has the two pathways- a 4YR and 2YR Transfer pathway.

The ELM degree pathway will also be offered. The length of pathways is:

- 4-Year BSN degree pathway (eight semesters),
- 2-Year BSN Transfer pathway (four semesters in nursing after transferring in the required pre-requisite communication, behavioral, natural, social sciences and general education courses for nursing program admission)
- Entry Level Master's Degree-Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL-Clinical Nurse Leader) pathway (seven semesters). The ELM degree is available for applicants with bachelor's in a non-nursing field.

In the 4YR BSN pathway pre-requisite and other degree coursework is taken on the Pepperdine Malibu campus or at other accredited schools. All admission pre-requisite and other degree/graduation course requirements must be met to take the required series of courses in the nursing major.

Description of the Institution: Pepperdine University (established 1937) is a private non-profit Christian research university affiliated with the Churches of Christ located near the western border of Los Angeles County, 30 miles west of downtown Los Angeles and near Ventura County. A Board of Regents serves as the institution's chief policy and governing body. The President/CEO (since 2019) and the senior leadership team include the Provost/Chief Academic Officer, and a President's Steering Council made up of VPs and Deans of key operational areas. Pepperdine's School of Nursing (SON), the proposed pre-licensure BSN and ELM programs, and the College of Health Science are housed on the Calabasas campus a short 8.8 miles from the main Malibu campus that is located at 24255 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu California 90263. The Calabasas campus is located at 26750 Agoura Road, Calabasas, CA 91302.

Accreditation Status: Pepperdine is WASC-WSCUC accredited until Spring 2032. Pepperdine is currently seeking necessary approvals for the addition of the two pre-licensure nursing degree programs through the WASC substantive change processes and anticipates an approval decision in late April 2025. Pepperdine intends to seek CCNE national nursing accreditation with a planned site visit in Fall 2026.

Geographic Description: Pepperdine is situated on the western border of Los Angeles County and near the Ventura County line. Pepperdine anticipates enrollment of students from both counties.

Resources: The Calabasas campus houses the SON and its newly developed operational and instructional spaces in a two-story 107,169 square foot building with ample parking. The SON operational and instructional physical space on the first floor is sufficient. It includes as sufficient numbers of smart classrooms, and 20,000 square feet of space with a sizable reception/lobby area, furnished nursing faculty and staff offices, and the newly developed clinical skills/simulation labs with state-of-the-art advanced simulation technology designed to develop and enhance nursing clinical competency with very robust cadre of simulation and evidenced based learning experiences. The nursing program faculty hiring plan includes a total of 15 full time faculty (FTE), plus part time faculty as needed, and six program support staff including administrative/clerical staff, a Director of Simulation and Skills Education, and a Director of Clinical Academic Practice Partnerships. Five full time instructor level faculty will be employed starting June/July 2025 to accomplish faculty onboarding and orientations prior to the start of instruction. The program director and assistant director have full time 12 months administrative positions.

Curriculum: Instruction is delivered in 15-week semesters for both programs except for single summer 13-week term required in the seven semesters ELM program.

The 4YR BSN degree pathway is eight semesters, and the 2YR BSN Transfer pathway is four semesters after completion of the required prerequisite courses. The BSN pathways require a minimum of 133 units for the degree/graduation. Both BSN pathways require completion of a total of 94 units of specified content required for licensure (CRL) coursework per the regulations. The 94 units includes 65 units of nursing (44 nursing theory units and 21 clinical units- 945 clinical hours) plus seven (7) units of communication courses, and twenty-two (22) units of specific sciences. There are an additional 35 units of general education, and a 4 units public health coursework required for degree completion. The ELM pathway (seven semesters) for second degree bachelor's students requires a minimum of 136 units for graduation and the same 94 units of CRL coursework plus a total of 42 units of other degree courses including the public health course. ELM pathway students also complete an additional 540 clinical hours of advance practice graduate level clinical nurse leader specialized theory and clinical learning experiences that ensures ELM graduates are eligible for national certification as an MSN-Clinical Nurse Leader.

Budget: There are sufficient budget and funding resources to launch and sustain the program as described in the attached program executive summary and provided links. The 15 million dollars of start-up funding provided the necessary financial support for the development and launch of the SON, its nursing programs development and conversion of the unused first floor physical space at the Calabasas campus. The 20,000 square feet space now houses the new SON and nursing education facilities. A full time Director of Simulation and Skills Education is already onboarded. Pepperdine indicates the SON nursing programs will be a self-sustaining in the third year of operation and will completely "recoup" all operating deficits after its fourth year.

Total Program Costs:

BSN 4 YR=\$169,243

BSN 2YR Transfer= \$79,644

ELM=\$148,289.

Clinical sites: The program has submitted (15) EDP-P-18 signed Clinical Facility Authorization forms that show there are sufficient numbers and types of clinical sites in the five specialty areas to support program implementation and provide the required clinical learning experiences outlined in the curriculum plans and course syllabi. Presently the program has 21 signed written clinical agreements to support placements and there are an additional 5 pending clinical agency legal signatures. In terms of Pepperdine nursing participation in clinical regional planning consortia, Dean Coaston has been invited and, in some instances, has already participated in several different clinical regional planning meetings. The three consortia in Los Angeles County include the Health Consortium of Greater San Gabriel Valley, Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC), Los Angeles Centralized Clinical Placement System (CPPS). The three in Ventura County include Dignity Health Academic Practice Partnership Northridge Hospital, Los Robles Joint Advisory Group and Ventura County Regional Planning Group.

Communication and Collaboration efforts with existing nursing education programs: There are a reported 26 ADN, 16 BSN and 4 ELM programs in the 50-mile radius of the Calabasas campus. Pepperdine has sent written notification of the planned launch of the Pepperdine SON programs to the schools within the 50-mile radius twice. The first notification was sent via letter to 44 nursing education programs in February 2024 with no responses of objection or concern received. A second letter plus an email notification was sent in September 2024 to 66 nursing education programs. To date, Pepperdine has received four affirming responses, (3) requests for further discussion and (1) expression of reservations.

The self-study documentation and virtual site visit conducted on March 3, 2025, validated sufficient resources to launch both degree programs and includes expansive physical spaces, appropriate faculty and staff hiring plans, adequate equipment, supplies, student support services, robust library resources, 24/7 IT support and adequate type and number of clinical placements.

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Katie Daugherty, MN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

ELC 5.4.1. Pepperdine University - Initial Self-Study

Pepperdine is located in Los Angeles County (Region 8) about 30 miles west of downtown Los Angeles near the border of Ventura County (Region 5).

Pepperdine University's (October/November 2024) Feasibility Study approval authorized Pepperdine to enroll a total of 112 annually; 80 students every Fall and 32 every Spring. Approval by program type:

- BSN program: 64 students in the Fall and 16 students in the Spring for a total annual enrollment of 80 students.
- ELM program: 16 students in the Fall and Spring semesters for a total annual enrollment of 32 students.

Other programs presented:

There are no (0) other programs requesting enrollment increase(s), new campus(es), or new program(s) within Region 8 or Region 5.

Region 5 Data 2018-2025

Enrollment growth decisions for Region 5 have resulted in a total of 185 new students with the approval of one (1) new program (48 students annually) and five (5) enrollment increases (137 students annually).

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
Nursing Program Information	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
Westmont College	BSN - Private	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	5	November-21	New Program	48 annually	Approved	None
Monterey Peninsula College	ADN	Monterey	Monterey	5	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 64 to 80 annually, increase 16	Approved	None
Westmont College	BSN - Private	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	5	May-21	Feasibility	48 annually	Approved	None
Allan Hancock	ADN	Santa Maria	Santa Barbara	5	November-22	Enrollment Increase	from 35 to 50 annually, increase 15	Approved	None
Cuesta College	ADN	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	5	November-23	Enrollment Increase	from 50 to 80 annually, increase 30 (LVN to RN)	Approved	None
Monterey Peninsula College	ADN	Marina	Monterey	5	May-24	Enrollment Increase	from 80 to 96 annually, increase of 16	Approved	None
Westmont College	BSN - Private	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	5	January-25	Enrollment Increase	from 48 to 108 annually, increase 60	Approved	None

Region 8 Data 2018-2025

Enrollment decisions for Region 8 have resulted in total growth of 1,946 new students with the approval of 20 enrollment increases (1,127 students annually), two new campuses (225 students annually), four (4) new programs (320 students annually), and four (4) approved feasibility studies, including Pepperdine's feasibility study (274 students annually).

Two (2) requests for enrollment increases in Region 8 were denied: Stanbridge University (20 students annually) and American Career College (ACC) (100 enrollments) (120 TOTAL denied). One (1) request for enrollment increase in Regional 8 was deferred: ACC (54 enrollments); however, this request was later approved during November 2020 meeting.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
American Career College	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	January-18	Enrollment Increase	1 time enrollment increase to absorb 2 Shepherd University students	Approved	None
Glendale Community College	ADN	Glendale	Los Angeles	8	January-18	Enrollment Increase	1 time enrollment increase to absorb 4 Shepherd University students	Approved	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	November-18	Enrollment Increase	Defer enrollment pattern change return to Board after regional summit meetings. Enrollment request from 66 to 120 annually, increase 54.	Deferred Act	None
Glendale Community College	ADN	Glendale	Los Angeles	8	November-18	Enrollment Increase	from 30 to 60 annually, increase 30	Approved	None
Stanbridge University	ADN - Private	Alhambra	Los Angeles	8	November-19	New Campus	90 annually	Approved	None
Chamberlain University-Irwindale	BSN - Private	Irwindale	Los Angeles	8	November-19	Feasibility	120 annually	Approved	None
West Coast Ultrasound	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	September-19	Feasibility	90 annually	Approved	None
Angeles College	BSN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	September-19	Feasibility	60 annually	Approved	None
Angeles College	BSN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	November-20	New Program	60 annually	Approved	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	November-20	Enrollment Increase	from 66 to 150 annually, increase 84	Approved	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Alhambra	Los Angeles	8	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 140 to 160 annually, increase 20	Approved	None
Mt St Mary's University	BSN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	August-21	Enrollment Increase	from 98 to 160 annually, absorbing ADN teachout, 0 increase	Approved	None
West Coast Ultrasound	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	May-21	New Program	90 annually	Approved	None
Chamberlain University	BSN - Private	Irwindale	Los Angeles	8	February-21	New Program	120 annually	Approved	None
Charles Drew University	ELM - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	February-21	Enrollment Increase	from 60 to 80 annually, increase 20	Approved	None
Charles Drew University	BSN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	February-21	Enrollment Increase	80 annually	Approved	None
Marsha Fuerst SON - Glendale Ca	ADN - Private	West Covina	Los Angeles	8	May-22	New Campus	135 annually	Approved	None
Angeles College	BSN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	May-22	Enrollment Increase	from 60 to 120 annually, increase 60	Approved	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	May-22	Enrollment Increase	from 150 to 170 annually, increase 10 x 2 years only*	Approved	None
UCLA	BSN	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 56 to 69 annually, increase 13	Approved	None
Stanbridge University	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	February-23	Enrollment Increase	restart ADN track 20 students, increase 20	Denied	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	February-23	Enrollment Increase	From 150 to 250 annually, increase 100	Denied	None
CSU Northridge	BSN	Northridge	Los Angeles	8	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 80 to 120 annually, increase 40	Approved	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	August-23	Enrollment Increase	from 150 to 170 for 2024 only, increase 20	Approved	Yes
High Desert Medical College	ADN - Private	Lancaster	Los Angeles	8	August-23	Feasibility	30 students annually in 2024; 50 students annually in 2025	Approved	None
Western University of Health Sciences	ELM - Private	Pomona	Los Angeles	8	November-23	Enrollment Increase	from 70 to 100 annually, increase 30	Approved	None
High Desert Medical College	ADN - Private	Lancaster	Los Angeles	8	November-23	New Program	30 students annually in 2024; 50 students annually in 2025 (30 generic/20 LVN to RN)	Approved	None
Homestead Schools	ADN - Private	Torrance	Los Angeles	8	November-23	Feasibility	90 annually	Deferred	None
West Coast University	BSN - Private	North Hollywood	Los Angeles	8	November-23	Enrollment Increase	from 500 to 960 annually, increase 460	Approved	Yes
Pasadena City College	ADN	Pasadena	Los Angeles	8	August-24	Enrollment Increase	from 160 to 180 annually, increase 20	Approved	None
American Career College	BSN - Private	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	8	November-24	Enrollment Increase	from 150 to 170, increase 20	Approved	None
Pepperdine University	BSN - Private	Malibu/Calabasa	Los Angeles	8	November-24	Feasibility	80 annually	Approved	Yes
Pepperdine University	ELM - Private	Malibu/Calabasa	Los Angeles	8	November-24	Feasibility	32 annually	Approved	None
Southern California Health Institute	ADN - Private	Hollywood	Los Angeles	8	November-24	Feasibility	72 annually	Approved	Yes
Chamberlain University-Irwindale	BSN - Private	Irwindale	Los Angeles	8	January-25	Enrollment Increase	from 150 to 180 annually, increase 30	Approved	Yes
Career Care Institute	ADN - Private	Lancaster	Los Angeles	8	January-25	Enrollment Increase	from 58 to 96 annually, increase 64	Approved	Yes



Pepperdine University School of Nursing Self-Study - Executive Summary

Pepperdine University submits an Executive Summary highlighting the content of its self-study detailing proposed Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and Entry Level Masters (ELM) programs. The summary affirms the programs' compliance with all required content detailed in EDP-I-19(Rev 01/09), EDP-R-03(Rev 01/09), and all sections of both Article 3, Title 16, Chapter 14, California Code of Regulations and Article 4, Chapter 6, Business and Professions Code.

Approved Enrollment Pattern and Locations: The BRN confirmed receipt of Pepperdine's letter of intent for the prelicensure programs on October 24, 2023 and approved the feasibility study on November 20, 2024. The self-study was submitted on January 30, 2025 and the BRN site visit occurred on March 3, 2025. The proposed prelicensure programs are a BSN, with direct entry four-year and two-year pathways, and an ELM. Four-year BSN students will spend their first two years on Pepperdine's Malibu campus completing general education and foundational science courses. Their final two years will be spent at Pepperdine's Calabasas campus completing all nursing courses required for licensure. Two-year BSN and ELM students will complete all classes at the Calabasas campus. The BRN approved enrollment pattern for the nursing programs are - Fall semester: 64 BSN and 16 ELM; Spring semester: 16 BSN and 16 ELM – resulting in an annual enrollment of 112 students.

Institution and Geographic Area: Established in 1937, Pepperdine offers 112 degree programs at the bachelors, masters, and doctoral levels. Accredited by WSCUC through 2031, Pepperdine enrolls 8,956 students in six colleges and schools at four regional campuses and six international sites. With substantive change proposals for the BSN and ELM programs currently under review, Pepperdine anticipates WSCUC approval of both programs before April 30, 2025. Upon BRN approval, the university will begin the program accreditation process with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) to ensure the first cohort of two-year pathway BSN students graduate from a CCNE-accredited program in May, 2027. The CCNE on-site visit is planned for the Fall semester of 2026. Both Pepperdine campuses are located near the Los Angeles and Ventura County border, and the program will have clinical sites in both Ventura and western Los Angeles counties.

Program Cost: Tuition for all programs will be \$35,930 per semester in the 2025-2026 academic year, plus university and course fees. Merit and need based financial assistance will be provided to all students and result in the following estimated total net tuition and fee charges for the August 2025 entry cohorts in each program: Four-Year BSN = \$169,243; Two-Year BSN = \$79,664; ELM = \$148,289. Housing and meals will add an additional \$22,515 annual cost during the 2025-2026 academic year.

1424(a) Administration: The philosophy of the nursing program and the program learning outcomes (PLOs) of the BSN and ELM programs guided the development of their respective curricula. The curricula align with the mission, vision, and values of the School of Nursing (SON), and were intentionally designed to be grounded in the theories of Patricia Benner's Novice to Expert Model and Jean Watson's Caring Science. All Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) were written based upon California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) regulations

and CCNE accreditation standards, including the 2021 AACN Essentials and the AACN Synergy Model for Patient Care Competencies. Curriculum maps and alignment matrices for the BSN and ELM highlight the intentional nature of the curriculum design and the integration of all aforementioned elements.

All nursing course syllabi contain SLOs aligned with PLOs as detailed in curriculum maps for the BSN and ELM programs. The SLOs and PLOs are grounded in the nursing process, start with foundational concepts and topics, and progress sequentially from simple to complex throughout both curricula to build upon previous learning. Each course incorporates cognitive development, skill acquisition, and affective understanding. Interactive and simulation/skills learning are integrated in the curricula to promote the attainment of nursing competencies.

1424(b) Policies and Procedures: All SON policies and procedures are reported in the SON Academic Catalog, the College of Health Science (CHS) Faculty Handbook, the SON Faculty Policies and Procedures (Faculty P&P) Manual, and the SON Student Handbook. Per BRN regulations, the policies and procedures include a Total Evaluation Plan for SON programs, grievance procedures for students, the process for accepting military credit and experience, and credit by exam opportunities.

1424(c) Organizational Structure: The SON is under the direction of Founding Dean, Dr. Angel Coaston. A well-defined organizational structure exists within the university and SON to facilitate management and leadership of the nursing programs.

1424(d) Resources: The SON is equipped, staffed, and has sufficient resources to deliver both prelicensure programs. This determination is grounded in analyses of faculty (15 full-time equivalent, plus part-time as necessary to deliver the curricula) sufficiency, library resources, administrative and technical staffing (six full-time personnel), new [clinical education facilities \(images\)](#), including high-fidelity simulation, nursing skills, and health assessment laboratories, a diverse array of equipment and supplies, modern and sufficient classrooms and offices, robust [student services](#), and dedicated [financial resources](#) to meet all development and operating costs. The SON will be self-sustaining in its third year of operation and recoup all initial operating deficits after its fourth year.

1424(e/f) Director and Assistant Director: The SON will be directed by Dr. Angel Coaston. Her EDP-P-03 was approved by the NEC on December 12, 2024. The associate dean, Amanda Pitchford, has been hired and will be submitted to the NEC as the assistant director following program approval. Dean/Director Coaston will devote 100% of her effort to program administration and leadership. In the first year of operation, the associate dean/assistant director will be released from teaching responsibilities to focus on program administration. In subsequent years, the associate dean/assistant director will devote 17% of their effort to teaching (1 course annually) and 83% to program administration on an ongoing basis.

1424(g-k) Faculty, Faculty Responsibilities, Sufficiency, and Ratios: Comprehensive position descriptions list the responsibilities for all leadership, faculty, and staff positions. Pepperdine nursing faculty have the primary responsibility and will be provided comprehensive resources to support their roles in planning and delivering curriculum, assessing student performance, and evaluating teaching effectiveness. Additionally, faculty will have primary responsibility to develop and implement program policies and procedures, and evaluate all aspects of the

nursing programs. Five primary faculty will be hired in the SON's initial year of operation and the number of faculty will increase to 15 full-time-equivalent faculty in the fourth year. From program inception, additional qualified part-time faculty will be hired as necessary. The BSN and ELM programs will ensure that a full complement of faculty with both teaching and clinical expertise in all required content areas is maintained at all times. Faculty will be supervised by the Dean/Program Director and the Associate Dean/Assistant Director. Full-time lead faculty in each required area will supervise all clinical and assistant instructors, and clinical teaching assistants. The programs' student/faculty ratio in the clinical setting is planned to be 8/1 and will never exceed 10/1. Student cohort sizes will be managed to maintain the aforementioned student/faculty ratios, comply with clinical site requirements, and ensure compliance with all 16 CCR § 1424(k) and 1427 criteria and regulations.

1425 Faculty Qualifications: The assistant director and all faculty will be recruited in accordance with 16 CCR §1425 regulatory requirements and will not be hired until Forms EDP-P-03 (Assistant Director) or EDP-P-02 (faculty) are approved by the BRN NEC. Records of all approvals will be maintained by the SON. All changes in program faculty will be reported to the BRN within 30 days. A Content Expert (CE) with appropriate expertise will be assigned in each of the five required content areas: medical/surgical, geriatrics, obstetrics, pediatrics, and psych/mental health. The CE will serve as the lead faculty in each area and have the responsibility of recommending curriculum decisions and updating best practices in their specialty courses. All faculty will engage in ongoing professional development and continuing education to maintain continued clinical competence in their assigned teaching area.

1425.1(a-d) Faculty Responsibilities: All faculty members, full-time and part-time, are accountable for their roles in instruction and assessment, student evaluation, and curriculum planning and implementation. Faculty accountability is supported through professional development opportunities, clear policies, and regular evaluations by program leadership. These measures ensure high-quality instruction, alignment with program standards, and a commitment to continuous improvement in nursing education. All faculty will participate in both CHS and SON orientation programs annually. All new faculty will also participate in University, CHS, and SON new faculty orientation programs at the start of employment. All faculty will demonstrate clinical competence in the areas in which they teach. BRN approved faculty will be offered the opportunity to remediate in additional specialty areas for BRN reclassification in new specialty areas in accordance with BRN remediation guidelines.

1426(a-g) Required Curriculum: The BSN and ELM curricula meet all BRN requirements in 16 CCR §1426 and were designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to practice within the registered nurse scope of practice, as outlined in BPC § 2725. The curricula also meet CCNE accreditation standards, including the 2021 AACN Essentials and Synergy Model for Patient Care Competencies. The ELM curriculum meets all AACN Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) competencies and curricular expectations. The curricula for all prelicensure programs are detailed on EDP-P-05 and EDP-P-06 forms, and in the SON Catalog. All nursing courses comply with all sections of BPC § 2725, BPC § 2786, and 16 CCR § 1443.5. Implicit bias training is integrated throughout several courses in the curriculum.

In both the two-year (four semester) and four-year (eight semester) pathways, the BSN curriculum requires a minimum of 133 total units: 44 units of didactic nursing courses; 21 units of clinical nursing classes; 22 units of science; 7 units of communication; plus 4 units (2 didactic, 2 clinical) for public health nursing, and at least 35 units of general education. The seven-consecutive semester ELM program requires 136 total units. The undergraduate level prelicensure nursing courses for the ELM are identical to those in the BSN program: 44 units of didactic and 21 units of clinical nursing classes, plus 22 units of science and 7 units of communication. A statistics class (3 units), four public health nursing units (2 didactic, 2 clinical), and 35 graduate-level units consisting of 23 units of didactic courses and 12 units of clinical coursework encompassing an additional 540 clinical hours complete the program. The ELM graduate-level coursework provides the theory and content, as well as the clinical units and hours, required for graduates to take the National Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) certification exam. For both the BSN and ELM, the 21 units of prelicensure clinical courses require 945 clinical hours, 500 supervised direct patient care hours and 445 assessment, skill, and simulation laboratory hours. BSN and ELM students will also complete an additional 90 clinical hours in the public health clinical course.

Students in both programs will have a minimum of 500 total hours of supervised direct patient care, including at least 30 hours of direct patient care in med/surgical, psych/mental health, pediatrics, obstetrics, and geriatrics. Both programs prepare students for success on the NCLEX-RN examination and enable students to apply for the Public Health Nurse certificate upon graduation. Additionally, the ELM program also prepares students to succeed on the CNL certification exam and enables graduates to gain employment in key leadership positions in order to direct improvements in healthcare systems. Both nursing curricula are approved by the BRN and all future curricular revisions will obtain BRN approval before enactment.

The programs' Total Evaluation Plan with specified benchmarks for student achievement; graduate outcomes (NCLEX pass rate, employment statistics, and employer feedback); curriculum and faculty effectiveness; program philosophy, organization, administration, and outcomes; faculty performance; facilities, resources, and services; clinical learning experiences; and program evaluation. Faculty will participate in all aspects of program governance, assessment, evaluation, and modification. Students will participate in program evaluation through course evaluation instruments, regular program, satisfaction, and educational environment surveys, recurring focus groups, as well as participation in program committees and student nursing clubs and organizations.

1426.1(a-c) Preceptors and Preceptorships: The BSN and ELM programs have the same preceptorship course at the end of the prelicensure program. In all preceptorships, program faculty will maintain overall supervisory authority, including all final grading and summative course performance evaluation responsibilities. Program faculty will be responsible for coordinating and communicating with the student and preceptor throughout the preceptorship to address and respond to challenges and support student success. Policies and procedures for the preceptorship course are reported in the Faculty P&P Manual and require a preceptor orientation for all preceptors. Preceptor will receive the SON Preceptor Handbook to ensure they are knowledgeable of all policies and procedures of the preceptorship, the required communication plan, and the responsibilities of the preceptor, student, and faculty. All preceptors will meet the requirements in 16 CCR §1425(e) and

records for all preceptors will be maintained by the SON. All preceptors will be evaluated on a regular and recurring basis.

1427(a-f) Clinical Facilities: The SON has a sufficient number and types of clinical placements in a variety of settings to support the BSN and ELM programs as evidenced on signed and submitted EDP-18 Clinical Facility Authorization Forms. The program has 21 signed clinical affiliation agreements that comply with the regulations in 16 CCR §1427(c). The SON continues to seek additional clinical placements and has several agreements pending in all specialty areas. Pepperdine nursing will participate in six consortia, three each in Los Angeles County and Ventura Counties, to facilitate the placement process. No clinical displacement of students from existing nursing programs will occur to accommodate Pepperdine placements and no nursing programs have expressed concerns about Pepperdine's proposed prelicensure programs since the feasibility study was approved. Pepperdine is committed to partnering with all existing nursing programs to minimize clinical displacement and will work collaboratively to resolve placement challenges with all programs should they occur.

1428 Student Participation: The SON values student involvement and provides opportunities for their active participation in shaping its policies and procedures. Students will engage in discussions on the programs' philosophy and objectives, and also evaluate learning experiences through course evaluations, surveys, and focus groups. Through organized meetings with faculty and service on advisory committees, students will contribute to the improvement of the curriculum, instructional practices, and the use of clinical facilities. The Student Handbook details opportunities for students to participate in all program activities.

1428.6 Eligibility for Examination: Using the CA Graduate Director Verification portal, the SON will verify each student's graduation status, including degree earned and conferral date, to confirm their eligibility to take the NCLEX-RN exam. The program will immediately update the status of any student who does not maintain eligibility for the exam.

1429: Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN): The program has a 30-unit pathway for LVN students to complete the curriculum and meet the requirements to apply for licensure as a RN. The LVN pathway is detailed in the admission section of the SON Academic Catalog.

1430: Previous Education Credit: Policies and procedures approved by the university and compliant with BRN regulations are published in the SON Catalog to guide granting of credit for prior education and knowledge. The SON evaluates transfer credits from Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Credit by Examination (CLEP), and Military Service, as well as previously-earned college credits from other colleges and universities. The SON admission policy also includes challenge examinations and proficiency tests to provide diverse pathways for students to enter the programs. The Program Director will supervise these processes to ensure the accuracy of advisement and counseling. Performance of all students will be tracked and evaluated over time to identify trends indicating areas for improvement.

1431: Licensing Examination Pass Rate Standard: The SON has established a minimum internal pass rate benchmark of 85% and is dedicated to maintaining a NCLEX-RN pass rate well above the minimum 75% BRN standard. To meet this benchmark, the program has

developed a robust NCLEX-RN preparation program, including the use of a suite of ATI products. Additionally, the program will monitor student performance to provide support and remediation, as needed. Aware of the consequences of failing to maintain the minimum BRN pass rate standard, the program will undertake an immediate comprehensive assessment and implement a targeted action plan if they fail to meet the internal 85% benchmark.

1432: Changes to an Approved Program: If granted approval, Pepperdine commits to file its legal name and mailing address with the BRN and inform the BRN of any future changes. The nursing programs will also notify the BRN of any adverse changes in fiscal conditions, as well as changes in organizational structure, administrative responsibility, or accountability. The SON will make no changes to the BSN or ELM programs without prior BRN approval, including changes in location, ownership, campus location, curriculum, or enrollment.

Conclusion: Through the self-study, the Pepperdine University School of Nursing identified eight areas of strength that position its programs for excellence. They are: the 88-year foundation of Pepperdine University; outstanding SON leadership; sound and effective curricula; exceptional learning facilities on the Malibu and Calabasas campuses, including new simulation and skills laboratories at the Calabasas campus; high-quality clinical partnerships and learning experiences; outstanding faculty and staff; an abiding commitment to student engagement, including exceptional student services; and, Pepperdine's Christian mission and vision. Committed to maintaining a virtuous cycle of assessment, evaluation, and improvement, the SON also has identified three areas to strengthen and improve prior to its launch: continual expansion of clinical sites, ongoing faculty and staff recruitment while planning to minimize turnover, and continual program development. The program has detailed plans and has already demonstrated improvement in each area. As the program grows and evolves during the next eight years, the SON will focus on achieving strategic goals in the areas of accreditation, student success, faculty development, research, and service, while advancing nursing education through innovation and growth. The SON will initiate the CCNE accreditation process upon attaining BRN approval. CCNE accreditation will ensure compliance with national nursing standards, bolster the program's reputation in both academic and clinical excellence, and serve as a marker of the program's commitment to excellence to the nursing community.

Pepperdine's School of Nursing is strongly aligned with the university's mission and vision. The school and its nursing programs arise from purposeful planning, sound execution, and strategic investments detailed in the self-study. During the feasibility study, site visit, and self-study processes, Pepperdine has demonstrated full compliance with all rules and regulations for the development and administration of new prelicensure BSN and ELM programs. The deep and abiding support of senior leadership, the Board of Regents, and the Pepperdine community strongly demonstrates Pepperdine's commitment to the success of the SON. To enable Pepperdine University to contribute meaningfully to the nursing profession and the health of the communities we serve, we respectfully request the Board of Registered Nursing to approve this self-study and grant initial program approval, allowing the School of Nursing to launch its BSN and ELM academic programs in August 2025.

Prepared by: Dr. Angel Coaston, Founding Dean, School of Nursing, Pepperdine University. Reviewed by: Dr. Michael Feltner, Founding Dean, College of Health Science, Pepperdine University. © Replication or creation of derivative works without authorization by Pepperdine University is prohibited.

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 5.4.2

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a request to grant initial approval of a new prelicensure nursing program
REGION 3 San Francisco Bay
Saint Mary's College Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Kimberly Knight, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Saint Mary's College (SMC) submitted a feasibility study for a new prelicensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in Moraga, CA, located in western Contra Costa County (Region 3). The feasibility study was accepted and approved by the Board on November 20, 2024. SMC is a non-profit institution of higher education founded in 1863 by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco and is part of the global Lasallian schools. The college offers undergraduate and graduate programs in its four schools: School of Economics and Business Administration, Kalmanovitz School of Education, School of Liberal Arts, and School of Science. The school hired Program Director Pamela Stanley, DNP, MSN, MBA, RN and began the Self Study phase for Initial Approval

Initial Program Request and Enrollment Pattern:

Enrollment request: 50 students twice per year beginning Fall 2025, for an annual enrollment of 100 students.

Curriculum

The BSN curriculum consists of 12-16-week semesters over 19 months, with 67 units for licensure and 129 units for graduation. The curriculum has the required 500 hours of direct patient care with the minimum of 30 hours in each of the five content specialty areas. The curriculum will also include the required content to support the Public Health Nurse certification application. Consistent with CCR 1426 the curriculum has a unifying theme integrated throughout the program designed to meet the minimum competency standards of a registered nurse.

Physical Resources and Faculty

A virtual tour was conducted on February 27, 2025, that included a library, student learning resource center, classrooms, faculty offices and lounge, student break rooms, and computer labs. SMC has existing classroom space and portable trailer on campus for skills, simulation, and additional classroom space for groups of 70 students. Long-term SMC plans to build a three-story building to house nursing and allied healthcare programs.

SMC has hired four (4) full time faculty with plans to hire four (4) additional full time and eight (8) part time faculty. SMC has hired a Simulation Director and Administrative Assistant, with plans to hire a Simulation RN, and Simulation Tech, Clinical Coordinator, a Data Analysis/Compliance Officer, and student administrative support.

Clinical Placement

SMC has submitted signed contracts and Program Clinical Facility Authorization Forms (EDP-P-18) for 17 clinical facilities that include acute, subacute, non-acute facilities that cover pediatric, psychiatric, medical surgical and geriatric specialties.

SMC has reached out to schools within a 50-mile radius. They have sent letters with an embedded survey to 32 registered nursing programs announcing their intent to launch this program. The program director Dr. Pamela Stanley has engaged with 24 schools, conducting both Zoom and in-person meetings to foster future collaboration on the areas of clinical outreach projects and shared simulation resources. SMC has visited San Jose State University, College of San Mateo, Contra Costa College, and San Francisco City College.

Total Program Costs: BSN = \$135,000.00

The self-study documentation and virtual site visit conducted on February 27, 2025, validated sufficient resources and includes appropriate faculty and staff hiring plans, adequate equipment, supplies, student support services, and adequate type and number of clinical placements.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT: Kimberly Knight, RN, MSN, FNP-C, PHN
Nursing Education Consultant

5.4.2 Saint Mary's College of California – Feasibility Study

Saint Mary's College of California is presenting a Feasibility Study to start a new BSN program in Moraga, California within Contra Costa County (Region 3). This proposed enrollment pattern is 50 BSN students twice a year for an annual enrollment of 100 students.

Other programs presented:

There are no (0) other programs requesting enrollment increase(s), new campus(es), or new program(s) within Region 3.

Region 3 Data 2019-2025

Enrollment decisions for Region 3 has resulted in the growth of 801 new students through the approval of six (6) enrollment increases (169 students annually), three (3) new campuses (344 students annually), and three (3) feasibility studies (288 students annually).

One (1) request for a feasibility study in Region 3 was deferred: Medical Career College (48 enrollments); however, this was later approved in November 2024.

Note: The enrollment increase in 2022 was to teach out 15 students from Holy Names University and did not add additional students to this region.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
Gurnick Academy	BSN - Private	Concord	Contra Costa	3	September-19	New Campus	112 annually	Approved	None
Unitek College	BSN - Private	Concord	Contra Costa	3	November-20	New Campus	120 annually	Approved	None
Samuel Merritt University	BSN - Private	Oakland	Alameda	3	June-22	Enrollment Increase	15 student 2022, teachout Holy Names University;	Approved	None
Los Medanos College	ADN	Pittsburg	Contra Costa	3	May-24	Enrollment Increase	from 40 to 48 annually, increase of 8	Approved	None
College of Marin	ADN	Kentfield	Marin	3	May-24	Enrollment Increase	from 43 to 52 annually, increase 9	Approved	None
Unitek College (Fremont Campus)	BSN - Private	Fremont	Alameda	3	August-24	Enrollment Increase	from 160 to 200 annually, increase 40	Approved	None
Medical Career College	ADN - Private	Fremont	Alameda	3	August-24	Feasibility	24 annually in 2025 and 48 annually in 2026	Deferred	
Medical Career College	ADN - Private	Fremont	Alameda	3	November-24	Feasibility	48 annually	Approved	None
Quest Nursing Education Center	BSN - Private	Oakland	Alameda	3	November-24	Feasibility	140 annually	Approved	Yes
Saint Mary's College of California	BSN - Private	Moraga	Contra Costa	3	November-24	Feasibility	100 annually	Approved	None
Samuel Merritt University	BSN - Private	Oakland	Alameda	3	January-25	Enrollment Increase	from 176 to 248 annually, increase 72	Approved	None
Unitek College	BSN - Private	Concord	Contra Costa	3	January-25	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 160 annually, increase 40	Approved	None
Gurnick Academy	BSN - Private	San Jose	Santa Clara	3	January-25	New Campus	112 annually	Approved	None

Executive Summary Saint Mary's College

Description of the Institution, History, Organizational Structure: Saint Mary's College (SMC), is a non-profit institution of higher education with a board of trustees and a board of Regents. The school was founded in 1863 by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco and is part of the global Lasallian schools. The college offers undergraduate and graduate programs in its four schools.

Health Related Programs: SMC does not currently have a nursing program. SMC has two Kinesiology programs, offers a BS in Psychology, BS in clinical psychology and a BS in health sciences. SMC does have a history of supporting nursing programs. In 1977, Samuel Merritt University (SMU) and Saint Mary's College created an Intercollegiate Nursing program, which graduated thousands of nursing students; the partnership ended in 2015.

Accreditation: The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) has fully accredited undergraduate and graduate programs since 1948; SMC has not received a denial, revocation, or warning. We have consistently maintained good standing with the accrediting body, with the last accreditation in 2018. SMC has the authority to grant both Baccalaureate and higher degrees.

Other SMC accreditations include the Kalmanovitz School of Education by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, the California Board of Behavioral Sciences, the School of Economics and Business Administration by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, and the Museum by the American Alliance of Museums. The college is building the BSN program to meet CCNE accreditation with the new essentials embedded within all documents. SMC also was just approved by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to open a CNA program.

Geographic Area: The 420-acre campus is in Moraga, California. This campus will offer nursing students a suburban setting in western Contra Costa County, just east of Oakland. Contra Costa County forms a rectangle directly north of Alameda County with similar western and eastern borders. SMC is nestled between highways 13, 24, and 680 making it easily accessible. There are two Bay Area Rapid Transit subway stops—Orinda and Lafayette—that connect to the County Connection (a regional public transportation company), which services the area where SMC is located.

Population and economic growth: Moraga has a population of approximately 22,000 and is in Contra Costa County which has a population of approximately 1.2 million. Cities within this county with populations greater than 50,000 are (listed in descending order): Concord, Antioch, Richmond, San Ramon, Pittsburgh, Walnut Creek, and Brentwood. There are 18 school districts, over 100 high schools and 64,000 students. There are three community colleges (two of which have two campuses each) and serves over 50,000 students a year.

It is projected that Contra Costa County will add 168,000 people by 2050. It is also projected that the neighboring counties will be adding a total of 712,000 people: Alameda County (296,000), San Francisco (213,000), Solano County (35,000). The City of Moraga announced plans to build additional housing to support the city's growth. Contra Costa is also adding a new mental health facility, requiring more nursing personnel.

The Bay Area is known for its ethnic diversity. According to the 2020 United States Census, the population was 7,765,640 in the nine Bay Area counties. In 2020, the racial makeup of the nine Bay Area counties was 52.2% White, 6.7% non-Hispanic African American, 0.7% Native American, 23.3% Asian (Chinese; Filipino, Indian, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese, Pakistani, Cambodian, Laotian, & Thai), 0.6% Pacific Islander, 10.8% other races, and 5.4% two or more races. The population was approximately 23.5% Hispanic or Latino of any race.

Current and Projected Shortage Indicators: Currently, the Bay Area is facing a drastic change, with the final Baby Boomers reaching retirement age at ~12,000 a day. California and the Bay Area is struggling with post-pandemic effects, leading to increased homelessness, mental health disorders, a major drug epidemic, and an aging population. These factors increase the demands for healthcare and the need for more nurses in hospital and community settings. Healthcare disparities and inequities of a diverse population indicate that the region's continued development of opportunities for Baccalaureate education for nursing is warranted.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports a national need for 203,200 nurses annually. California is ranked #14, at the bottom, in the number of nurses available in proportion to the population. The gap between available nurses and the demand for more nurses still hasn't reached a balanced position, creating a shortage of nurses for the workforce. <https://www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/forms/forecast2022.pdf>

Applicant Pool: SMC recognizes that marginalized students are often disqualified from applying to programs due to standardized testing. We also recognize a higher grade in some courses has yet to prove that students will perform better in a nursing program. Therefore, an admissions committee has established a holistic approach for admission into the nursing program recognizing the whole student. As a recognized Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) with a large percentage of the population from underserved communities and first-generation college students, we anticipate this will be a significant percentage of our nursing student population. Since this is our population, we recognize the importance of collaboration across the college to promote student success. We aim to ensure equity and inclusion as part of our admission process. Based on our research 65.7% of qualified applicants were not enrolled in nursing programs in 2021-2022

Program Design Description of the Nursing Program: The proposed BSN undergraduate program is a valuable addition to our educational offerings and a strategy that aligns with the College's emphasis on undergraduate education and a solid commitment to

attract and serve distinctive and growing populations of students. Students will be admitted to the RN program in their junior year after completing all prerequisites. The nursing program will be a year-round curriculum model consisting of five semesters. The proposed curriculum builds on the knowledge obtained in the pre-nursing coursework, building on students' science, liberal arts, and English literacy. The total units required are 129, with 64 in the nursing program. Class size will be limited to 25-50 students in the core content areas to align with SMC small class size philosophy.

The curriculum is meticulously built around the National Council Licensure Examination-RN (NCLEX-RN) Test Plan, ensuring our students are well-prepared for their professional journey. It's designed to meet 16 CCR 1426, a testament to our commitment adhering to industry standards. The program will incorporate the AACN Essentials, ANA Scope of Practice, ANA Code of Ethics, QSEN Competencies, Maria O'Rourke's Professional Role Model, and Jean Watson's Caring Model. We are following the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) Guidelines; Developing A Curriculum (DACUM) – Entry Level Registered Nurse; National League of Nursing (NLN/AC) – Guidelines for Accreditation, further ensuring the quality of our program.

Program Purpose, Objectives and Rationale: SMC's goal is to recruit and prepare a diverse/underserved student body to pass the NCLEX; while, obtaining most of the required clinical hours in underserved and forgotten communities. In a collaborative effort, SMC is working closely with community agencies to establish partnerships that provide students with various community opportunities to obtain clinical hours. Having students complete these varied community clinical experiences will help students understand the unique needs of different populations. It will also help prepare our students for various positions throughout the healthcare continuum, not just the hospital. The plan is for students to only have 1-2 acute care experiences, to reduce the impact on clinical sites and prevent displacement of other nursing programs.

Target Dates and Projected and Pattern of Enrollments: We are requesting enrolment of 100 students per year. With a pattern of admitting 50 students in the fall and 50 in the spring. SMC is planning a soft launch of the program with the first cohort starting in Fall of 2025 accepting 24 students. This will continue in the spring of 2026 with only 36 students being accepted. The full enrollment of 50 students per semester will start in the Fall of 2026.

Budgetary Provisions, Program Cost & Funding: The 5-year annual operating budget shows SMC being profitable in year three. Initial startup and operating costs for the first three years come from donor funding. SMC has been working with their board to raise 10 million in startup funds to support the program. In addition to our Board of Trustees, we have been working with our Board of Regents and Trustee Emeriti to raise an additional \$5 million dollars.

Saint Mary's College's endowment consists of 300 individual funds established to support scholarships, professorships, programs, and other SMC priorities; these funds

have 174 million dollars. It includes both donor-restricted assets and assets designated by the board of Trustees. The college maintains a 10-million-dollar reserve fund. An initial investment of approximately \$ 8.8 million over several years is estimated to be needed to operate the program successfully.

Program Cost: Tuition costs \$ 55,634 per year for up to 36 semester units. Annual room and board fees are approximately \$ 15,000. Over 90% of the students receive financial aid consisting of state, federal, institutional grants, need-based, non-need-based government, private loans, and merit-based scholarships. Students can complete pre-nursing and the nursing program in just over 3.5 years. The total pre-nursing program is 111,268 with the 50% discount. The projected cost for 19 months in the Nursing program is 139,085.

Faculty Resources: SMC has already made significant strides in our staffing plans for the new program. SMC has hired a Director of Nursing, Simulation Director, two assistant directors, administrative support, and 6 additional faculty members. SMC has faculty for all content areas. Over the next three years, we plan to fill a variety of positions, offering a wide range of opportunities for growth and development. These include two Academic Directors, a Simulation RN, a Simulation Tech, two Administrative Assistants, a Clinical Coordinator, a Data Analysis/Compliance Officer, 11-Full-time Faculty, 12-Adjunct Faculty for Pediatrics, 12-Adjunct Faculty for OB, 12-Adjunct Faculty for Mental health, 36-Adjunct Faculty for Medical-surgical/Geriatrics. SMC has also already budgeted 4.0 FTE to hire additional non-nursing faculty to support the growing pre-nursing program,

SMC has already hired seven consultants as subject matter experts for their expertise. These nurse consultants have expressed desire to become full-time faculty once we are approved. We also have several faculty waiting to sign on as adjuncts.

Physical Resources: The school's physical facilities are adequate to meet the school's mission and the goals of the educational programs and are sufficient for the operation of the proposed nursing program. Facilities include a library, student learning resource center, classrooms with capacity to hold 60 students, faculty offices and lounge, student break rooms and computer labs. SMC is in the process of building a simulation center located on campus in existing space. Simulation Design experts, architects and SMC facility department are already working on this project with a scheduled completion date of August. In addition to the simulation center additional class space has been identified to be remodeled to provide additional skills and classroom space. Items have been ordered, and the expected completion date is July 1st. SMC has also secured a contract with Sequia hospital in Redwood city for utilization of their robust simulation and skills lab space. This provides students with the opportunity to have more hands-on experience with current equipment being utilized within hospital settings.

Curriculum Design: The proposed BSN program meets the required curriculum for licensure regulated by the Board of Registered Nursing. The proposed curriculum complies with the California Code of Regulations Section 1426. The proposed

curriculum for the BSN program has been designed to match regulatory standards and will be more defined through the self-study. We will offer courses over 12 weeks in the summer and 16 weeks during the fall and spring semesters. The curriculum is designed to be taught in five semesters. Courses are designed to be sequential. Theory and clinical practice shall be concurrent in the following nursing areas: geriatrics, medical-surgical, mental health/psychiatric nursing, obstetrics, pediatrics, and community. The curriculum will have a hybrid or blended learning environment. Approximately 30-40% of classes will not be held on campus. Classes not on campus will be taught in one of two ways: online asynchronous or online synchronous.

Online asynchronous classes will be provided where students are placed in groups and complete a class module. The module will be completed at home. Each student will remain in their prospective home for this module. Each class may have a maximum of 30% of the time designated using this remote teaching modality. These modules are designed to bring more technology into the curriculum.

The total units required are 129, with 64 in the nursing program. The curriculum meets CCR 1426 requirements. There are 18 semester units of Nursing theory and 18 semester units of clinical units taught concurrently. There are also 6 units in communication and 16 semester units in Behavioral and Natural sciences. In addition, community, and community clinical will be completed so students are eligible for their public health certification upon passing the NCLEX examination.

Clinical Placement: SMC has enough sites to support the expected enrollment for the first two cohorts. The school has secured 18 clinical placements with signed EDP-I-01, EDP-18 and contracts signed. These sites support the required clinical hours for medical-surgical, obstetrics, pediatrics, psych-mental health, and geriatrics. Each area has placements sufficient to support clinical training of an average-size student cohort (8-10 students).

Description of Collaboration and Coordination Efforts with Existing Registered Nursing Programs & Other Local and Regional Planning Consortium: Adhering to BRN requirements with utmost diligence, SMC has proactively reached out to schools within a 50-mile radius. Letters with embedded surveys were sent to 32 registered nursing programs announcing our intent to launch, and Dr. Stanley has personally engaged with 24 schools through Zoom and in-person meetings to foster collaboration. These efforts have sparked meaningful dialogue around clinical outreach, shared simulation resources, and joint educational opportunities. Notably, SMC's Simulation Director and Director of Nursing visited San Jose State University and the College of San Mateo to exchange best practices and explore future partnerships. We've also engaged Contra Costa College and San Francisco City College to discuss faculty collaboration and student support strategies. These outreach efforts complement our ongoing regional engagement strategy and highlight our dedication to partnership and ensuring we do not displace current nursing programs with historic clinical placements.

SMC is deeply committed to advancing nursing education through active community engagement, Academic/clinical partnerships, and regional collaboration. We are proud to host the Bay Area Nursing Student Success Boot Camp for the Black Nurses Association on our campus this April, a reflection of our dedication to equity and student achievement. This same month, SMC has been invited to present at Los Medanos College to share information on our nursing program. Dr. Stanley continues to receive valuable guidance and remains active in COADN, CACN, AONL, and as President of NuXI at Large—networks where SMC’s proposed program is generating strong interest. We are also aligning with local coalitions to become active members upon approval, reinforcing our momentum and institutional readiness.

Conclusion: This feasibility study demonstrates the critical need for a BSN pre-licensure nursing program. Citing NIH in a landmark paper, nursing schools need to increase and target new federal and state subsidies and institutional capacity awards to significantly increase the number and proportion of new registered nurses who graduate from basic pre-licensure education with a baccalaureate or higher degree in nursing, which SMC provides. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK209874/> Requesting public and private resource investment to incentivize students in the rigorous journey.

Many college students express the need or desire to work in the healthcare field while attending college. SMC has been approved to open a CNA program and is accepting students this fall. The initiative to open a CNA program was to support the students in obtaining part time work in the healthcare environment. Supporting students in seeking work within the healthcare arena enables them to gain additional skills and understanding of the role of healthcare providers.

The Bay Area continues to struggle with a nursing shortage and has many positions unfilled in a variety of healthcare settings. There are sufficient clinical locations within hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, clinics, and community settings to support a new nursing program. There’s a strong interest from previous alumni and community for Saint Mary’s college to offer a nursing program.

Saint Mary’s has the resources to open and sustain a professional nursing program. The strategic plan of Saint Mary’s College is to offer certificate, undergraduate, and graduate programs in nursing. SMC is meeting with key clinical partners to redesign/reimagine how direct care clinical rotations can provide a more meaningful and educational experience for the student.

We believe with all the details and comprehensiveness of our feasibility study, we have met the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) regulations to establish a new pre-licensing BSN program in Moraga, CA. Saint Mary’s College respectfully requests that this feasibility study be considered for the upcoming BRN Education and Licensing Committee (ELC) for discussion and favorable action. SMC administration, faculty and staff appreciate the time and assistance provided by our Nursing Education Consultant, Ms. Kimberly Knight, MSN, RN, FNP-C, PHN.

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 5.4.3

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a request to grant initial approval of a new prelicensure nursing program.
REGION 7 Inland Empire
Westcliff University Baccalaureate Degree and Entry Level Master's
Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Kimberly Knight, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Westcliff University submitted a feasibility study for a new prelicensure nursing program with two (2) tracks: Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (BSN) and Entry Level Master's (ELM) in Corona, CA, located in Riverside County. The feasibility study was accepted and approved by the Board on August 24, 2023. Westcliff currently consists of four (4) colleges: College of Business, College of Education, College of Technology and Engineering, and Western State College of Law. The proposed programs of nursing will be offered through the establishment of a fifth college: The College of Nursing. The school hired Program Director Erica Martinez, DNP, RN, CCRN and began the Self Study phase for Initial Approval

Initial Program Request and Enrollment Pattern:

- Initial Request: Westcliff initially requested an enrollment pattern of 80 students per year in the BSN program and 80 students per year in the ELM program, yielding an annual enrollment of 160 students.
- Current Request: The current request is for 40 students three (3) times a year for the BSN program yielding 120 students annually, and 20 students twice (2) a year for the ELM program yielding 40 students annually, for a total of 160 students for both programs. This change is to allow for more consistent usage of clinical opportunities, and to be in alignment with the University's academic calendar without changing the Board's approved annual enrollment number. Westcliff is anticipating a Fall 2025 start.

Curriculum

The BSN curriculum consists of 16-week semesters over 36 months, with 65 units for licensure and 120 units for graduation. The ELM curriculum also consists of 16-week semesters over 20 months with 65 units for licensure and 96 units for graduation. Both curriculums have the required 500 hours of direct patient care with a minimum of 30 hours in each of the 5 content areas. The curriculum will also include the required content to support Public Health Nurse certification application. Consistent with CCR 1426 the curriculum has a unifying theme integrated throughout the program designed to meet minimum competency standards of a registered nurse.

Resources

A virtual visit was conducted March 3, 2025. The college has adequate resources to immediately accommodate students for classroom instruction. The hiring plan for faculty will be implemented 8 weeks prior to beginning operations. The program is budgeting for full-time faculty members, academic support teams, including advisors and tutors.

Westcliff University's Corona campus will house a facility with high tech laboratories for skills and simulation, the projected completion for full operation of the simulation and skills lab will be April 2025. The campus offers a student lounge and a dedicated faculty lounge, along with ample parking. The facility includes private offices for the Associate Deans, course coordinators, with shared office space for faculty and staff. There are private spaces for advising staff and counselors, meeting rooms, study/tutoring areas, and a Library and Digital Resource Center. Additional amenities career services center, computer lab, and Academic Resource Center.

There are seven (7) classrooms that seat 40 students and a 24-seat science lab with a sink and eyewash station. All classrooms are equipped with internet, audio/visual equipment, and smart boards. The High-Fidelity Simulation will include four (4) exam rooms with a mother/baby delivery room, with advanced tech capabilities. The skills lab will offer 10 workstations for hands-on practice equipped with audio/visual equipment and smart boards. Westcliff has submitted a master spreadsheet of lab supplies and a collection of invoices for beds, mannequins, SIM monitoring equipment, privacy curtains, pumps, and crash cart with defibrillator.

Westcliff has submitted signed Program Clinical Facility Authorization Forms (EDP-P-18) for Monrovia Memorial Hospital, Totally Kids Subacute, City of Hope and submitted 10 Facility Verification Forms (EDP-i-01) for secured clinical placements adequate for projected enrollment numbers.

There are 22 schools offering ADN, BSN, and/or ELM programs within a 50-mile radius to Westcliff's Corona campus who share clinical sites. As Westcliff is in Riverside County it is a member in the Inland Empire Healthcare Education Consortium (IEHEC). Out of the 22 schools, 17 have participated in IEHEC meetings where Westcliff has shared information about the campus's progress for the past 18 months. The most recent meeting convened in January 2025.

Program costs: BSN Program \$117,000.00 ELM Program \$90,195.00

The self-study documentation and virtual site visit conducted on March 3, 2025, validated sufficient resources and includes appropriate faculty and staff hiring plans, adequate equipment, supplies, student support services, and adequate type and number of clinical placements.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Kimberly Knight, RN, MSN, FNP-C, PHN
Nursing Education Consultant

5.4.3 Westcliff University- Initial Self Study

Westcliff University is presenting an Initial Self Study for a new nursing program in Corona, California withing Riverside County (Region 7). The amended enrollment pattern request is 120 BSN and 40 ELM for a total of 160 students annually.

Region 7 Data 2019-2025

Enrollment decisions for Region 7 has resulted in the growth of new 2,030 students with approval of 13 enrollment increases (958 students annually), five (5) new campuses (732 students annually), three (3) new programs (260 students annually), and one (1) feasibility study which represents Westcliff (80 students annually),

One (1) request for enrollment increase in Region 7 wase deferred: California Baptist University (32 enrollments) which was later approved in February 2019.

School	Program	City	County	Reg	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action
California Baptist University	BSN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	November-18	Enrollment Increase	Defer enrollment pattern change return to Board after regional summit meetings. Enrollment request from 160 to 196 annually, increase 32.	Deferred Action
California Baptist University	BSN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-19	Enrollment Increase	from 160 to 196 annually, increase 32	Approved
Arizona College	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-20	Feasibility	120 annually	Approved
CSU San Bernardino	BSN	Palm Desert	Riverside	7	April-20	Enrollment Increase	from 114 to 132, increase 18	Approved
Arizona College	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-21	New Program	120 annually	Approved
American Career College	ADN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-21	New Campus	125 annually	Approved
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	May-21	New Campus	160 annually	Approved
Palo Verde College	ADN	Blythe	Riverside	7	February-21	Feasibility	20 annually	Approved
Concordia University	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-22	New Campus	216 annually	Approved
Palo Verde College	ADN	Blythe	Riverside	7	November-22	New Program	20 annually	Approved
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Rancho Mirage	Riverside	7	August-22	New Campus	96 annually	Approved
Loma Linda University	BSN - Private	Loma Linda	San Bernardino	7	August-22	Enrollment Increase	from 168 to 210, increase 42	Approved
College of the Desert	ADN	Palm Desert	Riverside	7	August-22	Enrollment increase	from 120 to 200, increase 80	Approved
Riverside City College	ADN	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 180 to 260 annually, increase of 80	Approved
Marsha Fuerst SON - Glendale	ADN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-23	New Campus	135 annually	Approved
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Ontario	Riverside	7	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 36 students to 102 annually, increase 66	Approved
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Rancho Mirage	Riverside	7	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 96 students to 102 annually, increase 6	Approved
American Career College	ADN - Private	Ontario	Riverside	7	August-23	Enrollment Increase	from 125 to 155 for 2024 only , increase 30	Approved
United Nursing College	ADN - Private	Murrieta	Riverside	7	August-23	Feasibility	90 annually	Approved
Westcliff University	BSN - Private	Corona	Riverside	7	August-23	Feasibility	80 annually	Approved
United Nursing College	ADN - Private	Murrieta	Riverside	7	November-23	New Program	120 annually	Approved
West Coast University	BSN - Private	Ontario	Riverside	7	November-23	Enrollment Increase	from 500 to 960 annually, increase 460	Approved
Loma Linda University	BSN - Private	San Bernardino	San Bernardino	7	May-24	Enrollment Increase	from 200 to 275 annually, increase 75	Approved
Loma Linda University	ELM - Private	San Bernardino	San Bernardino	7	May-24	Enrollment Increase	from 10 to 25 annually (winter), increase 15	Approved
Mt. San Jacinto College	ADN	Menifee Valley	Riverside	7	May-24	Enrollment Increase	from 48 to 72 annually, increase 24	Approved
American Career College	BSN - Private	Ontario	Ontario	7	November-24	Enrollment Increase	from 125 to 155, increase 30	Approved

Self-Study Executive Summary
Westcliff University
4140 Temescal Canyon, Corona, CA 92883

Westcliff University respectfully submits this executive summary of the self-study as the next phase to establish a prelicensure nursing program with two tracks: Generic BSN and Entry-Level Masters (ELM) in Corona, CA. This summary details how Westcliff demonstrates compliance with the CA BRN - Business and Professions Code Section 2786: California Code of Regulations Sections 1424-1431. In addition, the prelicensure programs were developed in alignment with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) New Essentials Level 1 domain competencies and sub-competencies.

Westcliff's feasibility study was approved by the CA Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) on August 24, 2023. Westcliff subsequently submitted the self-study for the prelicensure programs in November 2024. Westcliff was approved in the feasibility study for 160 students annually with a pattern of 40 students twice per year in each track. With this self-study submission, Westcliff has requested an amended enrollment pattern as follows: 40 students three times a year for the BSN track (Fall, Spring, Summer) and 20 students two times a year for the ELM track (Fall, Spring), which remains a total of 160 students per year across the two tracks. This amended pattern request will allow for a more consistent usage of clinical opportunities and is in alignment with the University's other academic calendars. Westcliff is hopeful to enroll 40 BSN students and 20 ELM students for Fall 2025.

The BSN program of study includes four semesters of general education courses and five semesters of core nursing with sixteen week semesters held three times per year for a total of 120 credits. The ELM program consists of five semesters of core nursing with general education content considered prerequisites to entry. The BSN estimated tuition and fees for the entire 3 year program is \$117,000 and the ELM program is \$90,195.

Westcliff secured initial institutional accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Senior Colleges and Universities Commission (WSCUC) in 2018 which was reaffirmed in 2024. The university was awarded initial approval of the BSN and ELMSN programs in February 2025 pending the BRN's approval of this self-study. Following BRN and WSCUC approval and the enrollment of the first cohorts of students, Westcliff intends to apply to the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) to begin programmatic accreditation.

1424. Administration And Organization Of The Nursing Program
1424(a) Philosophy and Objective

Westcliff's mission is to educate, inspire, and empower students from around the world to achieve personal and professional success by providing practical, innovative, high-quality campus and online programs. In alignment with Westcliff's mission to empower professional success through practical and innovative programming, the College of Nursing (CON) mission is to develop a diverse group of professional nurses who seek social justice, promote wellness, and provide care with excellence and compassion, who are uniquely qualified to transform the health of all people in the context of community

engagement.

In alignment with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) standards, the prelicensure nursing program curriculum was developed with a commitment to ensuring that students develop a strong foundation in the core values of professionalism, accountability, and advocacy. The program emphasizes the importance of social justice, promoting health equity, and addressing health disparities, with an awareness of the diverse needs and challenges faced by various populations. Graduates are expected to be well-prepared to contribute to the advancement of the profession and the improvement of healthcare delivery through attainment of Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs). The PLOs are met through the achievement of course learning outcomes (CLOs) identified in each syllabus as students progress from simple to complex concepts and build upon previous learning.

Faculty and staff are dedicated to creating a supportive, inclusive, and student-centered learning environment. Faculty members serve as mentors and role models, fostering critical thinking, reflection, and a passion for lifelong learning. Through a combination of didactic coursework, hands-on clinical practice, and community engagement, students are empowered to become advocates for patients and leaders in nursing practice.

Ultimately, Westcliff's goal is to develop nursing professionals who are not only technically proficient and knowledgeable but also compassionate and ethical advocates for health and well-being. Graduates of the prelicensure nursing tracks will enter the workforce as confident, competent, and caring nurses ready to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the individuals and communities they serve.

1424(b) Policies and Procedures

The policies and procedures governing the BSN and ELM degree tracks are aligned with the program's philosophy and objectives as well as the CA BRN Business and Professions Code. Policies and procedures are detailed in various university and school documents, including: Westcliff University Student Handbook/Catalog; Westcliff University Faculty Handbook; Westcliff University College of Nursing Clinical Student Handbook; course syllabi; and the main Westcliff University website. All university policies apply equally to all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, or beliefs. Students are required to sign an acknowledgement of these publications stating that they have read and will abide by the policies.

1424(c) Organization and Lines of Authority

Westcliff Management Group is governed by the University's Board of Trustees (BOT) and is registered to do business under the fictitious name "Westcliff University" with a principal business location in Irvine, CA. Westcliff has a Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Anthony Lee, appointed by the BOT. The CEO bears ultimate responsibility for the university, its policies, organization, financing, and management. The CEO supervises the Chief Academic Officer (CAO), Dr. Ying Iverson, who has responsibility for academic operations, faculty management, and curriculum development of the University. The Executive Director of Nursing (EDN), Dr. Erica Martinez, who is also the BRN program

director, reports to the CAO and holds senior-level administrative responsibility, overseeing key areas such as curriculum development, institutional assessment and improvement, nursing policies and procedures, faculty recruitment, retention, and development, as well as budget and facilities management. These responsibilities are aligned with Westcliff's organizational goals and objectives, and comply with the standards set by the CA BRN and accrediting bodies, including the CCNE and the WASC Senior Commission for Universities and Colleges (WSCUC). The CON has hired an Associate Dean of Nursing Academics who will additionally support the Nursing programs.

1424(d) Sufficiency of Resources

Westcliff's CON Corona campus houses a state-of-the-art facility with high tech laboratories for skills, simulation and science. There are walking trails that lead to nearby retail shops and restaurants. Additional onsite amenities include outdoor lounging areas, all within walking distance of restaurants, coffee shops, and grocery stores for the convenience of students, staff, and faculty. Westcliff has been allocated one hundred seventy-six (176) parking spaces for staff, faculty, and students. The campus has full-time security monitoring the grounds who are available to students. The campus is well-lit and there are lights throughout the parking lot surrounding the building.

The facility includes private offices for the Program Director, Associate Deans, faculty content experts, and course coordinators, with shared office space for additional faculty and staff. There are private spaces for advising staff and counselors, private meeting rooms for faculty and students, and study/tutoring areas. Additional amenities include a faculty lounge, student lounge, career services center, computer lab, and Academic Resource Center.

There are seven (7) multi-use classrooms and a 24-seat science lab with a sink and eyewash station. All classrooms are equipped with internet, audio/visual equipment, and SmartBoards. There is a high-fidelity Simulation Lab that includes 4 simulation rooms (including a mother/baby delivery room), 2 OSCE exam rooms, 2 debrief rooms with seating for 10, and advanced tech capabilities. In addition, there is a skills lab with 10 workstations for hands-on practice, also equipped with audio/visual equipment and SmartBoards.

Westcliff's Library & Digital Resources Center is a virtual collection of millions of academic journals, articles, periodicals, books, encyclopedias, newspapers, magazines, and audio and video clips. The collection is undergoing expansion to include the addition of the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), an index of journals and journal articles related to nursing and other healthcare fields. Students and faculty members have access to these resources anytime from anywhere with an Internet connection with their Global Access Portal (GAP).

The Library & Digital Resources center is managed by a director who collaborates with both the faculty and academic support staff. They collectively ensure the resources maintained by the library are relevant, up-to-date, and accessible to students and

faculty. The nursing campus will also maintain a small collection of the most relevant physical academic resources available to students on campus in addition to their digital equivalents online. Digital library resources are available anytime, and campus-based resources can be accessed via a checkout system during campus operating hours, currently scheduled for 8:00 am to 10:00 pm Monday through Friday and 8:00 am to 6:00 pm on Saturdays.

1424(e,f) Director and Assistant Director

Dr. Erica Martinez will administer the program and serve as program director. Dr. Martinez's EDP-P-03 was approved by NEC on November 4, 2024. Joy Kiat-Floro is expected to be appointed as Assistant Director and her EDP-P-03 was submitted to NEC for approval on January 31, 2025. The program director and assistant program director will have 100% of their time to dedicate to administration of the programs in alignment with BRN regulations and guidelines.

1424(g,h,k) Faculty responsibilities, Adequacy, and Ratios

Westcliff CON's faculty members are primarily responsible for developing policies and procedures, as well as planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating all aspects of the nursing program. The program will hire an adequate number and type of faculty to develop and implement the program as evidenced by the hiring plan outlined in the self-study. All faculty will be competent in content and nursing practice for designated areas and all potential hires will be submitted to the Board for approval per CCR section 1425. Student to teacher ratios will be maintained at no more than 10:1 in clinical settings, adjusted as necessary based on patient acuity levels and the requirements of clinical agency partners.

1425 Faculty Qualifications And Changes

1425(a-f) Director, Assistant Director, Instructor, Assistant Instructor & Content Expert Qualifications

Both the current director and assistant director meet or exceed the qualifications and credentials required by CCR1425, and faculty will be hired in accordance with the regulations. EDP-P-02 forms will be submitted for any faculty who do not already have the needed approval designated within qualifications on their CA RN license and Westcliff will maintain a comprehensive database of faculty. Content Experts (CE) will be assigned as faculty in each of the five clinical content areas designated: medical/surgical, obstetrical, pediatric, psych/mental health, and geriatrics. CEs will have expertise in their designated content area and will lead curricular decisions and assist in supervision and development of faculty teaching in their designated specialty.

1425.1 Faculty Responsibilities

Westcliff faculty members are responsible for developing policies and procedures, as well as planning, organizing, implementing, and evaluating all aspects of the nursing program including curriculum. Each faculty member is expected to employ diverse teaching methods to accommodate various types of learners using multiple resources (i.e. information technology resources, the digital library, etc.). Faculty will be

responsible for evaluating student work, assessments, and performance, ensuring alignment with learning outcomes at the course, program, and institutional levels. All faculty will complete university and nursing college specific faculty orientation.

1426 Required Curriculum

Westcliff's proposed curriculum for its two prelicensure program tracks has been submitted using the EDP-P-05 and EDP-P-06 forms. The BSN track consists of 120 semester credits; 65 specific to nursing and 55 to general education offered in a format of nine 16-week semesters for a total of approximately 36 months of full-time continuous enrollment. The ELM track consists of 65 semester credits offered in a format of five 16-week semesters for a total of approximately 20 months of full-time continuous enrollment. In addition, students must complete 31 credits of prerequisite coursework, which may be taken at Westcliff or transferred in from another accredited university or college.

The curriculum was designed to specifically meet all BRN curricular requirements outlined in section 1426, the AACN Essentials (2021), the American Nurses Association (ANA) Scope & Standards for Professional Nursing Practice (2020), the ANA Code of Ethics (2015), and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Standards (2024). The curriculum also includes content and clinical experience that qualifies the graduate to apply for the CA PHN certificate. Clinical courses are scheduled concurrently with linked theory courses and students will complete a minimum of 500 direct care hours with at least thirty hours in each of the required specialty areas.

1427 Clinical Facilities

Westcliff's prelicensure programs will provide clinical learning experiences in diverse settings. Each clinical setting will be equipped to provide the necessary clinical learning experiences aligned with the program's objectives and ensure that Westcliff students receive high-quality clinical education in supportive environments. Only after receiving BRN approval for a site will Westcliff assign students to a facility thereby ensuring compliance with state regulations.

Westcliff participates in clinical coordination efforts through active membership and collaboration with our local consortium, Inland Empire Healthcare Education Consortium (IEHEC). Working with the Consortium helps to ensure transparency and fair distribution of clinical placements and mitigates unintended displacement of other program students. It helps prevent overlap in placement requests and assurance that students are placed in clinical settings only after the needs of all participating nursing programs have been considered.

In reviewing the Board's current list of approved prelicensure RN programs, there are 22 distinct institutions from the regions designated as LA Area and Inland Empire offering ADN, BSN, and/or ELM programs in near proximity to Westcliff's Corona campus to share clinical sites. The 22 identified does not include schools who are members of the Orange County Long Beach (OCLB) Consortium as Westcliff is ineligible to utilize their contracted partner sites due to Westcliff's physical address being in Riverside County. Of those 22 institutions, 17 have participated in IEHEC meetings where Westcliff has

shared information about the campus's progress for the last 18 months with Westcliff serving as a host site for the January 2025 meeting.

For the other five identified schools with possibility of sharing clinical sites, we will continue to partner outside of the consortium to ensure equity in site usage. As of the timing of this document submission, Westcliff's submitted partners have expressed that they are able to accommodate our future students without displacing students from other institutions. In fact, for one of our sites, we are the only school with an approved affiliation agreement currently.

1428 Student Participation

Students enrolled in the BSN and ELM tracks will be encouraged to participate in student organizations, committees, and groups at the program, school, and/or university levels. Nursing students will participate in the curriculum committee, with cohort representatives attending each meeting to provide input and ask questions for better understanding of the curriculum, which they will report back to their cohort. Feedback from students will be obtained and used to inform potential curricular and/or programmatic changes regularly as outlined in the total program evaluation plan.

1429 Licensed Vocational Nurses 30-Unit Option

1430 Previous Education Credit

Westcliff has a curricular plan for assisting licensed vocational nurse students to meet the required coursework to qualify for eligibility to apply for licensure as a registered nurse in California as outlined in the submitted EDP-P-06 forms. Additionally, Westcliff has a process for applicants to request credit for previous education and learning.

Conclusion

Westcliff's prelicensure nursing program tracks have been created with attention to satisfying BRN prelicensure nursing requirements as well as the new AACN Essentials. This dual focus enables the program to be in alignment with the future direction of nursing education and positions graduates for practice readiness.

Westcliff also brings unique interdisciplinary opportunities to the nursing programs through collaborative relationships with Westcliff's existing College of Business, College of Education, and College of Technology and Engineering. The leaders and faculty serving Westcliff students in these Colleges are working closely with the College of Nursing team as they near the launch of the BSN and ELM tracks pending final board approval.

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.5.1

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a request for a new campus location with an enrollment increase for an approved prelicensure nursing program
REGION 1 Sacramento
Samuel Merritt University Entry Level Masters and Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (request for reconsideration to change February 2025 board action from denial to deferment)

REQUESTED BY: Kimberly Knight, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Samuel Merritt University (SMU) is requesting that the February 2025 Board decision to deny the enrollment increase for the Sacramento campus be changed to a deferment to submit additional information to modify the initial request. SMU would like to present a proposal to use clinical facilities in Region 4 -Northern San Joaquin Valley while maintaining didactic and in-person student experiences at the Sacramento campus.

Enrollment pattern requested at February 2025 Board meeting that was denied:

- ELM (2002) Sacramento Campus = increase of 24 students once a year.
72 students (fall) and 48 students (spring). Annual enrollment 120 students.
- ABSN (2007) Sacramento Campus = increase of 48 students three times a year,
48 students (fall) 48 students (spring) 48 students (summer). Annual enrollment 144 students.
Total Sacramento enrollment increase = 72 students.

Resources:

A hiring plan has been submitted demonstrating allocation of funding for 30 new full-time faculty positions for the 2024-2025 academic year. SMU has more than 450 current faculty. In pursuant to BPC Section 2786.2, Samuel Merritt has chosen not to submit faculty for Board approval. The BSN program is led by a full-time Program Director, the ABSN program has three full-time Program Co-Directors an additional ABSN Director to be added in 2025. The ELM program is managed by a full-time Program Director.

Clinical Sites:

SMU is presenting a new proposal to use clinical facilities in Region 4 while maintaining didactic and in-person student experiences at the Sacramento campus.

The program has 39 clinical sites that are utilized by the ABSN, BSN, and ELM programs. SMU is currently in the process of obtaining six additional clinical sites in the Oakland and Sacramento areas. SMU has been a participant in discussions with both the Greater Bay Area Academic Practice Partnership Consortium (GBAAPP) and Sacramento Area Consortium for Nursing Education (SACANE). If this request to grant deferment instead of denial is granted SMU will begin collaborating with programs and clinical facilities in the Norther San Joaquin Valley region and will return to ELC and Board with updated clinical facility information and nursing program collaboration data to support the requested student enrollment numbers.

Annual NCLEX Pass Rates

BSN

2019 - 2020 = 93.4%
2020 - 2021 = 84.9%
2021 - 2022 = 85.5%
2022 - 2023 = 82.1%
2023 - 2024 = 84.0%

ELM

2019 - 2020 = 86.4%
2020 - 2021 = 82.5%
2021 - 2022 = 80.6%
2022 - 2023 = 78.4%
2023 - 2024 = 87.7%

Current Attrition Rate from the Annual Survey Report

BSN

2021-2022 = 1.5%
2022-2023 = 2.6%
2023-2024 = 3.9%

ELM

2021-2022 = 0.0%
2022-2023 = 9.6%
2023-2024 = 10.5%

Total Program Costs: BSN \$126,500, ABSN \$98,000, ELMSN \$193,500

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Kimberly Knight, RN, MSN, FNP-C, PHN
Nursing Education Consultant



March 5, 2025

Dear Executive Officer Melby and Dr. McCarthy,

Samuel Merritt University (SMU) respectfully requests the recent BRN decision to deny an enrollment increase for our Sacramento campus be reverted to a deferral so that SMU may submit additional information supporting our request. More specifically, SMU would like to present a proposal utilizing clinical facilities in Region 4 while maintaining didactic and in-person student experiences at our Region 1 Sacramento campus.

As I understand the process, SMU would be added to the April 2025 ELC meeting and then the May 2025 meeting to allow the full board to approve the request for reconsideration. Following that, we would support all necessary supporting documents for the July ELC meeting, and depending on the ELC meeting results, be placed on the August full BRN meeting for final consideration.

As you recommended, SMU will work closely with Dr. McCarthy as well as NEC Kim Knight. As this is a completely new process for SMU, we want to thank you in advance for the support that will be needed to navigate this process.

Thank you again for all the assistance you have provided. It is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Rush PhD, RN, PNP, CNS

Dean, Samuel Merritt University College of Nursing

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 5.6.1

DATE: April 17, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a request to accept a feasibility study for new prelicensure nursing program
REGION 1 Sacramento
Arizona College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Michelle Johnson, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

Arizona College of Nursing (AZCN) has submitted a feasibility study for approval to offer a new Baccalaureate Degree Nursing (BSN) Program on an alternate site in Rancho Cordova in Sacramento County (Region 1) for a projected start date of March 2027.

The enrollment request for this alternate site is 48 students three times a year, every Fall, Spring, and Summer, for a total annual enrollment of 144 students.

The program is a three-year BSN, with the first four semesters of general education classes. Transcripts are reviewed to apply any qualifying general education transfer credits when possible. The degree pathway allows students to take all the required courses necessary such as communications, sciences, general education, and electives prior to taking the nursing core required for licensure.

Description of the Institution

AZCN is a private institution of higher learning. It was first established in Arizona in 2013 as a pre-licensure BSN program. With the growing student population, AZCN looked to expand and currently has 20 campuses in 13 states, with one campus in the Inland Empire in Ontario, Southern California. AZCN is an institution owned by Eduvision, Inc. and governed by a seven-member Board of Directors, who provide direction and guidance for the AZCN's Chief Executive Officer (CEO). AZCN's Board of Directors is the governing body whose responsibility includes all financial records, audits, and operations, while the CEO has responsibility over daily operations of the institution.

The total institutional enrollment is reported as 7,284 students as of 2024, and in the past five years, 3,226 students have graduated with their BSN.

Accreditation Status

The college is institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) until 2027, and the Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) through 2032.

Budget and Tuition

AZCN reports to using both private capital and bank debt financing to fund the new program and claims to have maintained a positive operating income since 2018. At the end of fiscal year 2023, a total unrestricted cash balance of approximately \$39 million were available to fund AZCN existing operations, plans for future expansion, and improvements to education. Additionally, capital resources included a \$33 million credit facility and \$4 million of committed equity. AZCN's projected 5-year budget for resources and sustainability illustrate a surplus in funds in the third year of operation, with an estimated \$2.4 million, then doubles thereafter.

Due to increased expenditures in California, tuition costs at the Rancho Cordova campus will be higher than other AZCN campuses, with the total net cost of attendance at an estimated \$143,810 for tuition and fees. To help with tuition costs, students are assisted in accessing grants, scholarships, and employer-based tuition reimbursement. AZCN also participates in the Federal Student Aid Title IV program with the United States

Department of Education.

Resources

Prospective new campus location in the A-Prospect West Business building, in the center of the business district. The physical address is 2882 Prospect Park Drive, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, California. AZCN Rancho Cordova campus has 19,227 square feet of physical space on the second floor of the A-Prospect West Business building, with a multi-purpose room of 54 maximum occupancy, three (3) classrooms with 41-47 maximum occupancy, a simulation center with four (4) adjacent control rooms and debriefing areas, a skills lab, science wet laboratory classroom, storage rooms, student lounge, administrative and faculty offices, break area, conference room, and testing area. Library and learning resource center accessible online with support available seven (7) days a week. The building has adequate free parking and access to public transportation.

The faculty and staff hiring plan includes the employment of nine (9) full-time faculty, who meet the requirements in accordance to California Code of Regulations 1425(c)(1-3). AZCN pledges to have all faculty with content expertise and nursing practice competence in their specialty: geriatrics/medical-surgical, mental-health/psychiatric nursing, obstetrics, and pediatrics, when applicable. Faculty and staffing resources will be increased to coincide with the number of students enrolled in the program. Three (3) adjunct faculty will onboard for general education courses, and five (5) program support specialists (clinical coordinator and laboratory specialists). The plan outlines the availability of all the required resources to support initial approval of the BSN.

Clinical Facilities

AZCN submitted twenty-six (26) Facility Verification forms. There are adequate type and number of clinical placements in the five specialty areas-Medical Surgical-13, Obstetrics-4, Pediatrics-6, Psych/Mental Health-10, Geriatrics-12 sites. Two large medical centers in the area report full capacity for providing clinical learning experiences for nursing programs, resulting in AZCN to look to ambulatory care centers and other hospitals to provide acute care experiences to adequately meet course objectives and learning outcomes.

Participation in Clinical Regional Planning Groups

Understanding of the challenges of securing clinical placements, AZCN reports to have made several attempts to collaborate with nursing programs within a fifty (50) mile radius of the proposed program location. A request to attend the Sacramento Academic Clinical Alliance for Nursing Education (SACANE) was initiated December 9, 2024, however, focus was placed to those programs with students currently in clinical rotations in the area. The program will continue their attempts to work with SACANE and the Centralized Clinical Placement System to collaborate with other nursing programs for clinical placement.

AZCN sent a survey to 15 neighboring prelicensure nursing programs in the area on January 29, 2025 regarding impact of a new program, in which seven (7) responded. On February 26, 2025, another attempt to receive replies from surrounding programs was sent via email, in which one (1) more program responded. The proposal of a new nursing program was met with contention from approximately half of the schools who responded to survey, with concerns of significantly affecting existing programs and clinical placements. AZCN reports to the use of non-traditional clinical schedules to mitigate displacement of students by also using clinical days in the summer, night and weekend hours.

The NEC has reviewed the feasibility study and has worked with the program to clarify any issues and has determined that this feasibility study is complete and complies with requirements specified in the "Instructions for institutions seeking approval of new prelicensure registered nursing program or addition of a new campus or location for a currently approved nursing program" (EDP-I-01).

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Michelle Johnson, MSN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

5.6.1 Arizona College – Feasibility Study

Arizona College of Nursing (AZCN) is presenting a Feasibility Study to start a new pre-licensure Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program located in Rancho Cordova in Sacramento County (Region 1). Their proposed enrollment request is 48 students three (3) times a year, every Fall, Spring, and Summer, for a total annual enrollment of 144 students.

Other programs presented:

There are no (0) other programs requesting enrollment increase(s), new campus(es), or new program(s) within Region 1. However, Samuel Merritt University is presenting a proposal to use clinical facilities in Region 4 while maintaining didactic and in-person student experiences at the Sacramento campus in Region 1.

Region 1 Data 2019-2025

Enrollment decisions for Region 1 have resulted in the growth of 685 new students through the approval of five (5) enrollment increases (203 students annually), one (1) new campus (160 students annually), and four (4) new programs (250 students annually).

Two (2) requests for enrollment increases in Region 1 were denied: Samuel Merritt University's (SMU) BSN program (48 students annually) and SMU's ELM program (24 students annually) (72 TOTAL denied). Two (2) requests for new campuses in Region 1 were deferred: Marsha Fuerst School of Nursing (135 enrollments) in both May and August 2024.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
Sacramento City College	ADN	Sacramento	Sacramento	1	November-19	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 130 annually, increase 10 x 2 years only*	Approved	None
University of the Pacific	ELM - Private	Sacramento	Sacramento	1	November-21	New Program	80 annually	Approved	None
Unitek College	BSN - Private	Sacramento	Sacramento	1	November-21	New Campus	160 annually	Approved	None
Sacramento City College	ADN	Sacramento	Sacramento	1	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 130 annually, increase 10 permanent*	Approved	None
William Jessup University	BSN - Private	Rocklin	Placer	1	May-21	Feasibility	60 annually	Approved	None
University of the Pacific	ELM - Private	Sacramento	Sacramento	1	May-21	Feasibility	64 annually	Approved	None
William Jessup University	BSN - Private	Rocklin	Placer	1	August-22	New Program	60 annually	Approved	None
Chamberlain University	BSN - Private	Rancho Cordova	Sacramento	1	August-22	Enrollment Increase	from 135 to 180 in 2023, 240 in 2024, increase 105	Approved	None
Lassen Community College	ADN	Susanville	Lassen	1	February-23	Feasibility	40 every TWO years	Approved	None
Butte College	ADN	Oroville	Butte	1	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 168 annually, increase 48	Approved	None
Lassen Community College	ADN	Susanville	Lassen	1	November-23	New Program	40 every TWO years	Approved	None
California Northstate University	BSN - Private	Rancho Cordova	Sacramento	1	November-23	Feasibility	90 annually	Approved	None
California Northstate University	BSN - Private	Rancho Cordova	Sacramento	1	May-24	New Program	90 annually	Approved	None
Marsha Fuerst School of Nursing	ADN - Private	Citrus Heights	Sacramento	1	May-24	New Campus	135 annually	Deferred	None
Marsha Fuerst School of Nursing	ADN - Private	Citrus Heights	Sacramento	1	August-24	New Campus	135 annually	Deferred	None
University of the Pacific	ELM - Private	Sacramento	Sacramento	1	November-24	Enrollment Increase	from 80 to 120, increase 40	Approved	Yes
Samuel Merritt University	BSN - Private	Sacramento	Sacramento	1	January-25	Enrollment Increase	from 96 to 144 annually, increase 48	Denied	None
Samuel Merritt University	ELM - Private	Sacramento	Sacramento	1	January-25	Enrollment Increase	from 96 to 120 annually, increase 24	Denied	None

Executive Summary

Arizona College of Nursing- Rancho Cordova Proposed Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program

Arizona College of Nursing (AZCN) respectfully submits this Feasibility Study for a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program in Rancho Cordova with a start to teach date of March 2027. Please consider that research demonstrates future population growth in the Sacramento region and multiple hospital expansions. In addition to the robust clinical affiliate contracts within this proposal, the future growth of this area adds additional clinical opportunities.

The graduation of AZCN BSN registered nurses in the Sacramento region will provide additional BSN nurses for the surrounding hospitals in their attempts for Magnet status. According to the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), there are currently two hospitals in the Sacramento Region that have been awarded Magnet Status.

Description of the Institution

Arizona College of Nursing was established in 2013 in Arizona as a pre-licensure BSN program (The Program). AZCN currently has 20 campuses in 13 states (Ontario, CA; Las Vegas, NV; Tempe, Tucson, and Phoenix, AZ; Dallas, TX; Fort Lauderdale, Sarasota, Melbourne, and Tampa FL; Southfield, MI; Falls Church and Chesapeake, VA, Aurora, CO; St. Louis, MO; Salt Lake City, UT; East Hartford, CT; Cleveland and Cincinnati, OH; Greenville, SC). As of November 2024, a total of 7,284 students are enrolled in the Program. In the past five years, 3,226 BSN students have graduated from AZCN. The AZCN California campus, located in Ontario, has a 2024 Annual NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate of 100%.

Accreditation/Approval Status and History

AZCN is institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) through 2027, and the BSN degree program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) through 2032. There have been no warnings, denials, or revocations for AZCN. (See Table 1. AZCN Program Data on pg. 16). The AZCN ABHES retention rate at the end of 2024 was 81.23% and the 2024 CCNE completion rate was 84.33%. AZCN has been continually approved by all State Boards of Nursing where AZCN campuses are located.

Campus Facility Description

AZCN proposes to offer the BSN Program at 2882 Prospect Park Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA. The space includes approximately 19,227 square feet, with adequate free parking and walking distance to public transportation. The campus will be constructed on the second floor of the A-Prospect West Business building located in the heart of the business district and visible from highway 50.

Faculty and Staff Offices and Administrative Space

The DoN will have a private office, with a computer, phone, and locked filing cabinet. The Executive Assistant will have a workstation near the DoN's office. The campus will include four multi-faculty offices on the second floor. A separate administrative suite is planned and will include 21 total office spaces for faculty and staff. Each faculty

member will have a desk, computer, phone, and shared printer. The office and/or one of three huddle spaces (conference rooms) will allow the faculty to confer with students privately and maintain confidentiality. The campus workroom will have an additional computer, printer, workspace, and copier. There is a faculty lounge.

Learning Space

The campus will have adequate classrooms, a science wet lab, skills and simulation labs with all equipment and supplies to provide clinical learning experience and practice of skills prior to students entering direct care settings. Evidence-based case scenarios are used that progress content and critical thinking from the NUR 215L Theoretical Foundations in Nursing Practice course through the NUR 445L Acute and Chronic Adult Health III-Practicum.

Learning Resource Center/Library/Computer Lab

The Program uses only electronic course materials including interactive learning objects, customized self-assessment tools, and virtual simulations. The Learning Resource Center/Computer Laboratory/Library (LRC) will include a physical student study space at the campus and house a computer lab with at least two desktop computer stations. Students and faculty can access the online library seven days a week, 24 hours a day with research assistance available Monday through Friday from 7AM to 9PM and Saturday through Sunday 12PM to 7PM.

ADA Compliance and Restrooms

The campus will be ADA compliant and each of the four restrooms will have ADA compliant door width, sink level, and accessibility for a wheelchair, grab bars in the ADA stall, and paper towel dispenser at an accessible height to all students. Wheelchair ramps are at the A-Prospect West Business entrances to the campus.

Student Services

From the point of admission through graduation, AZCN offers Admission and Enrollment Counselors, Financial Aid Representatives, Student Achievement Coaches, NCLEX Success Specialists, Huddle Rooms for individual and group study or projects, Career Services, a Wellness Room, and IT Support.

Academic Support

Competent master's and doctoral prepared content experts drive curricular decisions and teach both didactic and clinical courses. A transformative and dynamic evidence-based curriculum is taught with faculty basing their teaching strategies (passive and active, individual and group work) on understanding the diversity in student learning styles. Course Student Learning Outcomes prepare the student to be "practice ready" as entry level graduates. Supplemental resources used include Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) full complement of assessments and NCLEX preparation including ATI Coaches assigned to each student and a 3-day live NCLEX review.

Geographic Area and Need for the BSN Program in Rancho Cordova

The Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area is in the northcentral part of California, including seven counties. Sacramento is considered the fourth largest metropolitan area in California with approximately 2.66 million residents (World Population Review, 2024). The Sacramento-Roseville-Folsom California Metro Area (including Rancho Cordova) has a population of 2,420,608, encompassing 5,093 square miles with 475.3 people per square mile. The median age is 38.9, 51% are female. Race and ethnicity are reported

as 47% White, 7% Black, 15% Asian, 1% Islander 1% Other, 7% identifying as two races, and 23% Hispanic. The medium income is \$94,992 and there is 10.8% of people living below the poverty line (U.S. Census Data, 2023). There are 15 nursing programs (ADN, BSN, ELM) within the 50-mile radius of Rancho Cordova. They are composed of seven public and eight private institutions. The new student enrollment for this great Sacramento region was 831 in 2022-2023, 949 in 2023-2024, with a projection of 972 in 2026-2027, according to the CA Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) Interactive Dashboard (2024). The number of qualified applicants for this region was 1538 in 2022- 2023 with 831 students enrolled and 707 not accepted (CA BRN Annual report). Nurses leaving bedside care secondary to COVID-19, aging nurse's retirements, as well as bedside nurses continuing their education to become Nurse Practitioners will also impact the supply of nurses. Buerhaus (2024), and Jean (2023) among others voice concern over the current trend in nursing students continuing their education to become nurse practitioners or other advanced practice nursing roles. "From 2020 to 2021, more than 36,000 new NPs completed their NP master's program" (Jean, 2023). This further depletes the bedside workforce.

Economic Growth

The Sacramento County Public Health Department reports an increase in population over the next ten years, especially in the Cities of Folsom and El Dorado Hills. This growth increase will also require an increase in the healthcare services in the region. Healthcare systems in the region will have to expand to meet the demands of the increased population. Current job postings in the region include 731 (Lightcast data, 2024). The expected economic growth in the Sacramento area includes healthcare, public administration, and retail trade with job growth in healthcare and technology. The Sacramento Business Review's Midyear Update includes Dignity Health's plans to build a 66,000 square foot ambulatory care center offering primary and specialty care, UC Davis Health has begun construction on an outpatient medical center, Sutter Health is building a medical office, and Kaiser has plans for a new medical building and is expanding its existing surgical center. The expansion of these institutions along with expected population growth, current and future nursing retirements, bedside nurses moving into advanced practice roles, and burnout from COVID-19 support the continued need of RNs in this region.

Healthcare Needs of the Greater Sacramento Community

The Sacramento County Community Health Assessment (CHA) 2023, written and published by the Sacramento County Public Health Department, provides data and direction for the health disparities known in Sacramento County. Health concerns identified from this assessment included seven areas of need: Social Determinants of Health (Food, Crime, Housing & Built Environment), Infectious Disease (COVID-19, STDs), Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (Infant Mortality), Chronic Disease (Obesity, Cancer), Alzheimer's Disease, Injury (Violence, Crime, Substance Abuse), and Mental Health. Understanding the needs of the community is important to AZCN students so they can include community resources in their care and education to patients. The NUR426/426L Community Health course and clinical practicum are positioned in the seventh of nine semesters in the nursing core curriculum. This is an intentional sequence of courses, so students begin to understand how the Public Health Department and society intersect for the well-being of communities. The course is

positioned in the semester prior to Obstetrics and Pediatric content, giving students a better understanding of these two vulnerable populations' needs and county resources available to them.

Clinical Capacity in Nursing Programs

The California Board of Registered Nursing 2022-2023 Annual School Report provided evidence that nursing programs receive more applications than can be accommodated. Only 31.7% or 18,367 of the 57,987 qualified applications for all educational levels of pre-licensure nursing education programs received in 2022-2023 were accepted. For the BSN programs in California, 60,340 applications were received with 10,330 (31.5%) accepted (Blash & Spetz, 2023). According to the Statewide Nursing Student Enrollment Data (Statewide Nursing Student Enrollment Data, 2024) approximately 2,070 students are enrolled in all nursing degree programs in Greater Sacramento area and approximately 528 student enrollment increases have occurred over the past five years. Spetz, Chu, and Blash (2022) also report, “there will be a large increase in the percentage of RNs aged 55 to 64 years who plan to retire or quit in the next two years, from 11.4% in 2018 to 22.5% in 2022”. RNs aged 65 and older who plan to quit or retire by 2024 also increased from 37.3% in 2018 to 47.3% in 2022. Spetz, Chu, and Blash (2022) report the movement of RNs out of bedside care after COVID-19 and the need to recover from their experiences.

Applicant Pool

Based on AZCN's year-long work in the region, meeting with nursing leaders at a wide variety of clinical agencies, the final enrollment projection is far less than the estimated demand will be because AZCN is diligent about slow methodical growth for enrollment while ensuring Program quality. AZCN can enroll 45 students three times a year and provide a quality baccalaureate nursing education. A significant opportunity also exists for adults 25 and older who have some college or a degree in another field but wish to pursue a nursing degree. One of the major attractions for the AZCN program is the condensed format of the core nursing coursework. For second degree students with all the prerequisite coursework, the program can be as short as 20 months.

High School Health Academies

A new stream of student admissions will be from Health Academies in Sacramento area High Schools. Several High Schools have healthcare career pathways for students including courses in anatomy and physiology, psychology, and microbiology. Some schools have internships, so students get exposure to the job demands in healthcare and the opportunities to care for others. Attending local high schools and colleges will be part of AZCN's marketing plan.

Enrollment

Arizona College proposes to have three starts a year (fall, spring, and summer) enrolling 45 students for 144 new students each year in the nursing program. Using a 10% estimated attrition, the campus will eventually have a census of approximately 233 nursing students at the end of year five.

Enrollment Projection Method

To determine projected five-year enrollment, AZCN used eight years of internal historical data aggregated from other campuses that offer the Program. In addition, available clinical practicum capacity in the Sacramento area and surrounding communities, and workforce data (a need for an increase in Baccalaureate prepared nurses) were reviewed in determining enrollment. The enrollment projection also took into consideration the needs of the Sacramento Region according to clinical partners, especially Tenet Hospital who is asking for a dedicated cohort. As we procured clinical affiliate contracts, we chose ambulatory care centers where our partners told us it is difficult to find registered nurses.

Budget

AZCN has maintained a positive operating income since 2018. At the end of the last fiscal year 2024, total unrestricted cash balances of approximately \$39 million were available to fund existing operations, future expansion plans, and improvements to educational services. In addition, AZCN has access to additional capital sources to fund growth, including a \$33 million credit facility and \$4 million dollars of committed equity. Arizona College uses both private capital and bank debt financing to fund new program growth; this approach will help meet the growing demand of the California nursing workforce without additional burdens to state budgets. Funding for a new campus is incorporated into the College's operational budget for the initial campus development and startup costs. All costs for construction have been budgeted, and allocations have been made for instructional equipment expenditures once the program is operational, and student population growth according to the five-year plan (Figure 5. Five-Year Budget for Resources and Sustainability on pg.41 of the Feasibility Study and Appendix

P. Five-Year Budget for Resources and Sustainability).

Tuition

Due to higher salary, lease and building expenses in California, the tuition costs at the Rancho Cordova campus will be higher than at other AZCN campuses. The projected tuition and fee cost for a student pursuing their entire 120-credit BSN program at Arizona College of Nursing is \$142,417 or \$1,136 per credit hour plus a one-time registration fee of \$49 and a resource fee of \$672 per semester.

Student tuition support

Students are assisted in accessing grants, scholarships, and employer-based tuition reimbursement to offset tuition costs. AZCN participates in the Federal Student Aid Title IV program.

Tiered hiring plan

Year one will include the hiring of a Dean of Nursing/Program Director (DoN) at least four months prior to Start to Teach. Additionally, an Assistant Dean of Nursing/Assistant Program Director (ADoN) will be hired eight weeks prior to the start of the Nursing Core Curriculum. The campus DoN is responsible for daily operations and management of the Program at each AZCN campus. The DoN serves in a supervisory role to all nursing faculty and simulation/lab staff. The DoN has full administrative authority over all aspects of the nursing program. The ADoN has full authority of the administration of the Program in the DoN's absence. Also in the first year, the Dean of General Education, Campus President, Executive Assistant, and Nursing Lab Specialist will be hired.

AZCN will secure the needed initial faculty, and staff approximately eight weeks prior to beginning operation and hire additional faculty and staff as appropriate. The proposed

BSN program will initially employ an Executive Director of Enrollment Services, Financial Aid Director and Officer, Academic Records Manager, and two Admissions advisors. In the first year of operation, 2.0 FTE faculty will be hired in year one, then add 3.0 FTE faculty and adjunct faculty in year two, then add 2.0 FTE faculty and adjunct faculty in year three who meet the requirements found in the California Code of Regulations Section 1425(a-f).

Curriculum

The proposed nursing curriculum of the BSN program (EDP-P-05 and EDP-P-06) consists of 120 semester units offered in nine 16-week semesters for a total of approximately 20 months of continuous full-time enrollment. All clinical practice courses are coupled with and taken simultaneously with the theory courses that inform clinical practice. The curriculum was designed specifically to meet all BRN curricular requirements (16 CCR §1426), and incorporate the AACN BSN Essentials, the ANA Scope and Standards of Nursing Practice, the ANA Code of Ethics, and the Nursing Process.

Clinical Learning Experiences

The Program builds the theory/didactic schedule around clinical availability, which allows a greater opportunity to secure clinical rotations that are not constricted by a set schedule for theory/didactic instruction. This fluidity will make it significantly easier for AZCN to utilize clinical times other institutions are not using or chose not to use. AZCN also routinely utilizes evening and weekend clinical experiences to mitigate displacement risk. Twenty-four agencies signed Program Clinical Facility Authorization Forms (EDP-P-18) with written attestation that existing students will not be displaced for any clinical partners. AZCN currently has contracts covering all clinical sites and content areas with simulation scenarios throughout the curriculum. AZCN has attempted to join the Sacramento Academic Clinical Alliance for Nursing Education (SACANE), a consortium for the Sacramento area but were told the consortium is only for approved programs with students currently in school (Personal Communication from leadership at CSU-Sacramento). Please see 2g. for a summary of due diligence ensuring no displacement of other program students (pg. 43-44).

Conclusion

As evidenced by the Revised Executive Summary and detailed feasibility study, AZCN has met the BRN regulations to establish a new pre-licensure BSN program in Rancho Cordova, California. AZCN respectfully requests that the Education/Licensing Committee (ELC) recommends approval and favorable BRN action. AZCN appreciates the BRN's time and consideration in this matter.



Agenda Item 8.2

Information Only: NCLEX Update

BRN Board Meeting | May 28-30, 2025

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.2
DATE: May 28-30, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Information Only: NCLEX Pass Rate Updates

REQUESTED BY: Katie Daugherty, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND:

The Board of Registered Nursing receives quarterly reports from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) about the NCLEX-RN test results by quarter and with an annual perspective. The following tables show this information for the last 12 months and by each quarter.

Table 1. NCLEX RESULTS—FIRST TIME CANDIDATES
April 1, 2024-March 31, 2025 */**/+

JURISDICTION	TOTAL TAKING TEST	PERCENT PASSED (%)
California	15,719	90.98
United States & Territories	187,710	89.55

+Note: Previous year rates-4.1.23-3.31.24 CA (13,714-94.20%); National rate (181,352-92.70%) per 4.2.24 report.

Table 2. CALIFORNIA NCLEX RESULTS—FIRST TIME CANDIDATES
By Quarters and Year April 1, 2024-March 31, 2025*/**/^+

4/01/24- 6/30/24*/**		7/01/24- 9/30/24/**		10/01/24 12/31/24*/**		1/01/25- 3/31/25*/**+		4/01/24- 3/31/25*/**+	
# tested	% pass	# tested	% pass	# tested	% pass	# tested	% pass	# tested	% pass
3,728	93.51	5,210	91.84	2,176	87.50	4,605	89.60	15,719	90.98

Note: National rate 1.1.25-3.31.25 (52,895-88.37%). +For past reported year/quarter 1.1.24-3.31.24-CA rate (4,386-95.60%); National rate (51,946-94.15%) per 4.2.24 report.

*CA 4.1.24-3.31.25 includes (0), (4), (2) and (3) re-entry” candidates tested.

*Report pass rates based on April 1, 2023, Test Plan and the Passing Standard of 0.00 logits. A logit is a unit of measurement to report relative differences between candidate ability estimates and exam item difficulties.

**The detailed 2023 NCLEX-RN Test Plan is available on the NCSBN website at www.ncsbn.org. The 2023 Test Plan will remain effective through March 31, 2026, along with the NCLEX-RN Passing Standard of 0.00 logits instituted April 1, 2013. + is previous year/quarter data.

Data Source: NCSBN/Pearson VUE quarterly and rolling 12 months reports. Data reflects the most up-to-date and accurate numbers at the time the report was generated 4.1.25. Numbers in subsequent reports may vary/change based on NCSBN/Pearson VUE and or member board submitted corrections and the date the report generated.

The NCSBN 2023 NCLEX-RN Test Plan effective April 1, 2023, until March 31, 2026, includes the addition of Clinical Judgment as an integrated processes reflecting the NCSBN Nursing Clinical Judgement Measurement Model-NCJMM domains.

- 2023 NCLEX-RN Plan and Passing Standard detailed information available at https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/2023_RN_Test%20Plan_English_FINAL.pdf.

- The Passing Standard link <https://www.ncsbn.org/exams/before-the-exam/passing-standard.page#:~:text=PN%20Passing%20Standard>

The 2023 NGN NCLEX-RN exam consists of a minimum of 85 questions/items; a minimum total of 70 scored test items plus 15 unscored pretest items and a maximum of 150 test items; this is a maximum total of 135 scored items plus 15 unscored pretest items. Exam length remains at 5 hours (with more time allowed if exam accommodations approved). Examples of the NGN NCLEX RN exam 3 cases studies (18 test questions), clinical judgment standalone and knowledge test items, and new item types available at https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/NGN_Fall21_English_Final.pdf. Examples of questions/item types include highlighting, cloze-pull down menu, matrix grid, extended multiple response, trend questions/item, extended drag and drop including bow-tie type questions. NGN NCLEX-RN exam will use partial credit scoring (polytomous) instead of the former dichotomous correct or incorrect question scoring.

- More detailed information about the NCLEX-RN Examination test design and new scoring methods available at <https://www.ncsbn.org/publications/ngn-news-winter-2022>.
- More details about NGN NCLEX-RN exam scoring methods available at https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/NGN_Summer21_ENG.pdf
- More NGN FAQs/Resources/Talks & Videos/Webinars information available at <https://www.ncsbn.org/ngn-resources.htm>; <https://www.ncsbn.org/ngn-talks.htm> https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/NGN_Summer23_Eng_Final.pdf.
- Available April 2025 NCSBN published 2024 RN Practice Analysis Report. <https://www.ncsbn.org/exams-research/2024-rn-practice-analysis-linking-the-nclexrn-examination-to-practice>

Nursing Education Consultants (NECs) monitor the NCLEX quarterly and annual pass rates of their assigned programs. If a program's annual first-time candidate pass rate is below 75% for the annual period (July 1-June 30), the NEC emails the program written notice of non-compliance (per CCR 1431). The program submits a detailed written report identifying the specific factors contributing to the substandard annual pass rate and describing the specific plan and corrective actions to improve the annual rate.

The NEC summarizes a program's NCLEX assessment and improvement plans in the ELC/Board meeting materials per the 3/16 Licensing Examination Passing Standard EDP-I-29 document. If a second consecutive year of annual pass rates <75% occurs, a continuing approval visit is scheduled within six months. Approval visit findings are presented to the ELC and full Board meetings with school representative(s) present as specified in the current BRN Prelicensure Program Directors' Handbook, Section 10.

NEXT STEP:	Continue to monitor results.
PERSON TO CONTACT:	Katie Daugherty, MN, RN Nursing Education Consultant

California Board of Registered Nursing
Table 3. NCLEX-RN Pass Rates First-Time Candidates
Comparison of National U.S. Educated and CA Educated Pass Rates
By Degree Type
Academic Year July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

Academic Year July 1-June 30^	July-Sept^ #Tested % Pass^	Oct-Dec^ #Tested % Pass^	Jan-Mar^ #Tested % Pass^	April-June^/+ #Tested %Pass
National/US-Educated: All degree types*	50,644 (89.1)	17,699 (82.2)	52,894 (88.3)	
CA-Educated: All degree types*	5,206 (91.8)	2,176 (87.5)	4,605 (89.6)	
National-Associate Degree Rates*	21,398 (88.1)	7,843 (81.5)	25,528 (88.4)	
CA-Associate Degree rates*	2,064 (93.0)	555 (90.4)	2,304 (91.8)	
National BSN+ELM rates*	28,424 (90.2)	9,432 (83.5)	26,585 (88.5)	
CA-BSN+ELM rates*	3,137 (91.0)	1,619 (86.5)	2,298 (87.3)	

*National rate for All Degree types includes four categories of results: Diploma, AD, BSN+ELM, and Special Codes. Use of the Special Codes category may vary from state to state. In CA, the Special Codes category is commonly used for re-entry candidates such as eight-year retake candidates wishing to reinstate an expired license per CCR 1419.3(b). The CA aggregate rate for all degree types include AD, BSN+ELM, and Special Codes but no diploma program rates since there are no diploma programs in CA. CA rates by specific degree type exclude special code counts since these are not reported by specific degree type. *CA rates include the specific results for the Associate degree or the combined BSN+ELM degree categories. NCSBN does not currently report ELM rates as its own separate category. ^Note: Quarter to quarter reports reflect the most up-to-date and accurate numbers

at the time the report generated. The 10.1.24-12.31.24 rates based on NCSBN report generated 1.2.25 and 1.1.25-3.31.25 rates based on report generated 4.1.25. Rates may vary from quarter to quarter based on changes or corrections submitted after initial quarterly data was reported and when each report is generated.

Previous annual period: 7.1.23-9.30.23 Quarterly aggregated National rate (51,200-90.6%) and CA rate (4,747-93.3%) per 10.2.23 report. 10.1.23-12.31.23 National rate (17,301-88.6%) and CA rate (1,716-92%) per 1.2.24 report. The 1.1.24-3.31.24 National rate (51,946-94.1%) and CA rate (4,386-95.6%) per 4.2.24 report.

As of April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2026, the 2023 RN Test Plan, and the new Next Generation NCLEX (NGN) RN exam is effective. The NGN RN exam Passing Standard remains at 0.00 logits (since 2013) and the exam length continues to be 5 hours. Effective April 1, 2023, to the present each exam candidate takes a minimum of 85 test questions (70 scored and 15 unscored pretest questions). The maximum number of test questions an exam candidate takes is 150 questions (135 scored questions and 15 unscored pretest questions/items). Each NGN RN NCLEX RN exam will include question types such as case study items (18 test questions), stand alone and trend alternate format questions/items. Every exam has three case studies and candidates answer 6 clinical judgment questions about each case study. These new Clinical Judgment case study exam questions explicitly and more precisely measure the exam candidate's ability to make appropriate clinical judgments/decisions in relation to the six domains/layers of the NCSBN Clinical Judgment Measurement Model (NCJMM). NCSBN NCJMM domains include recognizing cues, analyzing cues, prioritizing hypotheses, generating solutions, taking action, and evaluating outcomes. Each exam candidate may answer a range of stand-alone questions ranging from 52 to 117 knowledge questions depending on exam length. The 2023 NGN NCLEX RN exam continues to be a computer adaptive test (CAT) except for 18 case studies questions that are static, not adaptive exam questions. New NGN exam scoring includes three types of partial credit scoring rules/methods instead of the former correct or incorrect scoring method. https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/NGN_Summer21_ENG.pdf

Source: National Council of State Boards/Pearson VUE Quarterly Pass Rate Reports and NCSBN Examination publications. For more information about the NCSBN 2023 NCLEX-RN Test Plan and Next Generation NCLEX (NGN) examination launched April 1, 2023, please access available information at https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/2023_RN_Test%20Plan_English_FINAL.pdf.

NCLEX-RN 2023 Passing Standard information available at <https://www.ncsbn.org/exams/before-the-exam/passing-standard.page>.

Newsletter resources: https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/NGN_Summer23_Eng_Final.pdf

Other resources available at <https://www.ncsbn.org/ngn-resources.htm> ; NGN talks/videos at <https://www.ncsbn.org/ngn-talks.htm>

April 2025 NCSBN publication of the 2024 RN Practice Analysis now available: <https://www.ncsbn.org/exams-research/2024-rn-practice-analysis-linking-the-nclexrn-examination-to-practice>



Agenda Item 8.3

Information Only: Licensing Update

BRN Board Meeting | May 28-30, 2025

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.3
DATE: May 28-30, 2025

ACTION REQUESTED: Licensing Program Update, Information only.

REQUESTED BY: Jovita Dominguez, BSN, RN, Chair, Education/Licensing Committee

LICENSING UPDATE:

Application Processing

As of April 24, 2025, the licensing evaluators are currently processing the review of:

- US exam and endorsement applications received in April,
- International exam and endorsement applications received in April, and
- APRN applications received in April.

Licensing continues to work to streamline efforts and reduce processing times for all applications. Weekly meetings are held with DCA's Office of Information Services (OIS) to work on updates to BreEZe and other technological platforms to allow for greater efficacy. Additionally, licensing staff are reaching out to applicants who turned in incomplete applications, via email or phone, to inform them of the documents that are required for licensure and to provide assistance in completing their application. This is part of a larger effort that is supported by BRN, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), and the Department of Health Care and Information (HCAI).

Statistics

The BRN utilizes custom reports, via QBIRT, to identify areas of improvement in processes, predict workflow fluctuations, and to assign application workload to staff. The following information is gathered from the DCA Annual Report and a custom BRN Licensing Performance Measures Report.

The custom BRN Licensing Performance Measures Report utilizes initial review and deficiency dates, entered by staff on each application, to determine the processing time for an application from the received postmark date of the application.

In reviewing this data a few factors should be considered:

1. Data entry errors
 - BRN licensing management runs quarterly performance measures reports and makes every effort to validate data entered by staff to identify and fix any data entry errors.
2. Applications made deficient for three (3) years/Applications expired in error.
 - At times applicants' education may be deficient in required nursing courses. In these circumstances, Licensing Program staff will make the applicant deficient in the required nursing coursework and allow three years for the coursework to be completed without requiring an additional fee or submission of previously submitted documents. In these instances, application expiration dates must be extended to allow for completion of the deficiency. Instances occur where the application expires in error and must be reopened for processing. When this occurs the application postmark date, deficiency and initial review dates may not match original application dates and will cause discrepancies in data.

3. Dishonored check process

- If BRN receives a dishonored check from an applicant, application processing ceases. Once fees are received to cover the dishonored check, a new postmark date is added to the application record. This creates an issue with the calculation of processing time as the postmark date will be after the initial review and deficiency dates which causes a negative number to appear on the reports. Licensing Program staff do not adjust dates related to a dishonored check clearance.

The Average Processing Time for Approved Applications table was created to provide more information on the processing time in days for each application type. This table captures the processing time in days for Exam, Endorsement and Advanced Practice applications and breaks out the application type California, US or International:

- Exam applications: Receipt of an application to approval for exam minus the deficiency period.
- Endorsement and Advanced Practice applications: Receipt of an application to licensure minus the deficiency period.

Average Processing Time for Approved Applications				
Application Type	Fiscal Year 2022-2023	Fiscal Year 2022-2023	Fiscal Year 2022-2023	Fiscal Year 2024-2025
RN Exam				
California	37	29	28	21
US	31	14	20	10
International	66	69	11	6
RN Endorsement				
US	69	44	26	35
International	64	58	44	15
Certifications				
Clinical Nurse Specialists	5	3	3	2
Nurse Practitioner	12	4	5	3
Nurse Practitioner Furnishing	13	6	15	20
Nurse Anesthetist	8	3	14	14
Nurse Midwife	10	10	4	4
Nurse Midwife Furnishing	15	7	5	5
Public Health Nurse	41	9	12	15
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse	17	9	3	5

The Licensing Applications Received table provides the total number of applications the BRN received by fiscal year:

Licensing Applications Received				
Application Type	Fiscal Year 2021-2022	Fiscal Year 2022-2023	Fiscal Year 2023-2024	Fiscal Year 2024-2025
Exams	19,679	20,628	21,418	14,128
Endorsement	38,490	37,629	30,267	22,590
Repeat/Reapply	7,978	11,144	6,851	5,608
Advanced Practice	11,527	14,564	16,519	13,897
Total	77,674	83,965	75,055	56,223

The Additional Request Received table provides the total number of out-going verifications, aka out of state verification, and Inactive to Active requests the BRN received by fiscal year:

Additional Requests Received				
Request Type	Fiscal Year 2021-2022	Fiscal Year 2022-2023	Fiscal Year 2023-2024	Fiscal Year 2024-2025
Out of State Verification	14,409	3,690	3,688	2,933
Inactive to Active	941	961	886	538
Total	15,350	4,651	4,574	3,471

NEXT STEP: Continue to monitor business processes, timeframe improvement and staff hiring.

PERSON TO CONTACT: Christina Sprigg, Deputy Chief
Licensing Program
Christina.Sprigg@dca.ca.gov