



Agenda Item 8.0

Report of the Education/Licensing Committee

BRN Education/Licensing Committee | October 5, 2023

Education/Licensing Committee
October 5, 2023

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Agenda Item 8.8

Discussion and possible action regarding acceptance of substantive changes to an approved program (present) (16 CCR §§ 1426 & 1432) (present)

BRN Education/Licensing Committee | October 5, 2023

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.8.1
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding acceptance of substantive changes to an approved program Cuesta College Associate Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

REQUESTED BY: Lisa Kennelly, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: Cuesta College Associate Degree Nursing Program, is in San Luis Obispo which is in San Luis Obispo County. The college is requesting an enrollment increase. The proposed increase would begin in Spring of 2024. This change would bring the annual enrollment from 50 students annually to 80 students annually an increase of 30. The college is looking to expand enrollment to help fill the needs of nurses at their local community hospitals.

The original BRN approval date for the program was 1967. The last BRN Continuing Approval Visit was conducted in September 2019 and the program was found to have two non-compliances related to (1424 (d) & 1424 (h) adequate resources), which were shortly after brought into full compliance by hiring more faculty and staff. The program is not accredited.

Current enrollment pattern: 50 students annually

ADN – 46 generic students once a year (fall). Annual enrollment 46 students.

LVN to RN – 4 advanced placement students once a year. Annual enrollment 4 students.

Requested enrollment pattern: 80 students annually

ADN – 46 generic students once a year (fall). Annual enrollment 46 students. No increase requested.

LVN to RN – 34 advanced placement students once a year. Annual enrollment 34 students. Increasing from 4 to 34, an increase of 30 advanced placement students.

Cost of the program: \$8,000

NCLEX Pass Rate:

2020-2021 – 93.18%

2021-2022 – 97.56%

Attrition rate:

2019-2020 - 0%

2020-2021 - 0%

The program has submitted documentation on resources, including clinical sites and faculty to support this increase.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

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

8.8.1 Cuesta College

Request enrollment increase at Cuesta College for the LVN to RN program of an additional 30 students annually, from 4 students a year to 34 students a year.

Currently approved enrollment pattern of 46 generic students (ADN) once a year (fall) and 4 advanced placement students (LVN to RN) once a year for an annual enrollment of 50.

Annual enrollment = 80 students (increase of 30)

Cuesta College has had no requests for growth over the last 5 years.

Region 5 Enrollment 2018-2023

New student growth in Region 5 in the last 5 years = 79 new students annually through the approval of 2 enrollment increases (31 students annually) and 1 feasibility study still in the final program approval process (48 students annually).

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
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

Board of Registered Nursing
Lisa Kennelly, DNP, AGPCNP, PHN, CNE
Nursing Education Consultant

Major Curriculum Revision Proposal
1747 N. Market Blvd. Suite 150
Sacramento, CA 95834-1924

Dear Ms. Kennelly

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to request an expansion of our RN program. We are looking to increase the number of RN graduates here at Cuesta College. Our community has a nursing shortage and the community partners have asked we increase enrollment to help with the ongoing shortage. Before the recent emergency shortage, we had been working on a plan to increase enrollment with our college president.

In light of the above statement, our program has worked on a plan to increase enrollment to an additional 30 students. We would like to use the RN to LVN Pathway which we have well established. We plan to increase enrollment in the Spring semester using our application process for our current LVN to RN curriculum pathway.

- The proposed change of enrollment will be increased by 30 students in the Spring semester using the establish LVN to RN pathway. We will also use this increase to back fill any attrition from the traditional cohort straight RN pathway of four semesters. Describe the proposed change.
- The reason for the change in enrollment using the LVN to RN pathway is to meet the demand of our community partners/facilities request for more graduate RN's. This growth is also a request of our college president for increasing enrollment number to meet our community educational degree goals.
- The change will improve our graduate numbers and provide a pathway for students who are LVN's to obtain their RN education. In addition, it will increase our college goals of diversity and equity reflective of our community. We have an LVN Program and graduate on an average of 22-30 students every 18 months. This increase in enrollment would provide a avenue for the LVN graduates to increase their education and achieve their goal of becoming RN's.
- The proposed change will affect clinical facilities in that they will have RN students attending clinical Monday through Saturday. The facilities are excited for the increased number of students and potential RN employees.
- This enrollment increase is meant for LVN to RN students. They would be starting each Spring semester and only once per year.

We implemented a process for vetting the additional students into our RN cohort. This new process includes a new course for the evaluation of fundamental competency and skills for the applicants that meet all application requirements. In the past, we have

conducted interviews followed by competency checks by our fundamentals instructor to vet these students. With the increased number, we are adding a formal process.

Please let me know if you have questions

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BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.8.2
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding acceptance of substantive changes to an approved program San Joaquin Delta College Associate Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

REQUESTED BY: Grace Clerk, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: San Joaquin Delta College (SJDC), is an Associate Degree (ADN) program located in San Joaquin County, Stockton CA. SJDC is requesting an enrollment increase of additional 10 students for their spring semester. The program currently admits 60 (generic only) in the fall and 80 students (40 generic, 40 Fast Track/HOPE) in the spring. The program is requesting to enroll 90 students in the spring semester (40 generic, 50 Fast Track/HOPE). This increases enrollment from 80 to 90 students every Spring semester for the Fast-Track/HOPE cohort. Tentative implementation date of spring 2024. The overall program curriculum and course of instruction will not change.

The rationale for the increase in enrollment is the need to meet the demand for nurses with their local hospital partner San Joaquin General Hospital (SJGH). SJGH is part of the Fast Track/HOPE health worker program. The Helping Our People Elevate (HOPE) option is a partnership established with San Joaquin County health facilities to help address the issue of poor RN retention in the area.

SDJC, was originally approved by the BRN Fall 1963. Last CAV Spring 2021 with no areas of no compliance. The program, is accredited by ACEN, last ACEN visit Spring 2022

There are currently 280 students in the program.

SDJC, is requesting enrollment increase of 10 students in the Spring semester therefore, The total cost of the program is \$6,500

Annual NCLEX Pass Rates	Current attrition rate
2019-2020 = 91.4%	2019-2020 = 0.0%
2020-2021 = 82.9%	2020-2021 = 0.9%
2021-2022 = 81.2%	2021-2022 = 0.0%

San Joaquin General Hospital will provide clinical instructors and site for all clinical rotations/faculty for the 10 FAST/HOPE students that work at SJGH. Clinical rotation tentative weekends and evening shifts. There is lab space available on campus for 10 more students. The program has 3 faculty vacancies and are currently in the hiring process potentially filling vacancies by the end of fall

NEXT STEP: Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT: Grace Clerk, MSN, AGNP-C
Nursing Education Consultant

8.8.2 San Joaquin Delta College

Requesting an enrollment pattern of 90 students for Spring semester (generic 40, FAST/HOPE 50 students) and 60 generic students in the Fall semester totaling 150 students annually. This will be an enrollment increase of 10 students per year.

Enrollment activity for San Joaquin Delta College for the last 5 years is a total of 60 students.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
San Joaquin Delta College	ADN	Stockton	San Joaquin	4	November-19	Enrollment Increase	from 20 to 40 fast track, increase 20 x 2 years only*	Approved	None
San Joaquin Delta College	ADN	Stockton	San Joaquin	4	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 80 to 120 annually, increase 40 permanent*	Approved	None
San Joaquin Delta College	ADN	Stockton	San Joaquin	4	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 140 annually, increase 20	Approved	None

Region 4 Data 2018-2023

New student growth in Region 4 in the last 5 years is 188 new students annually through 6 enrollment increases (158 students annually) and 1 new program (30 students annually).

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
CSU Stanislaus	BSN	Turlock	Stanislaus	4	February-18	Enrollment Increase	from 30 to 40 annually, increase 10	Approved	None
San Joaquin Delta College	ADN	Stockton	San Joaquin	4	November-19	Enrollment Increase	from 20 to 40 fast track, increase 20 x 2 years only*	Approved	None
Xavier College	ADN - Private	Stockton	San Joaquin	4	September-19	New Program	30 annually	Approved	None
Xavier College	ADN - Private	Stockton	San Joaquin	4	June-19	Feasibility	30 annually	Approved	None
San Joaquin Delta College	ADN	Stockton	San Joaquin	4	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 80 to 120 annually, increase 40 permanent*	Approved	None
Pacific Union College	ADN - Private	Sonora	Tuolumne	4	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 108 to 126 annually, increase 18	Approved	None
Merced College	ADN	Merced	Merced	4	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 60 to 130 annually, increase 70	Approved	None
San Joaquin Delta College	ADN	Stockton	San Joaquin	4	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 140 annually, increase 20	Approved	None



Executive Summary

San Joaquin Delta College (SJDC) Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) Program is requesting to increase enrollment from 80 to 90 students every Spring semester for the Fast-Track/HOPE cohort.

Background

The ADN Program was established at the college in the Fall of 1963. Prior to that time, the program was a three-year, hospital-based diploma program located at San Joaquin General Hospital. The School of Nursing at San Joaquin General Hospital graduated its last class of nursing in 1964. In 1965, the first nursing class graduated from San Joaquin Delta College.

The San Joaquin Delta College (SJDC) associate degree in nursing (ADN) program requests an enrollment increase from 80 students to a total of 90 students every Spring starting with admission of the Spring 2024 cohort. The program curriculum course of instruction will not change. There are no changes in curriculum, course content, sequencing, units, or degree requirements being requested. The SJDC RN program currently admits 60 students in the Fall and 80 (40 generic and 40 Fast Track/HOPE) students in the Spring semester. The request to increase to 90 students is intentionally scheduled in the Spring because the Fast-Track/HOPE cohort admits only in the Spring.

The program serves 36% of our institution's Hispanic/Latino population for our 2021-22 cohort. The same 2021-22 graduation served 26% White, 16% Asian, and 12% Filipino. The Helping Our People Elevate (HOPE) cohort, who are admitted under the Spring fast track option admitted a higher percentage of Hispanics and African Americans than is represented in the county population and in the current California RN population (HOPE Poster Presentation, 2023). Of the Fall 2022 alumni surveyed, 88% of the total respondent RNs are currently employed in the San Joaquin Valley area.

- Last BRN (Board of Registered Nursing) continuing approval was Spring 2021
- Last ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) continuing approval was Spring 2022, approved until 2030
- Current Enrollment pattern: Fall 60 students (60 generic) and Spring 80 (40 generic, 40 Fast Track/HOPE)
- Last enrollment increase: 2023 – approved for additional 20 students (total 60 generic) in the Fall
- Total number of students enrolled in the Program: 280
- NCLEX Pass rates: 100% (Apr-Jun 2023), 81.4% (Jan-Mar, 2023), 81.2% (2021-22), 82.8% (2020-21)
- Attrition rate: 1-5%
- Cost of Program: \$6,500

Table 1. Enrollment Statistics and Pass Rates by Year.

	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2023-24 (Projected)
Number new enrollment	125	122	122	150
Number graduated	108	123	122	121
Attrition Rate	1%	5%	1%	1-5%
NCLEX Pass Rate	91.41%	82.89%	81.20%	86%
Employment Rate	100%	100%	100%	100%

Rationale for Change

The rationale for the increase in enrollment is the need to meet the demand for nurses of our local hospital partner San Joaquin General Hospital (SJGH). In turn, this proposed change will increase the number of new registered nurses entering the health workforce in the San Joaquin County area.

SJGH is part of the Fast Track/HOPE incumbent health worker program. The Helping Our People Elevate (HOPE) option is a partnership established with San Joaquin County health facilities to help address the issue of poor RN retention in the area. The HOPE pathway allowed employers and area high school students an opportunity to receive the education needed to advance their careers. HOPE students are admitted every Spring semester utilizing the Fast Track model.

SJDC, for its part, continues to receive more qualified nursing program applicants than it can admit. The BRN Annual School (2020-21) report validates this finding which indicates that 74.8% of applicants are not enrolled. The USDHHS HRSA finds that 48.5% of RNs (Registered Nurses) have their initial nursing education to be an Associate’s Degree. The American Association of Colleges in Nursing (AACN) reports a 63.5% job placement rate and the SJDC Alumni Survey (2022) indicates up to 88% of those surveyed have jobs 6 months after graduation.

[Spetz, Chu, and Blash \(2022\)](#) notes that the supply of RNs by the end of 2022 is estimated to be below demand by 18,952 FTES. The authors reports that the RN shortage is projected to persist until 2029. The [US Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) expect the employment of RNs to grow 6% from 2021 to 2031. In the Central Valley, [Health Impact \(2018\)](#) encourages steps be taken to increase the supply of RNs in the region. They further note that the educational capacity in the Central Valley is not large enough to maintain the RN workforce as the population grows. The Department of Health Care Access and Information ([HCAI, 2023](#)) Report shows that the concentration of RNs in the San Joaquin Valley is lower compared to Sacramento, the Northern CA/Sierra, and the Greater Bay areas.

Required Curriculum

Based on the NCLEX framework of client needs and pre-licensure Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) standards, the curriculum reflects professional standards and contemporary practice across the lifespan in a variety of settings utilizing the Nursing Process. The San Joaquin Delta College ADN Program is consistent with other California Associate Degree in Nursing program in terms of length and units. The number of overall nursing program units is 36.5. This is approved by

the California Board of Registered Nursing and falls within their accepted guidelines. Upon acceptance into the program, the expected completion time for Fast Track/HOPE is four semesters including the Spring, Summer, Fall, and Spring. New Fast Track/HOPE students enter the ADN Program only in the Spring and complete it in 16 months. New generic nursing students complete the ADN program in 24 months (about 2 years).

The ADN Program will continue to admit 40 Fast Track/HOPE students every Spring on top of the 10 additional enrollment requested. The Fast Track option, of about 20 students, is funded by the Strong Workforce Program (SWP) and is a year-round curriculum where students complete the ADN Program in 16 months instead of 24 months. The Program admits another 20 students for the Fast-Track/HOPE program which the three health facilities share. The facilities are Dignity Health – St. Joseph’s Medical Center, Adventist Health – Lodi Memorial Hospital and Dameron Hospital, and Community Medical Center. The additional 10 requested will be earmarked for San Joaquin General Hospital.

Students are scheduled in a variety of clinical settings ranging from acute hospitals to community-based settings. Many clinical sites are currently in acute hospitals. Majority of the graduates have been employed in this type of setting which justifies use of acute care clinical environments to provide appropriate clinical learning experiences and meet student learning outcomes. All acute hospitals used are currently accredited by The Joint Commission.

There will be no change in the BRN approved content required for licensure units, courses, course content, and course sequencing.

Table 2. Nursing Specialty Areas, Units, and Hour Distribution.

Specialty Area	Theory Units	Clinical Units	Clinical Hours
Medical-Surgical (Geriatric Integrated)	12	12.5	675
Obstetric	2	2	108
Pediatric	2	2	108
Psychiatric-Mental Health	2	2	108

BRN and ACEN Accreditation

The nursing program received continued accreditation from the BRN (2021) and the ACEN (2022) getting continued approval for 2030. The ADN Program has received no areas of noncompliance from either accrediting institutions. The ACEN identified the Program’s NCLEX pass rates as “a significant achievement.” However, recommendations and areas needing development have been identified and are currently being addressed by the nursing faculty (See attachment).

Resources

The ADN Program has sufficient budgetary resources to support the requested increase in student admission. Funding for the additional 10 students in the Spring will be sourced from SJDC’s General Fund and Hospital Provided Instructors (HPI). The College’s Vice President of Instruction and the Dean of the Health and Fitness TrAC have pledged their commitment for future funding. To note, SJDC has achieved 3% total enrollment growth despite the post COVID enrollment decrease experienced by comparable CCCs. Other funding sources include the Enrollment Growth Grant, CDCR/SEIU Joint Apprenticeship Committee, Delta scholarships, and the different hospital partner provided instructors (HPIs) for the HOPE program. Recently, the SJDC ADN Program was placed under the “growth category” by the Chancellor Office for California Community Colleges and is set to

receive the Nursing Enrollment and Retention Grant. This is another rationale for this enrollment increase.

The nursing program has received a grant of \$3.8 M from the Department of Education to improve and increase our simulation capacity. The Program also receives Strong Workforce funds which was used to hire a full time Simulation Operation Specialist and the use of the Enrollment Growth Grant funds for additional support. The College has also hired a full-time Resource Specialist to support the Health and Fitness TrAC. SJDC has hired two Full Time faculty who started in the Fall 2023 and will be recruiting three more full time faculty to start in Spring 2024. Currently, there are ten (10) full time and 1 partially retired faculty member. For Spring 2023, the nursing program has scheduled 36 part time instructors. One (1) full-time administrative assistant has been hired temporarily to replace an admin assistant who got promoted. Applicants are being interviewed for the full time administrative assistant at the time of this writing. Currently the Health and Fitness TrAC has a total of 3 full-time administrative assistants. Funding source allocation by option type is illustrated in Table 9.



Table 3. Number of Students by Program Enrollment Type and Semester.

	Enrollment Program Type	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024	Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Fall 2025
Existing BRN Approved	Generic 40 per semester	180	180	0	200	200	0	200
	Traditional LVN to RN	Students only added to back fill vacancies in the ADN generic program. Admitted to third semester.						
	Fast track/HOPE	40	80	40	40	80	40	40
	Total Enrollment	220	260	40	240	280	40	240
Requested New Enrollment	10 Fast Track/HOPE	-	10 Admit Jan	10	10	10	-	-
		-	-	-	-	10 Admit Jan	10	10
	Projected Total Enrollment	220	270	50	250	300	50	250



Impact on Clinical Placements

Dr. Elvira Miller, Xavier School of Nursing the only other nursing located in San Joaquin County, has also written a letter of support for the increase in enrollment. Dr. Marla Seacrist, Dean of School of Nursing, CSU Stanislaus in Turlock, and Dr. Ann Stoltz, Interim Chair and Program Director, ELMSN, University of the Pacific in Sacramento has given their support for the increase (See Attachments – Letters of Support) citing increased interschool coordination and collaboration to prevent impaction over clinical placements. All three schools have clinical rotations in San Joaquin County area hospitals.

Based on reviews of past clinical schedules when the ADN Program had 80 students in the Fall, the Program will repurpose existing clinical placements so as not to impact the clinical facilities and other schools. Table 10 in the attachment shows the distribution of the students respective of their track options and their clinical placements by specialty.

Lastly, the [BRN School Survey Interactive Dashboard](#), notes that there are no nursing programs in the San Joaquin area that were denied a clinical placement, unit, or shift from 2019-22.

Table 4. School of Nursing and Number of Students.

School	Number of Students
Xavier School of Nursing	ADN - 30
California State University, Stanislaus	Prelicensure BSN – 30 Second Bachelors to BSN – 40
University of the Pacific, Sacramento	ELMSN - 80

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.8.3
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding acceptance of substantive changes to an approved program Pacific Union College Associate Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

REQUESTED BY: Kimberly Knight, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: Pacific Union College (PUC) Associate of Science in Nursing program is requesting a substantive change to increase enrollment by 36 students at the Angwin Campus. PUC has a training partnership with Adventist Health (AH) hospitals. The primary focus will be for employees of AH and residents in rural areas to move to a nursing career. Theory instruction will be at the Angwin campus. Students will be placed in clinical locations near their homes. The AH Corporation includes the Ukiah, Mendocino, Howard Memorial, and Clearlake Hospitals. An enrollment increase was requested by PUC at the February 2023 Board meeting and was approved from 108 to 126 annually, increasing by 18 students at the Angwin Campus to be taught at the Sonora/Stockton Sites.

Current enrollment pattern:

Angwin Campus (Generic ADN): 36 students 3 times/year, with an annual enrollment of 108 students plus 18 additional students enrolled annually at the Sonora/Stockton site in partnership with AH to total 126 students annually

Napa Campus (LVN-RN): 27 students admitted annually at alternating campuses with an annual enrollment of 27 students

Total program annual enrollment is 153 students.

Requested enrollment pattern to begin in Spring 2024:

Add an additional 12 students each quarter, moving from 36 to 48 three times each year.

Total annual enrollment at the Angwin campus would be 144 students + 18 students at the Sonora/Stockton site (162 total).

The program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing through Spring 2025. The last Continuing Approval Visit April 6 & 7, 2022 with program in compliance with BRN rules and regulations.

“There are an adequate number of faculty to develop and implement the program. A 1.0 FTE nursing faculty and assistant director has been hired to support the enrollment increase. This assistant director will be explicitly dedicated to supporting the rural clinical sites”. The Nursing Curriculum and Clinical Facilities Form (EDP-P-11) documents current faculty assignments and signed Faculty Approvals (EDP-P-02) for the addition of 1 full time theory faculty. Four newly signed Clinical Facility Authorization Forms (EDP-P-18) identifies the addition of clinical placement hospital sites.

NCLEX Pass Rates
2021-2021 = 84.9%
2021-2022 = 90.2%
2022-2023 = 85.9%

Attrition Rates
2019-2020 = 9.6%
2021-2021 = 6.1%
2021-2022 = 1.1%

Total Program Costs: \$67,356.00

NEXT STEP:

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Place on Board Agenda

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

8.8.1 Pacific Union College

Request enrollment increase in Angwin, California (Napa County) for an additional 36 ADN students annually (add an additional 11 students to the fall quarter moving from 36 to 47 students, an increase of 11 students to the winter cohort increasing from 36 to 47 and an increase of 12 students to the spring cohort increasing from 36 to 48 each year).

Currently approved:

Angwin Campus: 36 students each quarter (3 times/year) = 108 + 18 additional students enrolled annually at the Sonora/Stockton site in partnership with AH = 126 students annually

Napa Campus (LVN-RN): 27 students admitted each year/ alternating campuses = 27

Pacific Union Growth for the last 5 years – they have had three approved enrollment increases and have increased their overall enrollment by 54 new student placements.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
Pacific Union College	ADN - Private	Angwin	Napa	2	May-22	Enrollment Increase	from 81 to 108 annually, increase 27	Approved	None
Pacific Union College	ADN - Private	Napa	Napa	2	May-22	Enrollment Increase	from 18 to 27 annually, increase 9	Approved	None
Pacific Union College	ADN - Private	Sonora	Tuolumne	4	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 108 to 126 annually, increase 18	Approved	None

Region 2 Data 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 2 for the last 5 years has total growth of 46 new students annually through 2 enrollment increases (36 students annually) and 1 new campus (10 students annually).

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
College of the Redwoods	ADN	Crescent City	Del Norte	2	November-19	New Campus	10 annually	Approved	None
Pacific Union College	ADN - Private	Angwin	Napa	2	May-22	Enrollment Increase	from 81 to 108 annually, increase 27	Approved	None
Pacific Union College	ADN - Private	Napa	Napa	2	May-22	Enrollment Increase	from 18 to 27 annually, increase 9	Approved	None



Executive Summary Major Substantive Change: Enrollment Increase

Requested by: Kimberly Knight MSN, RN (Certified Education Consultant)

Kimberly Dunker DNP, RN, CNE, CNEcl Director

Located in the hills above California's treasured Napa Valley, PUC is a small college with a big reputation for academic excellence. PUC's largest department is Nursing & Health Sciences, known for producing competent, caring, and experienced professionals in the fields of nursing, allied health, and emergency services. Students have access to a variety of clinical placement experiences in leading healthcare hospitals and facilities located throughout Northern California.

The ASN Degree in Nursing is the first step in a two-step path to completing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN) and is the portion of the PUC Nursing program that prepares graduates to take the registered nurse (RN) licensing exam (NCLEX). Following completion of the AS Degree in Nursing, graduates may then continue directly on to the BSN for additional training. On the Angwin campus, the ASN Degree program takes place over six quarters (two years). Students who are already LVNs (Licensed Vocational Nurses), Med Tech V, or EMT-P (paramedics) and wish to pursue their ASN Degree in Nursing may do so through the LVN/Med-TechV, EMT-P-to-RN program offered at the Napa campus. The LVN/Med-TechV EMT-P ASN Degree program is offered in a non-traditional core week format designed for working healthcare professionals. Armed with the skills and knowledge to help care for those in need, several options are available to nursing students. Degrees include:

- Major in Nursing, A.S.N. and B.S.N. Degrees (2-Step Program)
- Major in Nursing, B.S.N. Degree (RN to BS)
- Major in Nursing, M.S.N. Degrees (for Registered Nurses)

Institutional Accreditation

PUC holds WASC (Senior College and University Commission) accreditation through 2026. Additionally, the ASN program holds ACEN accreditation through 2028 and the BSN program through 2025. Accreditation for the MSN program is expected after its first graduating cohort in 2024. Positive outcomes data speaks to the success of the department: data for the 2021-2022 academic year indicate low attrition rates (10%), high on-time completion rates (90%), and excellent student satisfaction rates (over 95% would recommend the program).

History of PUC

PUC recently applied for and was granted an enrollment increase by the California Board of Registered Nursing and the Education Licensing Committee. The approved additional students will receive training in rural hospitals located in the rural central valley and Tuolumne areas. In 2023, the number of applicants to the Angwin program

increased to 280, and 224 applicants were qualified for the program. In the Napa program, there was 85 qualified applicants applied and only 27 were accepted into the program. As a feasibility to assess the applicant pool in the rural North Coast and Lake region (Ukiah and Clear Lake), we noted that 42 out of the 224 qualified applicants were from this region. This is an area we would like to utilize unused clinical space to allow students who live there to have clinicals in the areas where they live and plan to work.

CA BRN Regulation Change and Funding Received at PUC

In January 2023, the CA BRN approved supervised direct care hours required for licensure as stated in the Business and Professions Code (BPC) [Section 2786\(a\)\(2\)](#). With the change in regulations, it has allowed us to utilize more simulation and rely less on direct care clinical hours. In response to this, PUC secured two funding sources. In June 2022, PUC received a gift of \$250,000 to update and add additional simulation and skills laboratory spaces on the campus. We have added Pediatrics and Maternity/OB labs with high-fidelity simulators. In July 2023, PUC received \$540,000 SongBrown funding, which is being used to add additional skills lab, high fidelity lab, and classroom spaces. This funding and the change in CA regulations have allowed us to utilize simulation in our program. Our program currently has 840 direct care hours and using simulation is very limited in the specialty care areas. However, with this funding, we will be able to add more students because we have added simulation, experiential learning, and other observational experiences to meet the requirements for clinical. This is especially critical in the specialty care areas where the spots have limited clinical.

REQUIRED CONTENT	Course Number(s)	Course Title(s)	Supervised Direct Patient Care Hours		
			30 per Specialty	500 Total Hours	
NURSING					Simulation & Experiential Learning
Medical-Surgical	NURS 124	Nursing II		35	55
Medical-Surgical	NURS 125	Nursing III		45	45
Medical-Surgical	NURS 221	Nursing IV		45	45
Medical-Surgical	NURS 222	Nursing V		75	25
Medical-Surgical	NURS 325	Nursing VI		150	
Obstetrics	NURS 256	Maternal Newborn	60		30
	NURS 255	Pediatrics	30		30

Psych/Mental Health	NURS 254	Mental Health	30		60
Geriatrics	NURS 121	Nursing I	30		60
		Hours	150	500	350
TOTAL HOURS				840	

Substantive Change

The substantive change we are seeking is to increase enrollment at Pacific Union College by total of 36 students in Angwin (Enrollment Pattern Attachment). We have secured additional nursing faculty for both theory and clinical, as well as clinical sites and 3 new simulators on campus, and we believe that we can support increasing the number of students in our program. Therefore, we are looking to increase the cohort size by a small number of 36 students total per year (Enrollment Pattern)

Proposed Enrollment Increase: Angwin Campus: 48 students each quarter (3 times/year) =144; Napa Campus (LVN-RN/EMTP-RN/MedtechV-RN): 27 students admitted each year/ alternating campuses = 27; Sonora Campus:18 admitted each year = 18

Reason for Proposed Change

Two goals for this proposed change:

1. Provide clinical access to students who live in rural areas

The nursing shortage is especially hard felt in the target counties of Lake, Mendocino, Napa, and Tuolumne, due to limited RN prelicensure programs that serve the rural areas with a limited number of graduates each year. The current nursing vacancy needs in 2022 is 14.4% in these rural areas. Furthermore, the number of approved seats limits admission to these programs. The CA BRN reports the number of nursing that serve the Tuolumne area is predominately from Modesto Junior College (n=122 graduates/2020-2021), and to serve Mendocino and Lake counties students are primarily from Mendocino Junior College (n=24).¹ Simply put, the number of graduates in these areas is not enough to meet the growing demand of nurses needed. PUC's recent enrollment increase is relieving the burden on rural community college by adding new clinical sites that will directly impact the workforce needs. It's also important to note that while junior and community colleges recruit via a lottery system, PUC recruits local nursing students who are more likely to remain in the geographic area after graduation. Although students will be on campus during the week for class and lab, allowing students to attend clinical Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays in their hometown greatly benefits them as they pursue nursing school options.

2. To utilize the change in CA BRN-approved supervised direct care hours required for licensure as stated in the Business and Professions Code (BPC) to meet the

¹ <https://www.rn.ca.gov/forms/rnsurvey201718.shtml>

requirements but allow students to utilize experiential learning through simulation and observation clinical hours.

The two large funding sources we received have been used to develop our simulation and laboratory spaces further to increase the use of these teaching modalities and not have to rely so heavily on direct care hours for student experiences. PUC is well above the requirements for direct care hours and is excited to be able to admit more students and provide simulation rotations throughout the program (see EDP-11-Increase).

Mendocino and Lake County demographics

According to the CA BRN 2020-2021, 55,551 qualified applications were received to pre-licensure nursing education programs in California. Of the qualified applicants, only 27.8% (n=15,435) of the programs received in 2020-21 were accepted. Both numeric and qualitative data suggest that nursing schools reported a lack of clinical placements largely due to COVID-19 (RN.CA.BRN Survey). There is ongoing need for nurses in the Napa Valley Bay area, and rural Mendocino and Lake Counties. Every year nursing programs receive many qualified applicants to be considered for admission however they are limited by the number of approved seats.

The CA BRN reports the number of nursing graduates by school, not necessarily by county of residence; the annual output to serve the Mendocino and Lake Counties County area is predominately from Mendocino College (n=31 graduates/2021-2022). After that, the graduates could be recruited out of programs in Sonoma, Santa Rosa, Angwin, Woodland, Davis, and Sacramento which is rare. The impact of the nursing shortage is noted as the number of graduates for this county is not enough to meet the growing demand of nurses for Mendocino and Lake counties. (<https://www.rn.ca.gov/education/passrates.shtml>) in Mendocino County. Of note, over 150-200 nursing students yearly apply to Mendocino College with a limited number of students enrolled. Due to the lottery system, not all local students can have access to education in their rural area.

Mendocino and Lake County areas are considered RNSA's with high-risk nurse shortage areas. Clearlake/Hidden Valley Lake area is regarded as a high-severity shortage area. Mendocino Coast is considered a medium-severity shortage area. Ukiah/Willits is considered a medium-severity shortage area. You can compare the Ratio to Target-Ratio below to scope the gap size (<https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/registered-nurse-shortage-areas-in-california>). The vacancy rate, as of 7/2023, for Adventist Health Mendocino Coast is 13%, for Adventist Health Howard in Willits is 9.5%, for Adventist Health Ukiah is 9.5% and for Adventist Health Clear Lake is 12.2%.

The admissions and progressions coordinator and student success advisors will meet with the applicant pool to discuss the prerequisites and admission requirements the students must meet to enter the program. Students will follow all admission guidelines and criteria before entering the program to ensure success in the AD program ([PUC Pre-nursing Advising sheet](#))

There will be no curriculum changes to the EDP-05 and EDP-06. (see attached) Class/theory/clinical and simulation instruction will be provided in a face-to-face manner. The updated EDP-11 demonstrates adequate faculty resources.

The department staff members provide sufficient support for faculty in achieving the goals and outcomes for the nursing program: an Office Manager, an Admissions and Progressions Coordinator, Pre-nursing Advisor, Student Success Advisor, and a clinical coordinator.

The program's faculty have the same individual and collective responsibility and accountability for instruction, evaluation of students, and ongoing planning, implementation, and evaluation of the curriculum and the program through an established shared governance structure of the program-specific committee service and faculty learning community participation as defined in the university's policy on Faculty Shared Governance. There are an adequate number of faculty to develop and implement the program. a 1.0 FTE nursing faculty and assistant director has been hired to support the enrollment increase. This assistant director will be explicitly dedicated to supporting the rural clinical sites. A list of faculty assignments, noting theory and clinical responsibilities (EDP-P-11 enrollment increase, Nursing Curriculum, and Clinical Facilities).

When choosing clinical sites, the following is reviewed: the hospital census, the acuity and variety of patient diagnoses on each unit, the number of students allowed on each unit, the accreditation status of the agency, and the ability of the facility to meet student needs. Medical facilities and clinical units utilized in the program for clinical training are leveled through the program based on the number, patient acuity, and complexity—evidence of the availability of clinical placements for students of the proposed alternate/secondary location. The clinical portions will be facilitated at the four Campuses (EDP-18) and other facilities (EDP-18). PUC will have access to conference rooms in the education department, each with a 20-person capacity for post-conferences, small group advising, and 1:1 private student/teacher meetings. All these rooms are available on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays and will be reserved ahead for students for clinical post-conference and instruction. Upon approval of the enrollment increase, the vision is to utilize the Songbrown funding to build a lab and simulation space at the Ukiah Hospital and then receive approval from the CA BRN to utilize this lab for students in the North Coast and Lake regions. The ultimate goal is to eliminate the need to travel to the Angwin campus for class, lab, and simulation.

Mendocino College students currently have clinicals on Mondays and Tuesdays at Ukiah, Howard, and Mendocino Coast Hospitals; LVN students from the Ukiah adult school have clinicals on Wednesdays and Thursdays at Ukiah Hospital. They currently have no students present on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, meaning each day, Ukiah can have up to 8 additional students present on each of the MS floors, 2 in ICU/SDU, 5 in OB, and 2 in ED for each shift, day and night. Howard can have 4 students on Med-Surg, Mendocino Coast up to 6 students, and Clearlake 9 students between Med-

Surg/ICU/ED. This allows for openings for 27 clinical spots per day and/or night. The addition of PUC students will not displace any other students.

For the specialty clinical areas, the students will have maternity and pediatric rotations at Ukiah Hospital. In addition, we have pediatrics rotations at Loma Linda University/Valley Children's Hospital and other pediatric clinics and schools in the area. Students can attend clinical in the hospital and various clinics for the mental health rotation. Due to the change in regulations for direct care hours, students will be able to meet the requirements for specialty rotations according to our EDP-05/EDP-06.

Angwin Campus

The Skills Lab contains 15 hospital patient care beds (between three skills labs) with low-fidelity mannequins equipped with bedside and over-bed tables, IV pumps, and an infant warmer. Low-fidelity task trainers and high-fidelity mannequins, including geriatric, adult, child, infant, and obstetric, are available for simulation. In addition, the lab includes an electronic medication system, intravenous (IV) pumps, hospital beds with simulated suction and oxygen, and other instructional supplies to create a hospital learning environment.

The Angwin campus lab is outfitted with all general and specialty nursing education and simulation equipment and supports emergency, critical care, labor & delivery, and pediatrics nursing specialties. In addition, a simulation director and simulation technician has been established to ensure that the simulation program is in place at PUC. The Simulation Center contains three simulation classrooms with high-fidelity mannequins – two adults, one child, one birthing mother, and one baby. The additional funding through the Song Brown grant will enable another high-fidelity mannequin to be added and dedicated debriefing rooms and additional skills lab testing areas. All areas have updated simulation cameras and IT equipment to facilitate the simulation experience.

The student success center also offers seminars and classes for credit, addressing academic skill development. In addition, there is tutoring offered to the students when needed.

The student disability and accommodation coordinator is available to all students to help them navigate the requirements for ADA. Each facility is equipped to provide testing accommodations for students if needed.

Student Finance is under the direction of the Chief Financial Officer. The student finance office's mission is to make education accessible and help students work through the often-challenging process of arranging for funding. Financial advisors are committed to providing students with access to information and financial aid resources that will enable them to attain their educational, personal, and professional goals fiscally. The tuition cost of the 2-year program, including those that need general education courses, is \$67,356.00. Students who are also employed at Adventist Health will be eligible for 20% discount (Attachment: Cost of AS program).

The library supports nursing education with a robust selection of books, nursing journal

subscriptions, and databases. A specified liaison librarian is available to assist the nursing department. In addition, students and faculty have access to many online full-text nursing journals available to meet their academic and research needs.

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.8.4
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding acceptance of substantive changes to an approved program Sri Sai Krish Institute Associate Degree Nursing Program (location change)

REQUESTED BY: Donna Schutte, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: Sri Sai Krish Institute ADN Program submitted a substantive change notifying the BRN of a change in program location. Due to ongoing changes in the building tenants including a new marijuana clinic and a church, there were continuing and increasing faculty and student complaints about renovation construction dust and dirt, air quality, noise levels, and parking issues. Unable to work out the issues, SSKI Administrators purchased a new building on April 14, 2023 and after finalization on April 19, 2023, notified the BRN along with the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools and Bureau for Private and Post-Secondary Education of the need for an emergency move. For 12 years, the Institute was located at 12632 Beach Blvd Stanton, CA 90680. SSKI is now located 14 miles away at 5334 East Chapman Avenue, Orange CA, 92869. The Institute remains in BRN Region 9.

The Feasibility Study was accepted by the Board on February 1, 2021 with an enrollment pattern of 24 students three times per year and annual enrollment of 72 students. Initial self-study approval was given on February 16, 2022 with first student cohort entering the program on Monday, July 18, 2022 with 24 students enrolled with graduation date planned April 13, 2024. Current student enrollment is 44. The program submitted updates to their Initial Feasibility Study and Self Study as requested by the BRN for change in location approval.

A virtual site visit was completed on May 31 to view building and location. The building is 20,500 square feet with the previous location at 7,000-8,000 (expansion capacity to 15,000) square feet. Another site visit was carried out on June 14, 2023. All classrooms, administrative and faculty offices, conference rooms, student services, faculty and student lounge areas, and computer, skills, and simulation laboratories were set up and in working order and ready for the class start date of June 29, 2023.

Description of the Institution:

SSKI is a private for-profit school and continues to offer the following evening programs: Nursing Assistant (Certificate); LVN -Part-Time Option (Diploma); LVN - Full-Time Option (Diploma). SSKI was founded in 2012 by Vijayakumari Bhaskar. She is principal owner and Chief Academic Officer. Her husband, Bhaskar Prabhaker, is co-owner and CEO.

Accreditation Status:

The SSKI is accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools through February 28, 2026 and is approved since 2013 to operate by the California Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education. As requested by these bodies, SSKI will notify these two agencies once BRN approval for change in location has been obtained.

Geographic Description:

Changes. The City of Orange population is listed (July 1, 2022) at 139,902 with Stanton

population at 39,000; however, demographic makeup of Stanton is similar with white, Hispanic and Asians comprising population majority. The per capita income of Stanton residents is reported at \$23,400 with less than 20% having a college education, 44% foreign born and with over 69% of individuals speaking languages in the home other than English. The per capita income of individuals living the City of Orange is higher at \$44,157 with 39% of residents having a college education, and less foreign born at 21.8% and individuals speaking a language in the home other than English at 38.7. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/stanton,%20california>
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/orangecitycalifornia>

Program Description:

The program is a 5-semester Associate of Applied Science program that prepares the student for entry level as a registered nurse.

Application Pool/Enrollment:

The applicant pool for this program will continue to consist primarily of diverse students from the local areas (Region 9) who report difficulty gaining entrance in public programs. A fifty-mile radius search of the new location in the City of Orange, California, identifies the same number of prelicensure programs remaining in a 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50-mile radius search from the Stanton location. There continue to be the same 30 ADN RN programs, 15 BSN programs, and 6 Entry-Level Masters (ELM) prelicensure programs identified; however, one ADN program is now identified as closer in proximity to the Institute.

Budget and Tuition:

Changes in Funding Sources. The budget remains the same with only one exception. The Stanton location rental was approximately \$9,000 and the new location in Orange with more than twice the space, has a payment of \$13,000 a month. The financiers of SSKI remain the owners. The funding for the new building and renovations come from profits made from existing SSKI existing programs. SSKI reports no outstanding debt other than monthly operating expenses. Financial resources are available if needed including a Small Business Administration line of credit for \$225,00 with a \$25,00 College match and \$1million loan for land and expansion projects. Students enrolled in the program pay tuition and will provide the sustainable funding for the new site. There is no change in student fees. Total student cost for the 65-unit program is \$70,000.

The Office of the U.S. Department of Education to offer students federal financial aid programs is approved so that the Institution can participate in financial aid programs for qualified students. Program reports no red flags are identified and is anticipating the arrival of its School Code in 2023.

Resources:

The 20,5000 square foot building consists of two floors with stairways and elevator access/wheelchair accessibility, and restrooms on both floors. The building is air conditioned with sufficient lighting. Administrative, student support, individual full-time faculty, and part-time faculty office space are designated with office equipment including computers. Three classrooms and small and larger conference meeting rooms are equipped with state-of-the-art technology. There are separate faculty and student lounge areas. The skills, computer and simulation labs are with state-of-art simulators and working bedside care equipment including sinks, IV and feeding pumps, and learning trainers with easy access to supplies and storage areas. Library and Information Resource Network remain available online 24/7 for students along with access to Elsevier Learning products. The building has 70 allocated parking and handicapped spaces for staff, faculty, and students with access to overflow parking. Parking areas are equipped with lights and cameras.

Faculty and Staff Hiring Plans.

The Program continues to follow its hiring plan. There are five BRN approved full-time faculty and six part time faculty along with support personnel hired.

Nursing Curriculum:

BRN approved curriculum contains 65 total credits for graduation with 62 total units for licensure. There are 20 nursing theory units and 18 nursing clinical units. EDP-P06 Content Required for Licensure and EDP-P-05 Total Curriculum Plan are on file. Curriculum meets requirements for 500 direct patient care clinical hours and implicit bias.

Clinical Placements:

Changes. At the time of initial approval, the program had 13 BRN approved EDP-P-18 Clinical Facility Authorizations with clinical contracts and 5 pending in BRN Region 9. Currently, all 18 clinical facilities are approved with the program currently having students at 14 of the 18 BRN approved clinical facilities. The program is aware of their responsibility that the addition of clinical rotations do not displace other nursing program students. The same number of BRN approved prelicensure programs continue in Region 9 (30 ADN RN programs, 15 BSN programs, and 6 Entry-Level Masters (ELM)). The Program is a member of the Orange County/Long Beach Consortium and Los Angeles Centralized Clinical Placement System. These groups were notified in writing during July 2023 of the change in location.

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Donna Schutte, DNSC, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

8.8.4 Sri Sai Krish Institute – Change in Location.

Sri Sai Krish Institute (SSKI) ADN Program requests an emergency change in program location. The new location is approximately 14 miles away and remains in Region 9.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
Sri Sai Krish Institute	ADN - Private	Stanton	Orange	9	February-21	Feasibility	72 annually	Approved	None
Sri Sai Krish Institute	ADN - Private	Stanton	Orange	9	February-22	New Program	72 annually	Approved	None

Region 9 Data 2018-2023

There are currently 13 BRN approved prelicensure program in Region 9.

Enrollment decisions for Region 9 have resulted in 522 new annual student placements through the approval of 6 enrollment increases (330 students annually) and 3 new programs (192 students annually).

Two requests for enrollment increases in Region 9 were denied: Western Governor’s University – 30 students (program closed May 2021) and Stanbridge University – 40 enrollments (70 total denied).

Two requests for Region 9 were deferred: CNI – an enrollment increase of 120 students annually and Westcliff University’s feasibility study for 80 students annually (200 total deferred). Note: Westcliff changed its location request to Corona (Region 7) and was approved at the August 2023 Board meeting.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
Western Governor's University	BSN - Private	Santa Ana	Orange	9	April-18	Enrollment Increase	from 86 to 116 annually, increase 30 (DENIED)	Denied	None
Vanguard University	BSN - Private	Costa Mesa	Orange	9	April-18	New Program	30 annually	Approved	None
CNI College	ADN - Private	Santa Ana	Orange	9	November-19	Enrollment Increase	from 94 to 200 annually, increase 106	Approved	None
Pacific College	ADN - Private	Costa Mesa	Orange	9	April-19	New Program	90 Annually	Approved	None
Concordia University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 128 to 192 annually, increase 24	Approved with	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 90 to 120 annually, increase 30	Approved with	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	August-21	Enrollment Increase	from 90 to 140 annually, increase 50	Approved	None
Sri Sai Krish Institute	ADN - Private	Stanton	Orange	9	February-21	Feasibility	72 annually	Approved	None
Concordia University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	November-22	Enrollment Increase	from 152 to 192 annually, increase 40	Approved	None
Sri Sai Krish Institute	ADN - Private	Stanton	Orange	9	February-22	New Program	72 annually	Approved	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 160 annually, increase 40	Denied	None
Golden West College	ADN	Huntington Beach	Orange	9	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 200 annually, increase 80	Approved	None
CNI College	BSN - Private	Santa Ana	Orange	9	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 200 to 320 annually, increase 120	Deferred	None
Westcliff University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	February-23	Feasibility	80 annually	Deferred	None

SRI SAI KRISH INSTITUTE 5334 E Chapman Ave Orange, CA 92869 SELF-STUDY
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DIANNA SCHERLIN*, DNP, MS, BS, RN, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, Deceased
New DON: MAIMOONA QADEER, MSN-ED, RN – ADON: REGINA DIZON MSN, RN
The reason for the proposed change of location is detailed in the feasibility study.
Various problems have been created by the remodel in Stanton, and the students have
been exposed to excessive smells, debris, and asthmatic students have been seriously
affected. All students are completely on board with the proposed relocation. We have
assured them we are diligently working to get BRN approval as soon as possible.

BACKGROUND: The original Letter of Intent to request a new program was submitted
to start an AAS program in approximately September 2020; however, due to Covid
delays, the new proposed start date is February 2022. The new director, Maimoona
Qadeer, MSN-ED, RN, has been hired and has taken full responsibility for concluding
the Self Study for the BRN. The self Study was completed and accepted by the CA BRN
on February 15, 2022, under the direction of Judy Corless, MSN, RN, Consultant. Sri
Sai Krish Institute (SSKI) is a private for-profit school at the proposed new location at
5334 E Chapman Ave Orange, CA 92869, California, in Orange County, 14 miles from
the Stanton location. It remains in the same region 9 and is home to many diverse and
underserved current and potential students. The current plan includes enrolling 24
students three times per year on a trimester (semester) system for an annual enrollment
of 72 students. The program is to be completed over five semesters / 1.66 years. One
class will graduate as the sixth cohort begins for a total program enrollment of up to 150
students. The enrollment was approved and began July 18, 2022; the first cohort will
graduate at the end of the program on April 13, 2024. Each semester has 12-14 total
units. The total number of units for licensure is 65. The total units for graduation are 65.
The entire program costs \$70,000. Sri Sai Krish Institute (SSKI) is a private for-profit
institution accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)
and approved to operate by the California Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau for
Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). The school is in good standing with both
institutions. The College has been approved since 2013 in total compliance.
California Board of Registered Nursing Business and Professional Code section 2786
and the following regulations: 1424-1430.

1424 ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE NURSING PROGRAM

1424(a) Philosophy & Objectives (No Change)

The mission of the AAS program at SSKI is to provide excellent allied health programs
in a secure academic learning environment that will produce empathetic allied health
workers. Sri Sai Krish Institute is committed to securing the success of its students by
providing training that will result in career placement.

1424 (b) The Policies and Procedures (No Change)

Policies and procedures for students are found in the College Catalog, Student
Handbook, and Syllabi. These documents are included within the Self-Study Document.
Policies related to veteran and military students and student grievances are developed.
The policies are on our website for prospective students.

1424 (c) Organization and Lines of Authority (No Change)

Organizational charts continue to demonstrate the relationships within the AAS nursing
program, including the community of interest (clinical agencies), and an organizational

diagram illustrating the connection between the program and the College in the Self-Study. SSKI College is privately owned, and the principal owner and founder is Ms. Vijayakumark Bhaskar. The nursing program director has the responsibility and authority to run the program daily. A simulation and lab manager has been hired, and the program has an assistant program director, half of the content experts, and potential full-time and part-time faculty. The general education program director has been hired and began working in August of 2021, Dr. Reuven Cohen MD, an expert in the sciences.

1424 (d) Resources

In its budget predictions included in the self-study, SSKI demonstrates that it has the financial resources to begin and sustain a new AAS nursing program. SSKI has identified ample resources and has already spent several hundred thousand dollars on this venture. In reserve, there are abundant financial resources for any emergencies. The new campus area is 20,500 square feet, two floors; the ground floor space is divided into a front reception area, two administration offices, one Administrative office, two Simulation labs, a faculty lounge, an admission office, a fireproof room for students' files, one conference room/debriefing room, one work room for supplies, and copy machine, two men, and two women bathrooms, and an elevator. The first-floor space is divided into three big classrooms, including a classroom with computers. Three skills labs with sink, an adjacent supply room, financial office, success coach office/counseling office, work station, kitchen with two microwaves, and one refrigerator adjacent to the student lounge. Two storage rooms, a library, and a study area, one staff room with six staff desks with computers, and staff room two with five staff desks with computers, one career office. Restrooms, two women's and two men's, are available on the first floor. The Budget remains the same with only one exception; the Stanton's space rental was approximately \$9000, and the new location in Orange with more than twice the space (20,000 sqft) with the payment of \$13,000 per month. No changes to student fees. This proposed location is in the same region, and no clinical sites will be changed. This is all reflected in the updated Feasibility Study under separate cover. All space plan labels on Attachment # 4 are attached to the Floor Plan.

Instruction is provided in one or more primary classrooms, auxiliary teaching rooms, lecture rooms, or a combination classroom. Student and faculty lounge areas are available for relaxation. The facilities have adequate lighting, are air-conditioned, and are wheelchair accessible. There are seventy student parking and handicapped spots in the building parking lot, with ample lighting and cameras. Students receive instruction on institute-owned equipment, hardware, and software. Our nursing skills labs provide hospital beds, an EKG machine, mannequins, and the latest in nursing school technology. The facility and equipment used fully comply with all federal, state, and local ordinances and regulations, including requirements for fire safety, building safety, and handicapped access. The initial visit to show the facility to Dr. Schutte NEC was conducted in May 2023. The final visit with Dr. Schutte NEC was accomplished on June 14, 2023, and we received preliminary approval to start using the facility. After this approval, we had an open house on June 28, 2023, and the campus was open to students officially on June 29, 2023. There was no intereption in student learning.

The school has hired five full-time faculty before starting each of the program's five semesters. Additional six adjunct faculty and support personnel are hired to ensure a quality learning experience as the program advances. Full-time faculty are assisted by adjunct faculty. Other FT and PT faculty and staff may be hired as the program warrants. The clinical courses are designed to deliver through hands-on clinical experience (direct patient care); however, the program also provides a combination of virtual simulation, high-fidelity simulation modalities (non-direct patient care), and alternate scenarios to deliver the new regulated 500 hrs of clinical experience. The program is virtually ready to instruct students for its capacity to use cloud-based instructional meeting modality (Zoom) and Canvas in its current nursing programs. The College will be utilizing Canvas as an LMS; Elsevier products; Labster; LIRN; Zoom, and other products to enhance student learning. All courses will have the required number of hours for clinical. A backup plan financial resource available includes a group of investors posed to support the program financially should it be approved and has already committed to additional funds to support additional space and fully equip a simulation lab. The Small Business Administration has approved a line of credit for \$225,000 with a \$25,000 match from the College and a \$1 million loan for a land and expansion project. However, this will not be needed, but again is presented as solely a backup plan to ensure all methods will be available for student continuity. Staff & support services, library, and technologies such as" NexGen Elsevier, Science Direct, Canvas, and others are identified. Faculty and staff for the program are currently being interviewed, and several candidates have demonstrated an interest in working for SSKI. A hiring plan for faculty is created.

1424 (g) Faculty Responsibilities (NO CHANGES)

Faculty responsibilities and expectations are outlined in the Faculty Handbook. Faculty members are expected to be committed to the student's success and the mission's accomplishment. Faculty members will be responsible for continuously implementing the program's philosophy, mission, policies, and achievement of student learning outcomes, utilizing evidenced-based teaching and evidence-based nursing practice. Faculty are responsible for the maintenance and improvement of the curriculum as well as the evaluation of the program using the systematic program evaluation tool. Content experts will serve in each designated specialty area, and additional faculty members will serve as student success coaches.

1424 (h) Adequate Faculty (NO CHANGES)

The program has developed a hiring plan and has anticipated the future needs of faculty. Although this projected number may trend downward or upward, it is a fluid document and will be changed according to program needs. Nursing, as well as GE/Science faculty, requirements have been accounted for in the document. Additionally, the program is identifying its subject matter experts (SMEs) or content experts. SMEs will be hired first as consultants so that they can work on completing the syllabi and course outlines and advise, then transitioned to FT/PT faculty members before the semester they are needed to teach in the program. The plan for hiring content experts (SMEs) is a priority for the College, and a search is ongoing.

1424 (k) Student | Clinical Faculty Ratios (NO CHANGE)

The program has planned in its hiring plan to cover students in the clinical areas adequately. However, this projected number is somewhat fluid as clinical agencies often

change in the census and their policies; the school has planned for no more than ten students in a clinical group and no more than six students in specialty areas such as maternal child health, pediatrics, and mental health. We acquired the membership of Orange County//Long Beach Consortium in May 2023 and Los Angeles CCPS. SSKI notified the change of location via email to Sigrid Saxton in July 2023. OCLB did not place this item on the agenda, and there were no comments about the location change. SSKI has not been receiving invitations to the Consortium Meetings. Therefore, no agenda or meeting minutes are available. Ms Leanne Burke is looking into the invites.

1425 FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS AND CHANGES (NO CHANGES)

Employees working in the program, including the program director, program director assistant, content experts, student coach, and specialty area and general area faculty, will meet standards for their roles set by the CA BRN and ABHES.

1425.1 Faculty Responsibilities (NO CHANGES)

Although the program director has autonomy and authority for the program operation, the provost assumes overall responsibility and accountability for instruction, teaching effectiveness, evaluation processes, quality initiatives, and strategic academic planning for the College. Maintaining the integrity and quality of the program curriculum is a primary responsibility of the faculty. Nursing faculty must maintain competence and possess skills to work effectively as nurses and teachers.

1426 REQUIRED CURRICULUM (NO CHANGES)

1426 (a) Board Approval of Curriculum

The proposed curriculum of the AAS program (EDP-P-05 & EDP-P-06) consists of 5 consecutive semesters (1.6 years). There are 62 units required for licensure which include hours 38 nursing units, 6 communication units, and 18 science units. There are 65 units required for graduation.

1426 (b) Curriculum Structure (NO CHANGES)

The program employs a simple to complex in a logical sequence. In the first semester, 4 of 5 courses are general education and science, and semesters 4 and 5 of the program are dedicated to applying advanced principles of nursing practice and honing one's knowledge, skills, and abilities. Evidenced-based principles, concepts, skills, and nursing theories culminate, enabling the student to practice as a beginner nurse upon graduation. Students are expected to meet minimum standards for practice, as noted in California CCR 2725.

1426 (f) Program Evaluation Tools (NO CHANGES)

The program has developed multiple evaluation tools and a systematic program evaluation plan. These tools are utilized each semester to determine if corrective action plans, quality initiatives, and value-added materials will be needed. Course syllabi clearly define how students will be evaluated in their courses, the grading scale for the program, the clinical evaluation tool, and other important information in each syllabus. SSKI utilizes the Elsevier HESI (Health Education Systems Incorporated) specialty areas exams and the HESI E2 (comprehensive exit) exam to prepare the students for the NCLEX-RN exam as a measure to assess program effectiveness. The results of these exams are utilized for both formative and summative assessment of the program.

1427 CLINICAL FACILITIES (NO CHANGES)

Fourteen clinical placements have been identified and approved to date, and the College is working with additional facilities that have voiced an interest in SSKI student

clinical. Medical centers and hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, public health facilities, and medical clinics have provided agreements for students in gerontology, maternal-child health, pediatric, psychiatric, and medical-surgical placements. The variety and diversity of these clinical placements reflect the ability of the program to achieve student learning objectives and provide the opportunity for students to be offered employment in the future. SSKi has followed the "Non-Displacement" rule. At no time will we assign our students to displace other schools. The College understands the dynamic relationships between its clinical facility partners, and representatives from some potential clinical agencies have agreed to join the program's future advisory board. The College will share its curriculum, clinical objectives, student abilities, and expectations with the designated facility employees, and it is clearly understood that the clinical facility will provide orientation, learning experiences and set expectations and guidelines for faculty and students.

1428 STUDENT PARTICIPATION (NO CHANGES)

As described in the faculty handbook, student representatives will provide input to the program in several ways. These ways include but are not limited to membership on the curriculum committee, membership in the Nursing Department meeting, and student representation grievance committee. All students are encouraged to provide feedback via surveys regarding their course or clinical class, clinical experience, clinical agency, and school. All students are invited to participate in student-focused meetings where comments, concerns, information, and other items are part of each semester's agenda. The program director, assistant program director, or provost can hold ad hoc meetings, brown-bag lunches with students, student appreciation events, or other gatherings where one or more cohorts are encouraged to share information and their thoughts on course policy and procedures during office hours with their faculty.

1429 LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) 30-UNIT OPTION (NO CHANGES)

The program will offer a 30-unit option as it is a semester-based program. As CCR 1429 (a & b) requires, SSKi has developed a tract for LVNs to apply for licensure as a registered nurse. This track will be available on a space-available basis. Students wanting this option will have to meet with the program director or assistant director to review and discuss the requirements for the program and the limitations of obtaining an RN in this way. The SSKi 30-unit option allows California-licensed LVN to complete courses in communication, anatomy, physiology, and microbiology; advanced medical-surgical nursing; nursing leadership, mental health, and psychiatric nursing. Students will be informed of California regulations to practice as RNs in California only. Students must sign a document and counsel. The program begins with gerontologic theory in the second semester; gerontological theory and practice experiences continue in the medical-surgical, leadership, psychiatric, and communication courses as threads woven into the curriculum.

1430 PREVIOUS EDUCATION CREDIT (NO CHANGES)

Opportunities exist for students to transfer to all general education, science, and equivalent liberal arts courses that align with the curriculum plan from an accredited institution. This process is modified in the catalog during the period after program approval is received and before the start of the program. Students admitted to the AAS program will be allowed an excellent opportunity to transfer credit for up to 15 credits of general courses should their 'transferred course' cover the same or similar material of

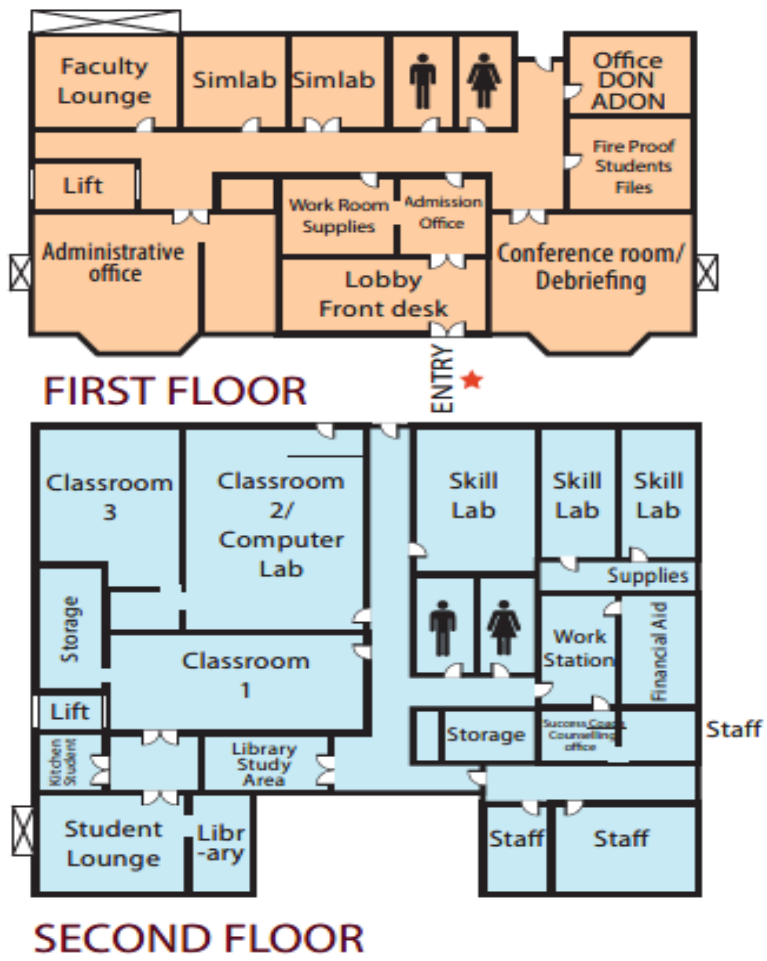
the SSKI courses. A military/veterans policy exists to offer credit for military personnel or veterans whose experience and previous education demonstrate an understanding of course concepts and who can demonstrate knowledge of the competencies required by the course. The Nurse Success Educator and Subject Matter Experts will give additional support if needed.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Sri Sai Krish Institute has demonstrated that the school is well-positioned to offer an entry-level AAS degree program. The College has the financial resources to provide quality education to its diverse students. It also has highly qualified, experienced leadership ready and able to manage the program and ensure that students receive a comprehensive state-of-the-art program that will prepare them for entry-level nursing careers. The program has faculty resources and the ability to recruit additional faculty to ensure that students receive an excellent education in nursing. It has the physical space to house the program, and the main campus building has extra open space for any needed expansion.

The school's leadership is knowledgeable of BRN regulations and the necessity of developing and maintaining a program always in full compliance with regulatory and accreditation standards. SSKI is working closely with Dr. Schutte.

FLOORPLANS



BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.8.5
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding acceptance of substantive changes to an approved program Western University of Health Sciences Entry Level Master’s Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

REQUESTED BY: Donna Shipp, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: Western University of Health Sciences ELM program is located in Pomona, California. Pomona is located along the eastern border of Los Angeles County. Western University of Health Sciences (WUHS) is one of five Entry-level Master Nursing Programs in Los Angeles County. WUHS is requesting an enrollment increase of 30 students annually.

They are requesting this increase at their existing campus in Pomona due to high number of qualified applicants that are turned away each application session. The program director reports that number to be well above 300 turned away each year. Program also states that “surrounding hospitals continue to spend millions on travel nurses and have numerous open positions. Several local hospitals have asked us to help them establish a pipeline of nurses to fill their openings over the next five years and into the future”.

Current enrollment pattern: 70 students annually, each fall.

Requested enrollment pattern: 100 students every fall, an increase of 30 students.

WUHS was originally BRN approved in 1998. The last BRN Continuing approval visit was November 2020 and the program was found to be in compliance with all BRN regulations. The program is accredited by CCNE and the last accreditation visit was 2016 with next visit anticipated in 2026.

Total cost of program is \$115,000.

NCLEX pass rates
2021-2022 = 89.7%
2022-2023 = 86.11%

Current attrition rate:
2020-2021 = 0%
2021-2022 = 1.4%

WUHS is simultaneously revising their curriculum and reducing their direct patient care clinical hours while still aligning with CCR 1426. The executive summary attached defines the overall reduction in “program clinical hours by 35%- effectively increasing clinical site availability to our peer schools and colleges of nursing”. Prior to the increase in enrollment request, WUHS reported an excess of clinical sites needed for current enrollment numbers and describes the collaboration with facilities as “communicating quickly and effectively with clinical partners to open our traditionally reserved spaces for our peers”.

The Annual School Survey from 2022 school year reported a 21.2% faculty vacancy rate, however, per PD, currently the program has all full time and part time faculty positions filled. WUHS has adequate number of faculty at this time to support the increase in student enrollments. Additionally, classroom space as well as numbers, and simulation space and equipment is adequate to support the requested student enrollment increase.

The program also reports the availability of a couple of grants. One specific grant is to aid students who are “currently underrepresented in nursing workforce and have decreased access to educational resources throughout their life. Pre-licensure students who qualify for the STAND Grant funding not only meet and exceed the rigorous standards set forth by the College of Graduate Nursing, but they also receive 40% tuition compensation.”

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

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

8.8.5 Western University of Health Sciences - Enrollment increase

Requesting an enrollment increase from 70 students every Fall to 100 students every Fall for annual enrollment of 100 students annually. An annual increase of 30 students every Fall beginning Fall 2024.

Closest nursing program is West Coast University Ontario Campus which is located approximately 12 miles from WUHS.

Region 8 Data 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 8 past 5 years has resulted in the growth of 926 new students with the approval of 14 enrollment increases (383 students annually), 2 new campuses (225 students annually) and 4 new programs (318 students annually).

Two requests for enrollment increases in Region 8 were denied: Stanbridge University – 20 students and American Career College (ACC) – 100 enrollments (120 total denied).

One request for enrollment increase in Region 8 was deferred: ACC – 54 enrollments; however, this request was later approved by the Board during the November 2020 meeting.

School	Program T	City	County	Reg	Meeting Da	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustm
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 Action	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	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
Westmont College	BSN - Private	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	8	November-21	New Program	48 annually	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 Car	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

To: California State Board of Registered Nursing,
RE: Western University of Health Sciences | College of Graduate Nursing | Masters of
Science in Nursing, Entry Program (ELM)

The Western University of Health Sciences, College of Graduate Nursing ELM Program requests an enrollment increase in the number of students starting the academic year 2024-2025. The ELM program is currently approved for 70 students. The program was BRN approved in 1998, 2003, 2008, 2015, and 2020.

We would like to ask for your approval to admit 30 more students starting August 2024, equaling 100 students annually.

We receive 400 qualified applicants each year and have 70 seats. We turn away over 300 qualified candidates every year. The candidates applying to the WesternU ELM program currently hold a bachelor's degree in a non-nursing area – each with the desire to become a registered nurse, and obtain a master's degree prepared nurse, with an emphasis in research, quality improvement, and safety.

Our surrounding hospitals continue to spend millions of dollars on travel nurses and have numerous open positions. Several local hospitals have asked us to help them establish a pipeline of nurses to fill their openings over the next five years and into the future. Our university team is in full support of increasing the ELM program by 30 nursing students.

One major change to our curriculum will be allowing students in the WesternU ELM program to apply for NCLEX candidacy at the end of pre-licensure content, yet prior to completing all advanced course work for the Masters of Science in Nursing degree. This allows for 2 improvements: students will complete the NCLEX during their program after completing all BRN required pre-licensure courses. Second, students will be able to enter the healthcare workforce earlier, supplementing the current workforce needs.

Completion of the master's portion of the ELM program would follow this by 4 months. We will not displace any community colleges' clinical placements by increasing by 30 students. In fact, along with the major curriculum revision we are reducing the overall program clinical hours by 35% - effectively increasing clinical site availability to our peer schools and colleges of nursing. If the nursing workforce crisis is to be repaired, all higher education institutions must support our future nurses and one another. Also, we ensure that no other nursing schools and colleges are impacted by our expansion through the following ways:

1. We have enough clinical placements but are not using them all. When not in use we communicate quickly and effectively with clinical partners to open our traditionally reserved spaces for our peers.
2. We started an innovative model of teaching nursing students about correctional nursing and rotating them through state correctional medical facilities. There is no competition for clinical placement in these facilities. With this and other alternative BRN approved facilities we intend to provide a variety of clinical experiences to enrich our student's education.

3. We are using simulated experiences with high fidelity mannequins and standardized patients for valid and measurable student learning objectives in a controlled environment.

This is how we can ensure no competition with other nursing schools when we add 30 more students once a year.

WesternU is a high-quality program.

Western University of Health Sciences is a non-profit private university. All monies made are directly turned back into the colleges. We have no state funding and are 90% tuition based. We are CCNE accredited and have good student outcomes with an attrition rate under 3%, and our NCLEX pass rates are consistently over 85%.

	Expected Goal	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
On time completion	95%	96%	95%	98%	99%	96%	97%
Attrition	Less than 3%	2%	1%	2%	2.3%	2%	2.8%
NCLEX Pass rates	> 90%	91	91	91	93	N/A Curricular change from 3 years to 2 years	90

Clinical Experiences:

Students in the WesternU ELM program receive a wide breadth of clinical experiences both in the simulated and face-to-face setting. These include traditional required rotations in the medical-surgical, obstetric, pediatric, geriatric and psychiatric/mental health setting. We also have chosen to provide a precepted experience for our students in the 4th of 6 semesters. While utilizing grant funding we have developed nursing extern positions among our clinical partnerships for an enriched variety of skills and knowledge in areas shown to have critical nursing staff shortages. This was initially piloted in the Perioperative/Operating Room setting. During the advanced master's portion of their curriculum, students engage in specialized training in an area experiencing staffing shortage – a content expert facilitates student knowledge acquisition, and clinical experiences. The advanced training terminates in the student being offered potential employment in the specialized setting. This means, hiring facilities are able to choose, train and hire future employees, offsetting the new graduate training time and cost. This externship process has now been expanded from the Perioperative Externship Nursing (PEN) arena to the following: Obstetric Externship Nursing (OBEN), Telemetry Externship Nursing (TEN), Emergency Department Externship Nursing (EDEN) and more in the future.

Classroom Space:

The increase in students will not affect our classroom resources. The 70 students we currently have are learning in a classroom that seats 150 students. Increasing to 100 students will not affect classroom space.

Simulation and Laboratory Space

The University recently increased the simulation space for all colleges to use. Through this expansion the College of Graduate Nursing was able to utilize university and grant funding to augment our current use of innovative technology. This increase allowed for expansion of the high-fidelity simulation from one room to 3 rooms. Also, we use an immersive interactive virtual reality simulator that includes auditory, visual and olfactory stimulation and biometric data collection. Thanks to our grants, we are able to provide students 300% more time with static mannequins to practice skills. We can easily expand our simulation lab schedule to accommodate 30 more students.

Faculty

We maintain a 1:25 faculty-student ratio in the classroom and a 1:8 faculty-student ratio in the clinical and lab settings. CGN hired four additional faculty to teach the increase of 30 students for the next academic year. We have enough faculty for the classroom and for the clinical setting. The BRN has approved all faculty.

Grant Work:

We have discussed multiple elements of grant work and funding. Our college is fortunate to have multiple grants to support our students and the college. The externship experiences are provided to the students at no additional cost to the students; from faculty salaries, educational modules and specialized equipment – no increase in tuition has occurred.

The Strategically Transforming and Advancing Diversity in Nursing (STAND) grant was awarded to WesternU CGN to support students that are currently underrepresented in the nursing workforce and have decreased access to educational resources throughout their life. Pre-licensure students who qualify for the STAND grant funding not only meet and exceed the rigorous standards set forth by the College of Graduate Nursing, but they also receive 40% tuition compensation.

Grant funding in the Nursing Simulation Center was utilized to develop specialized training for students prior to entering the psychiatric mental health setting – in order to reduce stigma towards those in the psychiatric/mental health population and reduce empathy fatigue in healthcare workers. Similar funding was also obtained to purchase and maintain high-fidelity and mid-fidelity mannequins for use in developing and implementing standardized simulated experiences for students.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Marinello MSN, RN, FNP-C
Masters of Science in Nursing, Program Director
College of Graduate Nursing | Western University of Health Sciences
E: mmarinello@westernu.edu

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing
Committee Agenda Item
Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.8.6
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding acceptance of substantive changes to an approved program West Coast University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

REQUESTED BY: Mary Jane Rosenblatt, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: West Coast University (WCU) is requesting an enrollment increase in the Prelicensure Nursing Program (Bachelor's Degree in Nursing) to reflect current enrollment patterns, consisting of 220 core¹ nursing students each term (five terms per year) for each of its three California campuses. This is an increase from the pattern of 205 students each term that WCU enrolled in the 2021-22 academic year. WCU states that their rationale for this request is: "Our demonstrated outcomes and the information in this summary showcase that we possess the necessary physical, clinical, and fiscal resources to maintain our current enrollment pattern without causing displacement to other schools' clinical rotations." The summary mentioned is included in the materials following this agenda item summary.

Below are the reported enrollment numbers for each campus:

Last Approved Enrollment (2013)

The most recent Board approval of WCU's enrollment occurred in 2013, where the Board approved a total of 1,500 students, 500 per campus. At the October 1, 2013, ELC meeting a report of the then-most recent continuing approval visit reported that there were 5 terms each year. The program generally admitted a 20 student LVN-BSN cohort and 80-100 generic students each term. At the November 6-7, 2013, Board meeting the Board voted to continue approval of WCU Los Angeles and Orange County and this enrollment pattern was approved for all three campuses as the Board voted to unify the three separately approved programs in to one. Subsequently, the Board voted to Continue Approval of WCU Inland Empire (Ontario) campus location November 6, 2013, at completion of the review of that campus location to ensure it aligned with the previously approved two campuses.

Data was submitted by WCU on June 25, 2014 to the NEC, regarding "Active BSN/LVN-BSN core nursing students by campus" and confirmed that all three campuses were aligned with enrollment practices.

¹ WCU uses the term "Core Nursing": "to distinguish the semesters where students take the NURS courses and any upper division General Education (GE) courses. When students enter 'Core Nursing,' it signifies that they have met the requirements of lower-level GE courses that are foundational to the nursing curriculum."

Current Enrollment

BSN and LVN to BSN enrollment for August 1, 2022, through July 31, 2023, is reflective of WCU's current enrollment pattern of 220 average students enrolled per term on each California campus. Generic BSN students account for 88% with 12% being LVN to BSN students.

Enrollment from August 1, 2022, to July 31, 2023:

Campus 1: North Hollywood (i.e., LA) 1,117

Campus 2: Anaheim (i.e., OC) 1,116

Campus 3: Inland Empire (i.e., Ontario) 1,053

WCU's Prelicensure Nursing Program welcomes both generic and LVN to BSN students, with no entry-level master's option. Admission is contingent upon available seats for both generic and LVN to BSN students.

Requested Enrollment Campus 1: North Hollywood (i.e., LA) located in Los Angeles County, enrolls 220 core nursing students five times per year, resulting in 1,100 core nursing students annually.

Campus 2: Anaheim (i.e., OC) located in Orange County, enrolls 220 core nursing students five times per year, resulting in 1,100 core nursing students annually.

Campus 3: Inland Empire (i.e., Ontario) located in San Bernardino County, enrolls 220 core nursing students five times per year, resulting in 1,100 core nursing students annually.

Total current enrollment numbers using requested enrollment patterns reported above is 1,100 students enrolled in core nursing annually per campus with 3 campuses totaling 3,300 total newly enrolled students annually.

Table 1. Enrollment History as submitted by WCU

	BSN/LVN to BSN Enrollment	LVN 30 unit
2021-2022	3089	0
2020-2021	3054	0
2019-2020	2881	0
2018-2019	2550	0

* WCU is a 3-year BSN program; total nursing student population would be approximately 9,900 students, assuming that the number of students in the second- and third-year curriculum is at or near the number of first-year students enrolled in the general education courses.

Board Action milestones regarding program growth

2005

BRN approved WCU North Hollywood, Los Angeles County as a new LVN to RN ADN program.

2008

BRN approved WCU Anaheim, Orange County as a new BSN program.

2008

BRN approved WCU North Hollywood, Los Angeles County to change the current curriculum to a BSN curriculum.

2008

BRN approved WCU Inland Empire, Ontario, San Bernardino County as a new BSN program.

2013

WCU combined three individual approved programs into one approved program. BRN approved Los Angeles Campus (Main Campus), with two branch campuses at Orange County and Inland Empire (Ontario).

Enrollment: 20 LVN to BSN students and 80 generic BSN students each term (100 x 5 = 500 per year) at each campus – 1500 students total.

2018

Last BRN continuing approval visit was in Spring 2018 with areas of non-compliance. This was reported out to the ELC, with ELC recommending to the Board: “1) Continuation of approval of prelicensure nursing program at West Coast University Baccalaureate of Science Nursing Program on the same annual enrollment terms and conditions as the 2013 continuing approval, which as we have discussed today is 1800 annually and 2) that the Board request from West Coast University a plan that will make West Coast University’s enrollment consistent with the 2013 enrollment base within six months of the time West Coast receives its final approval from the Board.” No action was taken by the Board.

The program is accredited by the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and was found in compliance in 2014, with the next CCNE evaluation scheduled for March 2024. BRN will be performing this site inspection jointly with the accreditors per [BPC 2786.2](#).

Total Cost of program

Generic BSN = \$ 148,253

LVN to BSN = \$130,524

30-unit option = \$59,580

NCLEX pass rates:

Campus: North Hollywood/LA	Percent passed
2021-2022	77.84%
2022-2023	73.12%

Campus: Anaheim/Orange	Percent passed
2021-2022	87.49%
2022-2023	88.88%

Campus: Inland Empire/Ontario	Percent passed
2021-2022	76.69%
2022-2023	82.19%

Combined Total Program	Percent passed
2021-2022	80.58%
2022-2023	81.06%

Attrition rate as reported by WCU combined for all campuses:

2020-21 =12.9%

2021-22 =14.7%

2021-22 = 11.9%

An EDP-P-11 for the current semester was submitted for each campus to evaluate faculty and facility resources for the current enrollment pattern. WCU does not participate in any regional consortiums at this time.

Per WCU they are planning to resume meeting with the Orange County Long Beach Consortium as the consortium reforms. They do participate in the Ventura County Regional Planning Commission and have developed a solid clinical network through their relationships with their clinical partners.

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board agenda.

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Mary Jane Rosenblatt, RN, MSN, NEA-BC PHN
Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

8.8.6 West Coast University – Enrollment Increase

West Coast University (WCU) has not requested an enrollment increase over the past five years. The last approved annual enrollment was in 2013 for 500 students annually.

The current enrollment pattern indicates a total of 3,300 students at 3 campuses (enrollment growth of 1,800 students since last Board approval). WCU is requesting the following annual enrollment: 1,100 students annually at the North Hollywood Campus (Region 8), 1,100 students annually at the Ontario Campus (Region 7), and 1,100 students annually at the County Campus (Region 9)

Region 8 Data 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 8 past 5 years has resulted in the growth of 926 new students with the approval of 14 enrollment increases (383 students annually), 2 new campuses (225 students annually) and 4 new programs (318 students annually).

Two requests for enrollment increases in Region 8 were denied: Stanbridge University – 20 students and American Career College (ACC) – 100 enrollments (120 total denied).

One request for enrollment increase in Region 8 was deferred: ACC – 54 enrollments; however, this request was later approved by the Board during the November 2020 meeting.

School	Program T	City	County	Reg	Meeting Da	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustm
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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 Action	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	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
Westmont College	BSN - Private	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	8	November-21	New Program	48 annually	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 Car	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

Region 7 Data 2018-2023

New student growth in Region 7 in the last 5 years = 1396 new students annually through the approval of 8 enrollment increases (354 students annually), 5 new campuses (732 students annually), 2 new programs (140 students annually), and 2 feasibility studies going through the final program approval process (170 students annually).

One enrollment increase in Region 7 was deferred: California Baptist University – 32 enrollments; however, this request was later approved by the Board during the February 2019 meeting

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
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 Act	None
California Baptist University	BSN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-19	Enrollment Increase	from 160 to 196 annually, increase 32	Approved	None
Arizona College	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-20	Feasibility	120 annually	Approved	None
CSU San Bernardino	BSN	Palm Desert	Riverside	7	April-20	Enrollment Increase	from 114 to 132, increase 18	Approved	None
Arizona College	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-21	New Program	120 annually	Approved	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-21	New Campus	125 annually	Approved	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	May-21	New Campus	160 annually	Approved	None
Palo Verde College	ADN	Blythe	Riverside	7	February-21	Feasibility	20 annually	Approved	None
Concordia University	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-22	New Campus	216 annually	Approved	None
Palo Verde College	ADN	Blythe	Riverside	7	November-22	New Program	20 annually	Approved	None
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Rancho Mirage	Riverside	7	August-22	New Campus	96 annually	Approved	None
Loma Linda University	BSN - Private	Loma Linda	San Bernardino	7	August-22	Enrollment Increase	from 168 to 210, increase 42	Approved	None
College of the Desert	ADN	Palm Desert	Riverside	7	August-22	Enrollment increase	from 120 to 200, increase 80	Approved	None
Riverside City College	ADN	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 180 to 260 annually, increase of 80	Approved	None
Marsha Fuerst SON - Glendale C	ADN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-23	New Campus	135 annually	Approved	None
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Ontario	Riverside	7	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 36 students to 102 annually, increase 66	Approved	None
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Rancho Mirage	Riverside	7	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 96 students to 102 annually, increase 6	Approved	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Ontario	Riverside	7	August-23	Enrollment Increase	from 125 to 155 for 2024 only, increase 30	Approved	None
United Nursing College	ADN - Private	Murrieta	Riverside	7	August-23	Feasibility	90 annually	Approved	None
Westcliff University	BSN - Private	Corona	Riverside	7	August-23	Feasibility	80 annually	Approved	None

Region 9 Data 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 9 have resulted in 522 new annual student placements through the approval of 6 enrollment increases (330 students annually) and 3 new programs (192 students annually).

Two requests for enrollment increases in Region 9 were denied: Western Governor's University – 30 students (program closed May 2021) and Stanbridge University – 40 enrollments (70 total denied).

Two requests for Region 9 were deferred: CNI – an enrollment increase of 120 students annually and Westcliff University's feasibility study for 80 students annually (200 total deferred). Note: Westcliff changed its location request to Corona (Region 7) and was approved at the August 2023 Board meeting.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
Western Governor's University	BSN - Private	Santa Ana	Orange	9	April-18	Enrollment Increase	from 86 to 116 annually, increase 30 (DENIED)	Denied	None
Vanguard University	BSN - Private	Costa Mesa	Orange	9	April-18	New Program	30 annually	Approved	None
CNI College	ADN - Private	Santa Ana	Orange	9	November-19	Enrollment Increase	from 94 to 200 annually, increase 106	Approved	None
Pacific College	ADN - Private	Costa Mesa	Orange	9	April-19	New Program	90 Annually	Approved	None
Concordia University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 128 to 192 annually, increase 24	Approved with	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 90 to 120 annually, increase 30	Approved with	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	August-21	Enrollment Increase	from 90 to 140 annually, increase 50	Approved	None
Sri Sai Krish Institute	ADN - Private	Stanton	Orange	9	February-21	Feasibility	72 annually	Approved	None
Concordia University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	November-22	Enrollment Increase	from 152 to 192 annually, increase 40	Approved	None
Sri Sai Krish Institute	ADN - Private	Stanton	Orange	9	February-22	New Program	72 annually	Approved	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 160 annually, increase 40	Denied	None
Golden West College	ADN	Huntington Beach	Orange	9	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 200 annually, increase 80	Approved	None
CNI College	BSN - Private	Santa Ana	Orange	9	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 200 to 320 annually, increase 120	Deferred	None
Westcliff University	BSN - Private	Irvine	Orange	9	February-23	Feasibility	80 annually	Deferred	None

August 13, 2023

Mary Jane Rosenblatt
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University Administration
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RE: West Coast University - Approval for Existing Enrollment

Dear Ms. Rosenblatt:

Please find enclosed the Executive Summary detailing the request for an enrollment increase in the Prelicensure Nursing Program (Bachelor's Degree in Nursing) to reflect current enrollment patterns, consisting of 220 coreⁱ nursing students each term (five terms per year) for each of its three California campuses. This is an increase from the pattern of 205 students each term that WCU enrolled in the 2021-22 academic year. We respectfully ask that this request be presented during the next Education and Licensing Committee Meeting in October 2023, and Board meeting in November 2023.

WCU's mission is to revolutionize healthcare education through student-centric teaching and cutting-edge training. We work in partnership with the Board of Registered Nursing in California to ensure public safety. Our strong track record is evident with a current campus-wide 93.6% first-time NCLEX pass rate (BRN Quarter 4, 2023), employable graduates earning over \$100,000 annually, and an exceptionally low federal loan cohort default rate of 0.1%.

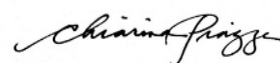
The national nursing shortage, which is constraining hospitals through a dire shortage of nurses, is acutely felt in California, which faces the greatest nursing shortage in the nation. By 2030, California is estimated to need an additional 193,000 nurses to meet patient care needs. With over 38 of California's 58 counties receiving the Registered Nursing Shortage Area (RNSA) designation, California can ill afford to limit access to nursing education. WCU endeavors to continue to address the nursing crisis by collaborating with students, educational institutions, clinical partners, and regulatory agencies to continue to deliver exceptional education programs that align with both institutional and individual student goals. Our commitment to nursing education in California remains steadfast, and we appreciate your continued support for the future of this vital healthcare profession.

Ward Ulmer, PhD



Co-President, Academics

Chiarina Piazza, PhD, RN



Director of Nursing
Dean, College of Nursing

Request: Pursuant to 16 CCR 1432(b)(5), West Coast University (WCU) is requesting an enrollment increase in its Prelicensure Nursing Program (Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing) for its current enrollment pattern, consisting of 220 core nursing students each term (five terms per year) for each of its three California campuses. This is an increase from the pattern of 205 students each term that WCU enrolled in the 2021-22 academic year. Community members and clinical partners attest to our ability, capacity, and commitment to provide an effective Prelicensure Nursing Program, with no clinical displacement evidenced by current student population levels.

Campus 1: North Hollywood, located in Los Angeles County, enrolls 220 core nursing students five times per year, resulting in 1,100 core nursing students annually.

Campus 2: Anaheim (i.e., O.C.) located in Orange County, enrolls 220 core nursing students five times per year, resulting in 1,100 core nursing students annually.

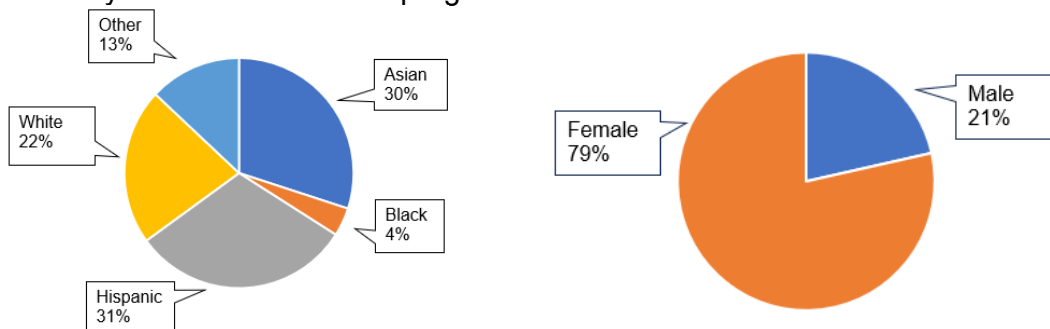
Campus 3: Inland Empire (i.e., Ontario), located in San Bernadino County, enrolls 220 core nursing students five times per year, resulting in 1,100 core nursing students annually.

Rationale: Our demonstrated outcomes and the information in this summary showcase that we possess the necessary physical, clinical, and fiscal resources to maintain our current enrollment pattern without causing displacement to other schools’ clinical rotations.

Background and Accreditation: Founded in 1909, WCU operates three campuses in Southern California: North Hollywood, Inland Empire, and Anaheimii. Our institution holds institutional accreditation from [WASC Senior College and University Commission](#)ⁱⁱⁱ (WSCUC), and our BSN program received accreditation from the [Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education](#)^{iv} (CCNE) in 2009. CCNE found our BSN program to be compliant with its standards in 2014. Our next scheduled CCNE evaluation is scheduled for March 2024. The Simulation Center (located on all campuses) is accredited by the [Society for Simulation in Healthcare \(SSH\)](#)^v in the Teaching/Education domain. This accreditation was initially granted in 2019 and renewed in 2022, extending through December 31, 2027.

WCU’s nursing programs began in 2006 at the North Hollywood campus with a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) to Associate Degree in Nursing program. In 2007, we introduced an RN to BSN program. In 2008, the Prelicensure BSN program gained approval from the BRN, initially launching at the Anaheim campus, and later expanding to include the North Hollywood and Inland Empire campuses. Additional details can be found in [Appendix A WCU Enrollment History](#).

WCU Community and Geographical Areas Served: WCU serves a diverse, non-traditional student population. The majority of our students (79%) report belonging to an underrepresented racial/ethnic group. Male students make up 21% of our student population, characterizing a further underrepresented population in the nursing profession. By comparison, nationally, in 2022, only 40% of students from underrepresented racial/ethnic groups and 12.6% of male students were enrolled in entry-level baccalaureate programs^{vi}.



It is worth noting that our diverse student body would likely be otherwise educationally barred or wait-listed at public institutions. Many of our students report wait lists of four to five years at public institutions^{vii}. Given the national emphasis on access to higher education, WCU is proud of its reputation for supporting students of all backgrounds in their pursuit of higher education.

Each of the three campuses in California serve a distinct geographical area. The North Hollywood serves the geographical area located north of Los Angeles, extending toward the San Fernando Valley. The Anaheim campus serves the broad socio-economic demographic of the Orange County metropolitan area. The Inland Empire campus serves a geographical region east of Los Angeles, extending toward the San Bernardino Valley. ([Appendix B](#) map of areas served).

Enrollment: BSN and LVN to BSN enrollment for August 1, 2022, through July 31, 2023, is reflective of our current enrollment pattern of 220 average students enrolled per term on each California campus. Generic BSN students account for 88% with 12% being LVN to BSN students. Enrollment from August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023: North Hollywood 1,117; Inland Empire 1,053; Anaheim 1,116. WCU's Prelicensure Nursing Program welcomes both generic and LVN to BSN students, with no entry-level master's option. Admission is contingent upon available seats for both generic and LVN to BSN students.

Table 1. Enrollment History

	BSN/LVN to BSN Enrollment	LVN 30 unit
2021-2022	3089	0
2020-2021	3054	0
2019-2020	2881	0
2018-2019	2550	0

Program Outcomes: By any objective measure, WCU remains one of the most effective institutions in all of higher education based on student outcomes. Our current NCLEX pass rates not only meet but surpass both state requirements ([16 CCR § 1431^{viii}](#)) and [accreditation standards^{ix}](#). Specifically, in BRN Quarter 4, the first-time NCLEX pass rate reached an impressive 93.6%.

Highlighting our commitment to student success, our most recent federal cohort default rate stands at an exceptionally low 0.1%^x (4 defaulters out of 3,179 borrowers). This rate signifies that our nursing program graduates are securing well-paying careers and actively repaying their student loans. Notably, WCU graduates achieve a median annual earning exceeding \$100,000 per year^{xi}.

[Appendix C](#) offers an illustrative depiction of the interplay between NCLEX Pass Rates, enrollment, and loan default rates.

Table 2: Institutional Loan Default Rate

2019	0.1%	4 defaulters out of 3,179 borrowers
2018	0.5%	16 defaulters out of 2,705 borrowers
2017	1.6%	36 defaulters out of 2,164 borrowers
2016	2.6%	50 defaulters out of 1,855 borrowers
2015	2.7%	52 defaulters out of 1,884 borrowers
2014	2.7%	41 defaulters out of 1,490 borrowers
2013	1.5%	18 defaulters out of 1,149 borrowers

Table 3: Program Outcomes

First-Time NCLEX Pass Rate	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21*	2021-22*	2022-23
	93.69%	92%	91.23%	90.55%	87.1%	80.58%	81.2% <u>Q4 2023=93.6</u>
Attrition	16%	16%	16.35%	11%	12.9%	14.7%	11.9%

*National NCLEX passage rates saw a decline in 2021 (Q4 71.92%, annual 82.48%) and 2022 (Q4 72.44%, annual 79.91%) due to the pandemic forcing many nursing programs online ([Appendix D](#)).

Graduate Placement: Our student-centered approach to education encompasses every aspect of a student's journey, from enrollment in their chosen program to their graduation. From the beginning of the program, we encourage students to connect with Career Services Specialists. This early engagement helps them identify career interests and strengths. As students progress through their education, their job search strategies become more refined, and they develop personalized skills to build portfolios that showcase their talents.

In line with CCNE accreditation standards, we ensure that a minimum of 70% of our graduates secure employment within 12 months after graduation. Notably, in 2022, the employment placement rate exceeded 90% for each campus within this timeframe. It is worth highlighting that nearly half of the top employing entities consist of hospitals and clinical partners. Given the strong demand for Registered Nurses in Southern California, we take pride in going beyond this accreditation requirement by not only placing our graduates in major magnet hospitals but also actively contributing to staffing in regional community hospitals, Veterans Administration (VA) facilities, and psychiatric institutions. For a detailed breakdown of hires by campus, refer to [Appendix E](#).

Table 4: 2022 placement rates for each campus.

	2022 Employment Rate	Average Hourly Wage
North Hollywood	91.79%	\$42.86 per hour
Inland Empire (i.e., Ontario)	96.48%	\$42.40 per hour
Anaheim (i.e., Orange County)	94.32%	\$42.78 per hour

Program Costs: The overall expenses for the program encompass various components, such as tuition for 120 credits, registration, and additional fees. These fees encompass estimated costs for books, uniforms, supplies, licensure preparation, technology, and general education resources. The complete program costs for the BSN Program amount to \$148,253, while the LVN to BSN track costs \$130,524, and the LVN 30-unit option is priced at \$59,580. Importantly, a substantial majority of our BSN students receive transfer credits, significantly mitigating the financial burden associated with tuition and fees. For example, students who graduated in 2022 took only 76% of the required 120 credits at WCU, which is typical and reflective of the past five years. Additionally, more than 1,700 students have received scholarships since 2018.

For the 30-unit LVN to RN pathway, the cost is calculated on a per credit hour basis. When comparing the overall pricing of the Prelicensure Nursing Program, it is evident that our rates are both competitive and aligned with similar programs. To delve into a detailed cost comparison, please refer to [Appendix F](#).

Philanthropy: WCU recognizes that as an institution of higher education, it is the organization's duty to contribute to the public good. Recognizing the crucial role education plays in our communities, our WCU Foundation, a growing 501(c)(3) entity, has actively involved alumni and the community. Together, they have raised over \$400,000, resulting in over 250 scholarships being granted. Our

associates also play a significant part. They dedicate both personal time and an annual 8-hour paid volunteer period accumulating a total of over 1,725 hours of service to local nonprofits. WCU's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) is evident in its support of DEI-focused nonprofit organizations that share our values. This further underscores our dedication to being a DEI-focused University. In 2023, we are set to donate more than \$75,000 to organizations that align with DEI principles, emphasizing our ongoing mission to promote positive change and inclusivity.

Resources: WCU boasts robust resources to fulfill program goals. Our faculty are qualified and sufficient in numbers, ensuring the achievement of desired outcomes. Adequate fiscal support drives efficient program administration. Our campuses provide secure and comfortable learning environments, featuring well-lit, spacious facilities with extended access hours, including evenings and weekends.

Administrative structure involves a Program Director (College of Nursing Dean) and an Assistant Director (Nursing Campus Dean) for each campus, as outlined in the Organization Chart ([Appendix G](#)). Our 432 qualified faculty across the three campuses meet BRN faculty qualifications.

Additionally, to meet the CCNE requirement for graduate-prepared faculty, we provide BSN-prepared faculty with access to graduate nursing degree options, promoting career progression and expanding the pool of graduate-prepared faculty in California ([Appendix H](#). Faculty Bridge Grant Program Information).

Facilities encompass classrooms, lab classrooms, study areas, meeting rooms, Skills Labs, a Simulation Center, and Library. The Skills Labs provide spacious, well-equipped spaces fostering student-centered learning. Open lab hours allow skill practice and muscle memory building.

Feedback from students guides equipment procurement, enhancing the learning experience. For example, at the Anaheim campus, we are integrating new IV pumps and an Omnicell system to simulate clinical settings more accurately.

Simulation Centers ([Appendix I](#) Floor Plans Simulation Center) offer a Patient Room, Control Room, and Debrief Room in each pod. We employ standardized evaluations for meaningful learning aligned with student and clinical partner needs and ensure replication to clinical settings as accurately as possible. For example, in the Maternal-Baby simulation area, a Fetal Heart Monitor replicates labor stages, a valuable experience due to limitations based on clinical partner requirements for nursing students in labor settings. Simulation Centers are also open for clinical partner evaluations and training.

WCU has made a substantial investment of over \$150 million in state-of-the-art simulation learning systems, setting us apart as one of only 100 SSH Accredited Programs worldwide. These advanced systems are available at each of the three campuses and offer students a platform to practice, explore, and enhance their understanding of theory and clinical instruction. Accreditation in the area of Teaching and Learning highlights WCU's commitment to regular and recurring simulation educational activities with clearly defined objectives, along with evidence of ongoing improvement in educational practices^{xii}.

Additionally, the University has devoted more than \$100 million to advanced NCLEX preparation, ensuring that our students consistently exceed the outcomes requirements set by the BRN and accrediting bodies. This dedication to providing cutting-edge resources and preparation is a testament to WCU's commitment to empowering students for success in their nursing careers.

National, State and Regional Nursing Shortage Supports WCU's Enrollment and CA State Budget Priorities: WCU's enrollment is supported by the national, state, and regional nursing shortage.

Experienced nurses are leaving the workforce faster than new graduates can replace them, a trend worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a need for 1.1

million new registered nurses by 2030. California faces the largest nursing shortage in the nation, with 38 out of 58 counties designated as Registered Nurse Shortage Areas (RNSEA)[i]. By 2030, the state is projected to have a deficit of approximately 193,000 nurses. Towards this effort, the CA 2023-2024 Budget Act invested \$988.4 million in total funding (\$188.8 million in 2022-23, \$314.7 million in 2023-24, \$427.3 million in 2024-25, and \$57.5 million in 2025- towards addressing shortages in care for the opioid crisis, access to behavioral health services and meeting the needs of our aging population.

The shortage is also a regional concern. The Hospital Association of Southern California reported a challenge in hiring nurses to meet healthcare demands in the region. Job postings for registered nurses in Orange County doubled between 2016 and 2018, indicating a significant increase in demand. Demand is also expected to grow in Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates a 17.5% increase in demand for nurses in Los Angeles County and a 15.5% increase in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties[ii].

Addressing these projected deficits requires addressing the lack of access to nursing education in the State. Many qualified diverse nursing applicants are turned away due to limited spots in nursing programs. The State legislature, through the Sunset Review Reports of 2010, 2014, and 2016, directed the BRN to increase and diversify the number of RN graduates by allowing increased access to nursing programs. However, access is still limited with 55,551 qualified nursing applications received in 2020-21 and only 14,004 students enrolled in nursing programs.

Clinical Capacity Without Displacement of Other Schools: WCU has received no evidence or formal complaints from sister nursing schools or programs demonstrating that it has objectively displaced any other nursing student or schools' clinical rotations.

WCU participates in the clinical consortia process for each county where campuses are located to ensure that it is not displacing other programs' clinical rotations. The North Hollywood and Anaheim campuses participated in the OCLB Consortium until it recently dissolved. The North Hollywood campus participates in the Ventura Consortium. The Inland Empire campus participates in the Inland Empire Consortium. All academic and clinical partners are invited to participate. Clinical placements are moving to an automated system, such as My Clinical Exchange, ServeEdLink or the Centralized Clinical Placement System (CCPS), which processes rotation requests, addresses conflicts, manages clinical capacity, and maintains student compliance. Academic institutions have a window of opportunity to enter/upload historical placements to the automated system. New requests can be made and accommodated if available. The final decision for placements resides with the clinical partner.

Affiliation agreements have been approved through the EDP process. There are 162 clinical partners currently supporting the clinical courses (EDP-P-18). The EDP process also affirms VERIFICATION OF NONDISPLACEMENT OF OTHER PRE-LICENSURE PROGRAM STUDENTS as required in the revised CCR section 1427(d) which states: "In selecting a new clinical facility for student placement, the new program shall take into consideration the impact of a new group of students on registered nurse students in other pre-licensure programs currently utilizing the facility, if any." Each EDP-18 signature verified that use of the clinical facility by WCU WILL NOT DISPLACE students from other pre-licensure nursing programs. Refer to [Appendix J Clinical Rotations by Specialty and Clinical Site. Letters of Support](#). Recognizing the valuable role that our graduates play in respect to nursing workforce and the impact that any loss of existing WCU enrollment patterns would have on local hospitals and medical centers, the following members of the legislature and hospital executives offer the attached letters of support of this application.

[Riverside Community Hospital](#)

[Hollywood Presbyterian](#)

[Children's Hospital of Orange County
LA Downtown Medical Center
Montclair Hospital Medical Center
Desert Regional Medical Center
Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
Encino Hospital Medical Center/Sherman Oaks
Hospital](#)

[Providence St. Joseph Hospital Orange
HCA Far West Division
CA Problem Solvers Caucus
Blanca E. Rubio
Sharon Quick Silva
Cottie Petrie-Norris](#)

Summary: West Coast University is well positioned to help alleviate the nursing shortage in Southern California specifically and California generally. The shortage has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the need for additional nurses to serve our communities will only grow in the coming years.

The 2018 Continuing Approval Visit report confirmed WCU was in compliance with Title 16 CCR Section 1424 (d) having sufficient resources, including faculty, library, staff and support services, physical space and equipment, including technology, to achieve the program's objectives. Since 2018, we have invested in resources and continue to remain compliant with Title 16 CCR Section 1424 (d). As discussed previously, our commitment is evident in the investments made to our physical resources, faculty, and community partnership building. Refer to Appendix K to view letters of support from health systems and legislators. WCU is committed to creating a collaborative partnership with other nursing programs to support academic progression and meet the healthcare needs of the communities we serve.

This executive summary requesting an enrollment increase for our current enrollment pattern demonstrates the quality of the program. This is evidenced by program outcomes including an NCLEX pass rate of greater than 80% ([Appendix L](#)). Additionally, WCU demonstrates sufficient quantity and quality of clinical partners in support of our program and who attest that WCU has not displaced students from other schools thus no evidence of clinical displacement. Also, more than 90% of WCU graduates are placed within 12 months of graduation and we report a loan default rate of 0.1%.

WCU appreciates the Education Licensing Committee's attention to this request for an enrollment increase in its Prelicensure Nursing Program for its current enrollment pattern, consisting of 220 core nursing students each term (five terms per year) for each of its three California campuses.

ⁱ Core Nursing is a term used to distinguish the semesters where students take the NURS courses and any upper division General Education (GE) courses. When students enter "Core Nursing", it signifies that they have met the requirements of lower-level GE courses that are foundational to the nursing curriculum. Refer to [Appendix M](#) and [Appendix N](#).

ⁱⁱ <https://westcoastuniversity.edu/about/leadership-faculty/office-of-the-president>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://westcoastuniversity.edu/about/accreditation>

^{iv} <https://westcoastuniversity.edu/about/accreditation>

^v <https://www.ssih.org/>

^{vi} <https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/Annual-Reports/2022-AACN-Annual-Report.pdf>

^{vii} <https://edsources.org/2021/community-college-students-look-to-improve-access-to-enter-some-campus-nursing-programs/662289>

^{viii} [https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/IF58997534C8111EC89E5000D3A7C4BC3?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextD ata=\(sc.Default\)](https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/IF58997534C8111EC89E5000D3A7C4BC3?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextD ata=(sc.Default))

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- ^{ix} <https://www.aacnursing.org/Portals/0/PDFs/CCNE/Standards-Final-2018.pdf>
- ^x <https://nslsdfap.ed.gov/cdr-searchable-database/school/search>
- ^{xi} https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/search/?search=west%20coast%20university&page=0&sort=threshold_earnings:desc
- ^{xii} <https://www.ssih.org/Portals/48/2021%20SSH%20TEACHING%20EDUCATION%20ACCREDITATION%20STANDARDS%20%281%29.pdf>
- ^[i] <https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/registered-nurse-shortage-areas-in-california>
- ^[ii] <https://labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/data/employment-projections.html>

Appendix A. WCU Enrollment History (provided by WCU)

Date	Action Item	Supporting Document
2007-2008	WCU sought and was approved to offer BSN beginning in 2008.	Approval Letter
March 2013	WCU's first Continuing Approval Visit. Enrollments were 20 LVN to BSN students and 80 generic BSN students each term +(100 x 5 = 500 per year) at both the Los Angeles campus (1000 students in total).	Grant of WCU's continuing approval in November of 2013.
November 2013	WCU-Ontario approved as a new campus bringing total student enrollments at all three campuses to 1,500 per year.	Approval of major curriculum revision approving WCU Ontario, dated November 8, 2013.
August 2015	2014-2015 BSN Core Enrollments – 1518 (starts average 100 students entering core program five times each year).	Annual Report
August 2016	2015-2016 BSN Core Enrollments – 1497 (starts average 100 students entering core program five times each year).	Annual Report
August 2017	2016-2017 BSN Core Enrollments – 1503 (starts average 100 students entering core program five times each year).	Annual Report
June 26, 2018	Final report issued by BRN related to continuing approval. "Enrollments of 170 for each campus for Fall 1, 2018, and Fall 2, 2018 is projected to meet a commitment to students currently enrolled and progressing into core nursing. The University has the physical, clinical, and fiscal resources to support this enrollment pattern."	BRN Consultant Approval Report
August 2018	2017-2018 BSN Core Enrollments – 1863	Annual Report
August 2019	2018-2019 BSN Core Enrollments – 2550 (starts average 170 students entering the core program five times each year)	Annual Report
August 2020	2019-2020 BSN Core Enrollments – 2881 (starts average 192 students entering the core program five times each year)	

August 2021	2020-2021 BSN Core Enrollments – 3054 (starts average 203 students entering the core program five times each year)	
August 2022	2021-2022 BSN Core Enrollments – 3089 (starts average 205 students entering the core program five times each year)	Annual Report



Agenda Item 8.9

**Discussion and possible action regarding initial self-study
for new prelicensure program
(BPC § 2788; 16 CCR §§ 1421 & 1423) (present)**

BRN Education/Licensing Committee | October 5, 2023

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.9.1
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Initial Self-Study for New Prelicensure Program Lassen Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Donna Schutte, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: A Letter of Intent to start an Associate Degree Nursing Program at Lassen Community College was received by the BRN on June 16, 2021. LCC is located in the Susanville, CA, approximately 80 miles northwest of Reno, Nevada and 110 miles east of Redding. The feasibility study was received on November 21, 2022 and was approved by the Board on February 15-16, 2023. The Self Study was received by the BRN on June 27, 2023.

Enrollment pattern: Forty (40) students every 2 years (thirty generic students starting Spring 2024 with 10 additional Advanced Placement (LVN) students to enroll Spring 2025). The program will be completed over 4 semesters in 2 years. Total units for licensure are 61. Total units for graduation are 72. Advanced Placement students will complete an additional 3-unit (theory-2 units, clinical-1 unit) LVN to RN Nurse Transition Course.

Total program cost is \$5,899.

A virtual site visit was made on July 13, 2023. Sufficient resources are in place within the college and department to support the new ADN program. The program is in compliance with all Board rules and regulations. Four full-time faculty member positions have been dedicated to the ADN Program along with Program Director (80% administration) and Assistant Director (40% administrative and 60% teaching) positions. All content areas are addressed. The college has secured 10 clinical affiliation agreements (six with acute care facilities) with signed EDP-P-18 Clinical Facility Authorizations to support the required clinical hours for the RN curriculum per CCR 1427. Except for Shasta Regional Medical Center, no other nursing programs are using the clinical placements that have been secured. LCC plans to use Modoc Medical Center (105 miles from LCC), Seneca Health Care District (37 miles from LCC), and Shasta Regional Medical Center (114 miles from LCC) if needed with overnight accommodations for clinical faculty and students to be secured. LCC is a member of the North Far North Regional Consortium which has approved and is supporting this new ADN Program.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT: Donna Schutte, DNSC, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

8.9.1 Lassen Community College Data – Initial Self-Study

Feasibility Study for Lassen Community College ADN program was approved by the Board on February 15, 2023, for an enrollment of 30 generic ADN students and 10 LVN-RN students = 40 students every two years.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
Lassen Community College	ADN	Susanville	Lassen	1	February-23	Feasibility	40 every TWO years	Approved	None

The nearest prelicensure nursing programs are at Butte College (114 miles away), College of the Redwoods (270 miles) and Mendocino College (240 miles).

Region 1 Data 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 1 over the past 5 years = 523 new students through 4 enrollment increases (183 students annually), 1 new campus (160 students annually), 2 new programs (140 students annually) and, this program's feasibility study going through final program approval (40 students biennially)..

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

Self-Study Executive Summary
Lassen Community College
Christi Myers, MSN, RN, PHN

Please accept this Executive Summary from Lassen Community College (LCC) as representation of content documented in our Self-Study for the final phase of our Associates Degree Registered Nursing Program approval. A letter of intent for the creation of a new Associates Degree in Nursing Program was submitted by Lassen Community College and accepted by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) on June 16, 2021. In accordance with Section 2786.5(a)(1) of the Nurse Practice Act an approval fee of \$40,000 was submitted by LCC and accepted by the BRN on November 3, 2021. LCC subsequently submitted a thorough Feasibility Study to the BRN. The BRN, at its board meeting on February 15-16, 2023 voted to take the following action: "Accept the Feasibility Study for Lassen Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program." Enrollment pattern request: 40 students every two (2) years. Subsequently the assigned Nurse Education Consultant from the BRN completed a virtual site visit virtually at LCC. Upon hopeful program approval LCC is prepared to begin its first Associate Degree Registered Nursing Cohort in January of 2024 with a graduation slated for December of 2025. Total units for graduation will be 76 with all additional degree requirements. Tuition for in-state residents costs \$46 per unit totaling the full program tuition at \$3496. Non-resident tuition costs \$375 per unit totaling \$26,939 for tuition. LCC has worked to secure the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) to ensure equitable tuition rates for many non-resident students. The WUE provides an opportunity for students from participating western states to apply to enroll in Lassen Community College programs at a reduced tuition level of 150% of Lassen College's resident tuition/fees. The following states participate in the WUE: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Total program tuition for WUE participants will cost a total of \$69 per unit equaling a total program tuition cost including prerequisites of \$5,244.

LCC is fully accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), Western Association of Schools and Colleges an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education. LCC is a California Community College originally founded on May 4th, 1925, as the Junior College Department of Lassen Union High School District. Increased enrollment warranted the construction of a separate facility in 1941 and again in 1947. The modern era of LCC began in March of 1965 with the establishment of the Lassen Community College District. A new campus was located just north of Susanville California on Highway 139 beginning operations in 1971. Today the campus consists of 165 acres and 39 buildings including classrooms, instructional offices, support services, a state-of-the-art library, a 108-capacity student dormitory, large gymnasium, outdoor recreation facilities, and a modern health science and medical technology center.

LCC currently offers more than 35 degree and certificate programs including multiple offerings in the health sciences. For nearly half of a century since 1978, LCC has offered a Licensed Vocational Nursing Program accredited by the California State Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians. LCC's NCLEX-PN pass rate has remained above the state average over the past five years with the most recent 2021 pass rate of 100% according to the Department of Consumer Affairs. LCC also provides program offerings including Certified Nurse Assistant, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy Technician, and Emergency Medical Technician.

The following sections represent a brief summary of specific information found in our self-study displaying Lassen Community Colleges ability to implement all rules and regulations required by the State of California to successfully train Registered Nurses and prepare them for entry into the workforce.

Self-Study Executive Summary
Lassen Community College
Christi Myers, MSN, RN, PHN

1424 (a) ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

Lassen Community College Associates Degree Registered Nursing Program integrates evidence-based nursing, providing the basis of professional practice. Professional practice is the provision of care in primary, secondary, and tertiary health care settings focusing on the health-illness continuum. Art and science of nursing establishes the basis for a systematic approach to holistic collaborative care based on evidence-based practice. Best practice includes an awareness of cultural, ethical, social, policy, and regulatory environments. Graduates of the nursing program accomplish professional practice through their roles as competent care providers, educators, and leaders. The faculty has a responsibility to provide nursing education through a variety of pedagogical approaches with a strong emphasis on technological strategies. Students learn optimally in an atmosphere immersed in humanism, innovation and technology. The nursing program philosophy and objectives are consistent and serve as the basis of the curriculum structure. The nursing program philosophical statement is readily available in writing to student, applicants and the public and can be found on our website.

1424 (b) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

All policies and procedures by which the LCC Nursing program is administered clearly reflect our philosophy and objectives and are aligned with all rules and regulations set forth by the Board of Registered Nursing. Policies and Procedures are available to students in writing in the College Catalog, Registered Nursing Student Handbook and LCC Nursing Faculty Handbook in accordance with the BRN regulations.

1424 (c) ORGANIZATION AND LINES OF AUTHORITY

LCC is a public community college in California accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) through the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. LCC is a one school district with a Board of Trustees comprised of seven members elected by district constituents and one student trustee elected by the LCC student body. The college is managed by a Superintendent/President and the nursing program is administered by a qualified Nursing Director and Assistant Nursing Director. The self-study presents an organizational charts including organizational structure and lines of authority clearly presented in under the organizational structure section.

1424 (d) RESOURCES

LCC Nursing currently has all resources required to support an ADN program including instructional space, lab and simulation lab centers, supplies and equipment including high-fidelity mannequins, and a virtual reality simulation center. LCC has dedicated four full-time faculty member positions to the program including one director and one assistant director. All hired faculty have specialties in required areas and have completed their MSN in Nursing Education degrees. All five areas are represented in expertise and a dedicated expert has been dedicated to oversee each area of required content. Additional adjunct faculty are also committed to the program's success.

Lassen Community College has dedicated over 5000 Square Feet of lecture and lab space to the development of an Associate's Degree Registered Nursing Program in our community. The Nursing facility currently offers a 40 seat lecture hall, a new high fidelity simulation testing lab, a lab/lecture room with interactive screens and sim viewing area providing 40 seats, director and instructor offices, private staff meeting room, a nursing lab/lecture room with distance education technology, a blood withdrawal lab, student study room, student computer room with 6 computer spaces, 30 dedicated

Self-Study Executive Summary
Lassen Community College
Christi Myers, MSN, RN, PHN

student laptops, a fully functional nursing simulation lab with 5 hospital beds, 1 clinic bed, nursery, and simulation mannequins including a Laerdal Sim Baby, Sim Kid, Sim Mom, and 2 new Sim Anne's and Sim View technology for recording and reviewing student performance. The department further offers learning opportunities through VSim technology and Virtual Reality simulations provided by SimX. The college offers a large library in person with student study space as well as a fully functional online library including multiple nursing subscriptions. The college has student support services for all including admission, academic resource center, eLearning center, Base Camp that includes disabled services, and programs, academic counseling, financial aid, behavioral health, workforce development, campus life, wellness center and food pantry, etc. LCC currently staffs 4 full time dedicated faculty members to direct and instruct RN courses along with a pool of adjunct faculty and a full time instructional support specialist. Further an additional full time faculty member and adjunct faculty will be hired upon approval of the program.

1424 (g) FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Faculty members have primary responsibility for the development of policies, procedures, planning, organization, implementation, and evaluation of the program, please refer to the organizational chart in Self Study. Job descriptions and a faculty handbook presenting all faculty responsibilities are also made available for review in the self-study.

1424 (h) ADEQUATE FACULTY

Faculty approval document including EDP-P-02, Resumes, and License Verification have been provided in the self-study for five nursing instructors ensuring expertise in each of the five required subject matter areas.

1424 (k) STUDENT/TEACHER

The student/teacher ratio in the clinical setting is capped at ten students to one instructor. Further considerations for student/teacher ratio will be based on, acuity of patient needs, objectives of the learning experience, class level of the student's geographic placement of students, teaching methods, and requirements established by the clinical agency.

1425 FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS AND CHANGES

All Faculty and program directors will meet the BRN requirements and are presented in the self-study.

1425.1 FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Faculty are responsible for the promotion of quality nurse education at LCC. In Community Colleges and Universities, nurse educators teach in a traditional setting. They instruct others using a curriculum they've created and find new ways to engage students. These teaching strategies are grounded in educational theory and evidence-based practices. Faculty responsibilities are clearly displayed in section three of the self-study.

1426 REQUIRED CURRICULUM

Proposed curriculum have been submitted utilizing the EDP-P-05 and EDP-P-06 forms and consist of nursing prerequisite including all general education and science courses as well as four consecutive semesters of nursing courses. The full program including all other degree requirements contain a total of seventy-six semester units on the seventeen week semester system. Students will spend a minimum of five hundred hours in supervised direct patient care roles with a minimum of thirty of those hours of hands on care in each specialty area.

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1426 (b) CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

LCC Nurse Curriculum maintains a unified theme that includes the nursing process and ensures that students receive the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to function at a minimum competency standard for an RN to meet standards of competence. Curriculum is up-to-date, dynamic, and evidence-based, further the curriculum reflects current societal and health care trends and issues. All faculty implement curriculum according to an agreed upon philosophy, objectives and theoretical framework which unifies them.

1426 (f) PROGRAM EVALUATION TOOLS

The LCC Nursing program will utilize mid-semester and end-of-semester student evaluation tool in the lab and clinical setting to ensure that all students are continuously making progress toward meeting all course and program objectives. LCC Nursing utilizes Lippincott® Pass Point, to ensure test confidence while delivering personalized and unlimited NCLEX® practice to promote student success. The product is fully updated for the NGN, Pass Point includes case studies and new item types to allow practice of clinical judgment-style questions. Through practice and clinically oriented remediation, Pass Point allows for: Endurance building providing unlimited quizzing and NCLEX-style exams built to improve student awareness and stamina in a low-stakes environment. The product also included mastery measurement which adapts and grows incrementally more challenging as students demonstrate increased comprehension. Driven by performance data, Pass Point helps faculty identify at-risk students early by providing a pathway for addressing misconceptions well before high-stakes exams, while also providing students with just-in-time remediation during practice.

1427 CLINICAL FACILITIES

LCC has secured ten clinical affiliation agreements with a signed agreements to support required clinical hours for the RN curriculum per CCR1427. Clinical displacement concerns have been discussed with all facilities, the only facility currently hosting other programs with Registered Nursing Student is Shasta Regional Medical Center and an agreement has been made based on ensuring no displacements of other programs affiliated with that side. Due to our rural location all other clinical sites currently do not host any other Registered Nursing Programs so clinical displacement is not a concern.

LCC Nursing has long standing clinical agreements with the following facilities: Banner Lassen Medical Center (Susanville, Acute/Hospital/Peds/OB), Lassen Nursing and Rehabilitation (Susanville, Geriatric), Modoc Medical Center (Alturas, Acute/Hospital/Geriatric/Clinic), High Desert State Prison (Susanville, Corrections/ Behavioral Health), Northeastern Rural Health (Susanville, Clinic/Behavioral Health/OB/Peds), Lassen County Public Health (Susanville, Community Health), Lassen Indian Health (Susanville, Acute/Behavioral Health/Peds), Lassen County Behavioral Health (Susanville, Behavioral Health), Seneca Health Care District (Chester, Acute/Hospital/Geriatric/Clinic), Shasta Regional Medical Center (Redding, Acute/Hospital/Geriatric/OB/Peds). No other nursing programs are using the clinical placements that we have secured, the only placement with hosting other programs is Shasta Regional Medical Center which we are still working on affiliation agreements with.

1428 STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Nursing Students will be encouraged to actively participate in organizational opportunities related to the nursing program as well as campus wide activities.

Each cohort will be joined into the California Nursing Students' Association (CNSA) and will participate in active membership. Our local chapter will follow the mission of CNSA: 'California Nursing Students' Association is a statewide community advancing the transition of the student to

Self-Study Executive Summary
Lassen Community College
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professional nurse through leadership development, education, mentorship, advocacy, activism, and stewardship’.

1429 LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES, THIRTY (30) UNIT OPTION OR FORTYFIVE (45) QUARTER UNIT OPTION

Licensed vocational nurses who do not wish to complete the course work for a Degree in Nursing but wish to take the NCLEX-RN examination to be licensed as a Registered Nurse in California must follow the guidelines set forth by the Board of Registered Nursing, Effective 1997: Section 1429. LCC accommodates thirty unit option students and requires that they seek counseling from the director to ensure that this option is the best for them and their career goals. Applicants must apply and be accepted into the program as space permits. All thirty-unit option information is provided to students prior to enrollment and is posted on our website.

1430 PREVIOUS EDUCATION CREDITS

The Lassen Community College Associate Degree Registered Nursing Program makes provision for the granting of credit for previous education or acquired knowledge. Upon request to the program director, any student accepted into the Lassen Community College Associate Degree Registered Nursing Program may be evaluated for such credit including evaluation of relevant military training.

CONCLUSION

As displayed in the Lassen Community College Feasibility Study and throughout the Self Study process, the need for Registered Nurses in our rural community is critical. The scarcity of programs offering ADN education in our region has created a critical need with only two programs currently available across the eleven counties represented in the Northern California region. LCC is an active member in the North Far North Regional Consortium, the Associates Degree in Registered Nursing program has been approved by this consortium and is fully supported. LCC has a proven record of accomplishment of offering high-quality health science programs with a proven success rate and is prepared to offer a Registered Nursing program with the same level of focus and intention. The goal of LCC Nursing is to ensure a competent and confident nursing workforce in our community and across our region, the addition of a Registered Nursing program will begin to address the health disparities of our rural environment and will be of great benefit to our citizens. Lassen Community College respectfully requests that the Self Study be accepted and approved for placement on the Board agenda for discussion and action for full program approval. Lassen Community College looks forward to the opportunity of sharing our passion for healing arts with future Registered Nursing students and thanks you for your time and consideration.

Self-Study Executive Summary
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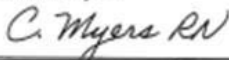
State of California

Department of Consumer Affairs
Board of Registered Nursing

**NURSING PROGRAM INITIAL APPROVAL
APPLICATION & COVER DATA SHEET**

(916) 322-3350

1) Name of Nursing Program: Lassen Community College Associate Degree Registered Nursing Program	2) Type of Program Proposed to Offer: Associate Degree Registered Nursing
3) Address: Physical Address: 478-200 Hwy 139 Susanville, California 96130 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3000 Susanville, California 96130	
4) President of Institution: Carie Camacho Superintendent / President ccmacho@lassencollege.edu 530-251-8820	5) Director of Nursing Program: Christi Myers MSN, RN, PHN Director of Nursing cmyers@lassencollege.edu 530-257-6181 Ext: 8994
6) Person to Whom Director is Directly Responsible: Michell Williams Dean of Instruction mwilliams@lassencollege.edu 530-257-6181 Ext: 8960	7) Name of Contact Person and Post-Secondary Institution with which the Nursing Program is Affiliated N/A
8) Proposed Start Date and the Number of Students in the First Class. Proposed Start Date: January 16, 2024 Number of student in first Class: 30 *10 additional LVN to RN bridge students will be enrolled in year 2 of the program.	9) Proposed Number of Admission(s) Per Year and Number of Students per Admission. 30 students will be admitted every 2 years, an additional 10 student will be enrolled as LVN to RN bridge in the second year.
10) Anticipated number of Graduates Per Year: 40 graduates every 2 years	11) Date of First Graduation for the Proposed New Program: December 19, 2026

12) Signature of Administrator of Controlling Institution: Carie Camacho 	13) Title: Superintendent/President	Date: June 14, 2023
14) Signature of R.N. Director of Program in Nursing: Christi Myers 	15) Title: Director of Nursing	Date: June 14, 2023

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.9.2
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Initial Self-Study for New Prelicensure Program High Desert Medical College Lancaster

REQUESTED BY: Katie Daugherty, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: High Desert Medical College Associate Degree Nursing Program in Lancaster CA received acceptance of a feasibility study at the August 24, 2023, Board meeting. Dr. Michelle Welch, DNP, NP-C, RN is the Program Director. HDMC submitted a self-study for initial program approval in July 2023 and a virtual site visit was conducted August 29, 2023 and they plan to begin in January 2024. The program is in compliance with all Board rules and regulations.

Initial Program Approval Request and Enrollment Pattern
HDMC Lancaster is requesting an enrollment pattern of 30 generic students annually in January 2024. Then starting in January 2025 and moving forward, they are requesting an annual enrollment of 50 students (30 generic and 20 LVN to RN Advanced Placement students).

Program Cost

\$89,995 (generic six semesters degree program)

\$68,325 (3 semesters Advanced Placement LVN to RN degree program)

Program anticipates it will be self-supporting in the second year of operation.

HDMC Lancaster campus is located at 701 W. Avenue K, Lancaster, CA 93534 about 60 miles north of the city of Los Angeles. [map of greater antelope valley](#)

Resources

HDMC has demonstrated there are sufficient physical space, budget/financial, faculty (8 FT, 12 PT), per completed BRN EDP-P-11, administrative/operational staff and support services, technology, clinical sites, and other instructional resources to start and sustain the RN program. Refer to program executive summary details.

Curriculum

Curriculum is 96 weeks, six semesters (16 weeks semesters) year-round Associate Degree Program. Consistent with CCR 1426 and CCR 1427 requirements, curriculum has a total of 50.5 units of nursing: 24 nursing theory units and 26.5 nursing clinical units. Content Required for Licensure-CRL will be 79.5 units and a total of 85.5 units will be completed for the degree/graduation. Advanced placement LVN to RN students will take a transition course one semester in advance of taking the final two semesters of courses in the nursing major. The nursing program of study will be delivered in an in-person face to face instructional format. Canvas will be the learning management system. Course and Next Generation NCLEX testing preparation will be supported using HESI Solutions NCLEX prep materials.

Clinical Facilities .

There is no clinical regional planning consortium in the region. All schools arrange clinical placements individually with each facility. HDMC secured ten (10) signed clinical contracts and BRN EDP-P-18 Clinical Facility Authorization forms for clinical sites. Antelope Valley Medical Center (acute hospital, OB, Peds, Medical Surgical and Mental Health). Palmdale Regional Medical Center (acute hospital, Medical Surgical, ICU, Telemetry, ED, and OB). Antelope Valley Care Center (long term care, subacute, rehabilitation, medical surgical, mental health, and geriatrics). Ellison John Transitional Care Center (rehabilitation, long term care, subacute, medical surgical, geriatric), Desert Canyon Post -Acute (subacute, rehabilitation, long term care, geriatric), Arvin Post- Acute (long term care, rehabilitation, geriatric), Totally Kids (pediatric subacute), Palmdale Pediatrics Center (pediatric clinic) Del Alto Medically Fragile Foster Care Home (pediatrics), and Palmdale Women's and Family Care Clinic (OB). HDMC continues to work on obtaining additional clinical agreements and currently has 2 pending mental health facilities, Northridge Hospital and Southern California Hospital at Van Nuys.

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Katie Daugherty, MN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

8.9.2 High Desert Medical College Lancaster - Initial Self-Study

The HDMC Lancaster Feasibility Study was accepted by the Board on August 24, 2023, with an enrollment pattern of 30 students annually in 2024 and 50 students annually in 2025.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Ty	City	County	Regi	Meeting Da	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustme
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

There are currently two existing BRN approved ADN Programs in this part of Region 8. These are Antelope Valley College with an annual admission of 100 and Career Care Institute with annual admission of 32 students.

Region 8 Enrollment 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 8 past 5 years has resulted in the growth of 926 new students with the approval of 14 enrollment increases (383 students annually), 2 new campuses (225 students annually) and 4 new programs (318 students annually).

Two requests for Enrollment Increases in Region 8 were denied: Stanbridge University – 20 students and American Career College (ACC) – 100 enrollments (120 total denied). One request was deferred: ACC – 54 enrollments; however, this request was later approved by the Board during the November 2020 meeting.

School	Program Ty	City	County	Regi	Meeting Da	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustm
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 Action	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	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
Westmont College	BSN - Private	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	8	November-21	New Program	48 annually	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 Car	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

HDMC Lancaster borders Kern County and the program enrolls students from the Lancaster, Greater Antelope Valley, and Kern County in its other existing associate degree programs.

Region 6 Enrollment 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 6 past 5 years has resulted in the growth of 970 new students with the approval of 12 enrollment increases (555 students annually), 2 new campuses (255 students annually) and 2 new programs (160 students annually).

School	Program Type	City	County	Reg	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustm
Gurnick Academy	ADN - Private	Fresno	Fresno	6	February-18	New Program	112 annually	Approved	None
College of the Sequoias	ADN	Visalia	Tulare	6	November-19	Enrollment Increase	from 80 to 100 annually, increase 20	Approved	None
Unitek College	BSN - Private	Bakersfield	Kern	6	September-19	New Campus	120 annually	Approved	None
Fresno Pacific University	BSN - Private	Fresno	Fresno	6	June-19	Feasibility	48 annually	Approved	None
College of the Sequoias	ADN	Visalia	Tulare	6	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 100 to 120 annually, increase 20	Approved	None
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Visalia	Tulare	6	November-21	Enrollment Increase	from 96 to 102 annually, increase 6	Approved	None
Marsha Fuerst SON - Glendale Car	ADN - Private	Bakersfield	Kern	6	May-21	New Campus	135 annually	Approved	None
Fresno Pacific University	BSN - Private	Fresno	Fresno	6	May-21	Feasibility	48 annually *requested extension	Approved	None
Unitek College	ADN - Private	Bakersfield	Kern	6	November-22	Enrollment Increase	from, 120 to 200 annually, increase 80	Approved	None
College of the Sequoias	ADN	Visalia	Tulare	6	November-22	Enrollment Increase	from 100 to 120 annually, increase 20 permanent*	Approved	None
Porterville College	ADN	Porterville	Tulare	6	November-22	Enrollment Increase	from 20 to 40 annually, increase 20	Approved	None
Fresno Pacific University	BSN - Private	Fresno	Fresno	6	February-22	New Program	48 annually	Approved	None
CSU Bakersfield	BSN	Bakersfield	Kern	6	February-22	Enrollment Increase	from 60 to 76 annually in 2022 and to 92 in 2024, increase 32	Approved	None
Bakersfield College	ADN	Bakersfield	Kern	6	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 360 annually, increase 150	Approved	None
College of the Sequoias	ADN	Visalia	Tulare	6	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 120 to 200 annually, increase 80	Approved	None
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Visalia	Tulare	6	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 66 students to 102 annually, increase 36	Approved	None
West Hills College Lemoore	ADN	Lemoore	Kings	6	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 34 to 50 annually, increase 16	Approved	None
Cerro Coso Community College	ADN	Ridgecrest	Kern	6	May-23	Feasibility	10 annually	Approved	None
Unitek College	BSN - Private	Bakersfield	Kern	6	August-23	Enrollment Increase	from 200 to 275 annually, increase 75 for 3 years	Approved	None

Executive Summary for High Desert Medical College RN Program, Lancaster, CA

Self-Study

Letter of Intent

A letter of intent for a new associate degree in nursing Program was submitted by High Desert Medical College (HDMC) Lancaster and accepted by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) in July 2018. In accordance with Section 2786.5(a)(1) of the Nurse Practice Act an approval fee of \$40,000 was submitted by HDMC and accepted by the BRN on 2/28/2019. On November 4, 2022, an updated feasibility study was submitted. The feasibility study was accepted at the August 24, 2023, board meeting. HDMC is coming forward in October and November 2023 for acceptance of the self-study and initial program approval consideration by the Board. With Board approval, HDMC plans to admit 30 students in January 2024 and a total of 50 students (30 generic and 20 LVN to RN students in January 2025) and each January thereafter, if initial program approval is granted at the October and November 2023 Board Meetings.

CCR 1424 Program Organization and Administration

HDMC is one of the five campuses owned and operated by the corporate entity, Legacy Education, Inc. Legacy Education, Inc. was founded in 2009. It is a for-profit nursing and allied health education institution. The majority ownership is held by President and CEO LeeAnn Rohmann, DIT equity (a group of investors, who have no decision-making authority) and Allen Benello. There is a 5-member board of trustees and a 3-member advisory board as listed in the feasibility study. HDMC Lancaster leadership sends all budgetary and purchase requests forward for corporate level and executive leadership approvals according to defined processes. Dr. Michelle Welch, DNP, NP-C, RN as vice president for all nursing programs oversees the Directors of Nursing at all campuses and Dr. Welch is the Board approved RN Program Director. Dr. Welch reports directly to the CEO and owner of Legacy Education and will continue to do so moving forward. Legacy Education is doing business as 3 educational brands and has 5 California campuses, consisting of High Desert Medical College (Lancaster, Bakersfield, Temecula), Central Coast College (Salinas) and Integrity College of Health (Pasadena), All 5 California campuses are accredited institutions. HDMC offers 28 programs with a primary focus on rapidly growing allied healthcare training education with a secondary emphasis on veterinary education. Student enrollment has grown more than 275% over the last 5 years, increasing from 475 students in 2018 to 1,800+ students in 2023 across the 5 campuses. The Legacy Education student is on average 25 years old and 90% are female. Enrollment is as follows: High Desert Medical College Lancaster 475, Bakersfield 482, Temecula 439 ICH 139, and Central Coast College 387.

High Desert Medical College Lancaster offers 4 associate degree Programs: Cardiac Sonography enrollment is 25, Ultrasound 147, MRI 24 and VN AAS 12. Other offered programs include non-degree certificate programs dental assisting- 39, vocational nursing 48, medical assisting 49, medical billing and coding 14, pharmacy technician 15, ultrasound technician 18, veterinary assistant 62 and avocational programs: phlebotomy 10 and VN prerequisite 12. The High Desert Medical College Lancaster prospective RN student is between 19 and 30 years of age and female. We anticipate that most RN program students will be first generation college students. ([Real-World Healthcare Career Training - High Desert Medical College \(hdmc.edu\)](#))

Accreditation Status

Legacy Education for all programs on the HDMC (Lancaster, Bakersfield, Temecula) and Central Coast College campuses in 2019 earned the highest grant of accreditation a 5-year certificate of accreditation through The Accrediting Council on Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) (ACCET). A reaccreditation visit is scheduled in April 2024. The college also maintains an Institutional

Accreditation with the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) (abhes.org) for Integrity College of Health (ICH). ICH earned the highest grant of accreditation a 5-year certificate of accreditation through the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education schools in 2021. A reaccreditation visit is scheduled for February 2026. ACCET and ABHES are recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and listed by the U.S. Department of Education as nationally recognized accrediting agencies. Accreditation ensures Legacy Education students that the programs meet objective and rigorous third-party standards of educational practices. HDMC Lancaster has federal financial aid through 2026 (<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/home/>). HDMC is BPPE approved.

Summary of Region RN Workforce Supply and Demand

An Aging population is driving the demand for healthcare professionals. Overall employment in healthcare occupations is projected to grow 13% from 2021 to 2031, much faster than the average for all other occupations; this increase is expected to result in about 2 million new jobs over the decade. In addition to new jobs from growth, opportunities arise from the need to replace workers who leave their occupations permanently. About 1.8 million openings are projected each year, on average, in these occupations due to employment growth and the need to replace workers who leave the occupations permanently. ([Healthcare Occupations : Occupational Outlook Handbook: : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics \(bls.gov\)](#)) The objective of HDMC is graduating the highest caliber students, ensuring they are hired in the career for which they were trained.

Geographic Area and Need for Program

There are currently two associate degree Nursing Programs in the region. Antelope Valley College and Career Care Institute. Combined, the existing programs admit 132 new students per year. The next closest college that offers an associate degree nursing program is College of the Canyons and is 52 miles from Lancaster. Dr. Welch reached out to both local schools as well as College of the Canyons, Westcoast University and Glendale Career College were also contacted prior to the acceptance of the feasibility study, as clinical sites will be shared with these programs. Although no response was received from College of the Canyons, it has been verified and validated that there is no concern with clinical displacement by any of the other existing programs contacted. Career Care Institute, Westcoast University and Glendale Career College provided verbal verification and Antelope Valley College supplied a letter stating that there is no concern with displacement. High Desert Medical College Lancaster mainly serves students from Los Angeles and Kern Counties. HDMC Lancaster typically draws students from Lancaster, Palmdale (7 miles), Rosamond (15 miles), California City (41 miles), Mojave (27 miles) and Tehachapi (46 miles) High Desert Medical College is in Lancaster, California. Lancaster California is the third largest city in Los Angeles County, California, and the ninth-fastest growing city in the United States. Lancaster is the 28th largest city in California, and the 157th largest city in the United States. Lancaster is the principal city within the Antelope Valley. Lancaster is located approximately 70 miles north (by road travel) of the city of Los Angeles in Southern California's Antelope Valley. It is separated from the Los Angeles Basin by the San Gabriel Mountain Range to the south and from Bakersfield and the San Joaquin Valley by the Tehachapi Mountain Range to the north. The population of Lancaster has grown from 37,000 residents at the time of incorporation in 1977, to 197,654 in 2023, which makes it the largest city on the California side of the Mojave Desert. ([Antelope Valley \(digital-desert.com\)](#))

Labor Market Analysis RN demand Needs

The Lancaster/Palmdale area has been designated by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development as a medium severity for Registered Nurse Shortage (OSHPDHCAI Memorandum to California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission, 2020). (HCAI - Department of Health Care Access and Information) There are a minimum of 289 open registered nursing positions in the

antelope valley. The number of open positions was obtained from the clinical sites that have completed EDP-P-18 forms.

Program Length and General Description

The proposed High Desert Medical College pre-licensure Associates of Science in Registered Nursing program will be two years in length and consist of a total of six semesters, with 2 semesters of prerequisites and general education and four 16-week semesters of nursing courses. All science and communication courses are prerequisite course work that must be completed prior to starting nursing courses in semester 3 of the program. The required statistics course may be taken concurrently with nursing courses in semester 3. The program will prepare the student for success in taking and passing the Next Generation NCLEX-RN exam on first attempt and safe and competent entry level registered nursing practice.

Initial and Ongoing Enrollment Pattern

Most students enrolled at the Lancaster Campus come from Lancaster, Palmdale, Rosamond, California City, Mojave and Tehachapi with only a few students enrolling from the Santa Clarita area. HDMC anticipates that about 80% of completers of the HDMC LVN program will pursue admission to the HDMC RN program. Upon approval of the self-study and initial program approval by the Board, HDMC is prepared to admit the first cohort of 30 students in January 2024, with an additional 30 generic students every year thereafter plus 20 advanced placement students beginning January 2025. From January 2025 and beyond the annual program enrollment pattern will be admission of a total of 50 students each January. HDMC anticipates at least double the number of qualified applicants as there are program admission slots available annually initially and in the future. High Desert Medical College has a pool of 42 qualified applicants ready to enroll in the program upon approval and plans to maintain a pool of qualified applicants to support the enrollment pattern requested with recruitment and outreach activities in the region. The two already established associate degree nursing programs (Antelope Valley College and Career Care Institute) in the region continue to consistently receive more applicants than can be accommodated. Having a third associate degree RN program in the region will potentially provide more opportunity for qualified RN applicants to complete an RN degree program sooner and address the need for more RNs in the region by the start of 2026. The program director has final approval of all candidates for admission. The program established admission criteria to ensure RN program success. RN students will be required to pass the Scholastic Level Exam with a score of 23 and the HESI entrance exam with a score of 85%.

CCR 1424 Program Organization and Administration (continued)

The prospective RN program will be part of the nursing department at the Lancaster campus that houses the existing LVN nursing education program. The current successful Vocational Nursing Program has full California Board of Vocational Nursing accreditation until 2025. As described in the feasibility study, NCLEX pass rates the last five years meet LVN Board pass rate requirements.

Dr. Welch, the approved RN Program Director, will have 80% assigned time (32 hours per week) and full responsibility for the RN program and 20% (8 hours per week) for VN program and other duties required of the HDMC Vice President of Nursing. A full-time program assistant director (ADON), clinical placement coordinator, administrative assistant and simulation technician will also be hired to support the RN program.

CCR 1424 Program Policies and Procedures, Program Evaluation Plan and Resources

The required program policies and procedures, total program evaluation plan and benchmarks, and Student and Faculty handbooks were submitted in the self-study phase. Program specific policies and

procedures are consistent with the college policies, procedures and educational standards and will be available to students in writing in such documents as the student handbook, course syllabi, college catalog and nursing program website per the BRN requirements.

HDMC has the necessary resources to support initial and continuing prelicensure RN program operation and instruction including budget and financial resources, corporate and campus level administrative/operations support, sufficient instructional physical space, faculty, staff, and support services, required supplies, equipment and technology as described in greater detail below.

High Desert Medical College has dedicated over 6500 Square Feet of physical/instructional space to the development of an associate degree Registered Nursing Program in our community. The Nursing facility currently offers three 30 seat lecture classrooms, an 81 seat classroom, a new high fidelity simulation lab, a lab/lecture room with interactive screens and sim viewing area, a debriefing area, director and instructor offices, a nursing lab/lecture room with state of the art distance education technology, student study room, 36 computers to be used in class, a fully functional nursing simulation lab with 2 hospital beds, 1 pediatric hospital bed, nursery and simulation mannequins including a Laerdal Sim Baby, Sim Kid, Sim Mom, and Sim Man and Sim View technology for recording and reviewing student performance. The college offers a small lending library in person with student study space as well as a fully functional online library including multiple nursing subscriptions. The college has a full range of student support services including admission, academic, resource center, eLearning center, academic counseling, financial aid, workforce development and IT helpdesk.

Program Cost and Budget Projection

Tuition: \$85,125 (generic) \$65,385 (LVN to RN)

Books and fees: \$4.870 (generic) \$2940 (LVN to RN)

Total cost: \$89,995 (generic) \$68325 (LVN to RN)

The cost of the program was increased during the self-study phase due to an increase in the number of full-time faculty and an increase in the cost of resources, equipment and restructuring/construction of facilities (skills lab, simulation lab, and classrooms) for RN program use. In addition, a market analysis completed in the self-study phase indicates that the current program costs listed here are consistent with other private programs in the area.

HDMC Budget Projections

Academic Year	Revenue Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Tuition based on 30 starts/yr (Yr1) and 50 thereafter and monthly charge per student for VNAAS (12 mths) and RN Gen (24 mths)	\$992,558	\$2,771,287	\$2,800,771	\$2,795,339	\$2,862,420
Book/Fees based on monthly charge per student for VNAAS (12 mths) and RN Gen (24 mths)	\$56,784	\$148,293	\$151,454	\$145,223	\$145,223
Reserve to cover Yr 1 cash shortfall	\$356,231				
Total Revenue	\$1,405,573	\$2,919,580	\$2,952,226	\$2,940,562	\$3,007,643
Academic Year	Expenses Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Educational Services, incl 8 FT and 12 PT (and their professional development)	\$1,164,713	\$2,194,183	\$2,233,526	\$2,290,509	\$2,357,111
General and Administrative Expenses	\$240,860	\$377,223	\$379,019	\$378,377	\$382,067
Total Expenses	\$1,405,573	\$2,571,406	\$2,612,545	\$2,668,886	\$2,739,178
	Expected Profit/Loss				
Annual Profit/Loss	-\$356,231	\$348,173	\$339,680	\$271,676	\$268,466
YOY Profit		\$704,404	-\$8,493	-\$68,005	-\$3,210
Total Reserves	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000

The program will be self-supporting by year two based on achieving full enrollment pattern. Shortfalls or absence of revenue due to not obtaining full enrollment or attrition will be covered by reserves that have been dedicated and are depicted in the proposed budget. High Desert Medical College's operational funding comes from tuition, fees, and book charges collected from its students, some of which is funded through the U.S. Department of Education's student financial aid programs. For the

fiscal year 2021 and 2022, High Desert Medical College revenue was \$18.8 and \$23.6 million, respectively. In fiscal year 2023, HDMC continued to grow including the launch of the VN program at the Temecula campus and overall, anticipate that revenue will be approximately \$26.8 million. In addition, High Desert Medical College has access to the additional financial resources of its wholly owned subsidiaries, Central Coast College, and Integrity College of Health. Combined revenue at Central Coast College and Integrity College of Health was \$3.4 and \$7.1 million in 2021 and 2022, respectively. We anticipate \$8.5 million in revenue for fiscal year 2023. Overall, Legacy Education reported revenue of \$23.6 and \$30.7 million in 2021 and 2022, respectively and anticipates nearly \$35.3 million in revenue for fiscal year 2023. Overall, Legacy Education has significantly strengthened its balance sheet with nearly \$8.8 million of unrestricted cash on hand as of March 31, 2023. Based on the foregoing, Legacy and High Desert Medical College have more than ample financial resources to fund the startup of the ADN program at the Lancaster campus. Legacy Education is dedicated to reinvesting profits into the development of new programs and strengthening current programs through purchase of equipment and supplies as well as investment in quality faculty. There are reserves dedicated to the program should they be necessary.

CCR 1425 Faculty and Faculty Qualifications

Faculty responsibilities and accountability for planning, instruction, and evaluation of all aspects of the program are clearly described in the faculty handbook and orientation materials.

HDMC's Hiring plan submitted in the self-study phase includes a minimum of 8 full time instructor level faculty and a minimum of 12 part time faculty. The faculty hiring plan supports hiring faculty in all five specialty areas and the required number of instructor level faculty qualified for content expert designation. The hiring plan is sufficient to support multiple clinical sections of 10 or less students per clinical instructor as outlined on the EDP-P-11 forms. This provides an adequate type and number of faculty for full implementation of the curriculum. HDMC plans to hire the full-time faculty approximately five to six months before actual nursing course instruction begins in the third semester of the program in August 2024. This hiring timeline is to ensure faculty will have a complete orientation to the college and the various aspects of the RN program, curriculum, and the clinical agencies. Dr. Welch has CVs for faculty positions from seven individuals. Three to four of those interested in potential faculty positions qualify for instructor or assistant instructor level approval.

CCR1426 Curriculum Compliance:

The planned program of study-curriculum design is consistent with the regulations required by the Board of Registered Nursing. It will be offered in an in-person face-to-face instructional format. Natural science courses included in the program are human anatomy, human physiology, and microbiology with labs. Social sciences include sociology, psychology and nutrition. Communication courses include written communication and introduction to public speaking. The program will be two years in length. Each semester will be 16 weeks in length (15 weeks of instruction, 1-week final exams) with a total of six semesters in the program. The students will take three to five courses each semester. The generic registered nursing program will have: 50.5 Total Nursing Units; 24 Total Theory Units; 26.5 Total Clinical Units; 79.5 Total Units for licensure; 6 units other degree; and 85.5 total units for graduation.

To facilitate successful first time NCLEX RN pass rates the program has integrated the NCSBN 2023 test plan, content dimensions and activities and clinical judgement model in the nursing courses. Additionally, the program will integrate the complete HESI predictive test package that includes 11 specialty exams and one comprehensive predictor exam for NCLEX exam success on the first attempt.

CCR 1427 Clinical Facilities and Affiliation Agreements

HDMC has collaborated and will continue to collaborate with the other RN programs using clinical sites in the area to make sure there is no clinical displacement by the HDMC RN program when Board approved. High Desert Medical College has secured ten signed clinical affiliation agreements and signed EDP-P-18 Clinical Facility Authorization forms to support required clinical areas of instruction and clinical hours per CCR 1426 Curriculum and CCR 1427. HDMC Lancaster has long standing evergreen clinical agreements with the following facilities that have indicated that they have clinical space without displacement: Antelope Valley Medical Center (acute hospital, OB, Peds, Medical Surgical and Mental Health). Palmdale Regional Medical Center (acute hospital, Medical Surgical, ICU, Telemetry, ED and OB). Antelope Valley Care Center (long term care, subacute, rehabilitation, medical surgical, mental health and geriatrics). Ellison John Transitional Care Center (rehabilitation, long term care, subacute, medical surgical, geriatric), Desert Canyon Post Acute (subacute, rehabilitation, long term care, geriatric), Arvin Post Acute (long term care, rehabilitation, geriatric), Totally Kids (pediatric subacute), Palmdale Pediatrics Center (pediatric clinic) Del Alto Medically Fragile Foster Care Home (pediatrics), and Palmdale Women's and Family Care Clinic (OB). HDMC continues to work on obtaining additional clinical agreements and currently has 2 pending mental health facilities, Northridge Hospital and Southern California Hospital at Van Nuys.

CCR 1428 Student Participation: HDMC RN program welcomes active student participation in the program through end of course evaluations and other satisfaction surveys, student representation and attendance at program committee and faculty meetings, an opportunity for membership in the California Nursing Students Association, and the college's Community Advisory Committee.

Per CCR 1429 and 1430 LVN and LVN 30 Unit Option

The program will offer advanced placement (LVN to RN) and the LVN 30-unit option pathways as described on the BRN Content Required for Licensure EDP-P-06 and Total Curriculum Plan EDP-P-05 forms for RN degree and program completion. An LVN enrolled in the ADN program will be evaluated on an individual basis and may receive credit if they successfully pass challenge examinations validating LVN course work. Per CCR 1418, HDMC will evaluate applicants with military education and experience and credit will be granted on an individual basis. Policies will be available to applicants in writing and posted on the website upon approval. The first point of contact for a prospective student is an admission advisor and the RN Program Director.

Conclusion:

As described in the submitted Self Study, supporting documents, and virtual site visit evidence, HDMC Lancaster is committed to full compliance with all Board regulations and requirements as it has demonstrated in the self-study phase. The need for Registered Nurses in the greater Antelope Valley is clearly evidenced in RN supply and demand data and RN vacancy rates reported by clinical facilities in the area. HDMC has a record of accomplishment in offering a high-quality Vocational Nursing program with a proven success rate that complies with regulations. HDMC Lancaster is prepared to offer a Registered Nursing Program with the same level of educational excellence, rigor, and compliance. High Desert Medical College is committed to educating safe, competent, entry level registered nurses and graduates that will pass the Next Generation NCLEX RN exam on the first attempt. High Desert Medical College respectfully requests Self Study and initial program approval Board Consideration. Thank you for considering this initial program request.

Dr. Michelle Welch, DNP, NP-C, RN, Vice President of Nursing, Director of Nursing

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.9.3
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Initial Self-Study for New Prelicensure Program United Nursing College Associate Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Mary Jane Rosenblatt, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: United Nursing College is a new private academic institution located in the city of Murrieta, California. It is in the Inland Empire in the southwestern corner of Riverside County.

The Feasibility Study was accepted by the Board on August 24, 2023 with an enrollment pattern of 40 generic and 5 LVN to RN advance placement students twice a year for a total of 90 students annually.

United Nursing College is now requesting with their initial self-study, an enrollment pattern of 40 generic students and 20 LVN-RN students twice a year for a total of 120 students annually starting in January 2024, an increase of 30 students annually.

Julia Robinson, DNP, MSN, RN, FNP-C, GCNS-BC was approved by the BRN as the program director on September 9, 2023. Michelle Rowland, MSN-Ed, RN, RNC, Assistant Director was approved as AD on September 9, 2023. Both have been with UNC since 2022 and have been founders of UNC along with Dr. John Hong, CEO. The school has a Dean of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Adam Rowland.

Accreditation

UNC has provisional approval to operate as an institution of higher learning to grant an RN-BSN post-licensure degree by the Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education. BPPE has also determined that UNC will receive provisional approval to operate the ADN program as an institution of higher learning to offer the ADN degree upon receipt of approval from the California Board of Registered Nursing.

Clinical placements

The program currently has fully executed affiliation agreements/contracts with four major medical centers in Riverside County for inpatient acute care clinical placements, an acute rehabilitation hospital and an inpatient behavioral health facility to include clinical in all content areas and meet requirements for supervised direct patient care hours. The program has agreements with ambulatory facilities in specialty areas to augment the acute care, rehabilitation, and behavioral health clinical hours. The program has actively participated in the Inland Empire Health Education Consortium to confirm these placements do not displace other nursing students. The program has submitted program clinical facility authorization forms, EDP-P-18, for each of the clinical sites to the NEC.

Total cost of the program:

Generic total cost: \$37,700

Advance placement LVN: \$19,850

Faculty and support staff

Faculty, including content experts and simulation and skills lab instructors have been hired and approval forms, EDP-P-02 submitted to the BRN. Support staff for operations of the school and nursing program were hired in the Spring of 2023. United Nursing College employs two full-time staff members, an Academic Program Manager and an Academic Program Assistant who serve as support staff to faculty and students.

The faculty developed the curriculum and participated in the development of nursing program areas of the building purchased for the school. Areas included instructional space and equipment, faculty offices, simulation and skills lab, and facilities for nutritional and building requirements.

Curriculum

The design for the ADN program is consistent with a modified concept-based curriculum. A total of 66.5 semester units consisting of 36.5 nursing units, 30 units for communication and natural sciences that are consistent with CCR 1426.

The program has developed a faculty handbook, student handbook, military and advance placement policies, syllabi with evaluation tools and student learning outcomes. The completed EDP-P-11 illustrates adequate faculty and clinical facilities to initiate the program in January 2024.

Total Program Evaluation

A comprehensive plan for an ongoing Total Program Evaluation/ Systematic Plan of Evaluation using Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing 2023 Standards as UNC's Guidelines was submitted with the Self-Study. This TPE is prepared to align ongoing BRN approval activities with planned ANEC accreditation.

Virtual site visit of the campus was completed August 29, 2023. The program was found to be in compliance with all Board rules and regulations.

NEXT STEP:

Place on Board Agenda

PERSON TO CONTACT:

Mary Jane Rosenblatt, RN, MSN, NEA-BC, PHN
Supervising Nursing Education Consultant

8.9.3 United Nursing College ADN Program - Initial self-study

United Nursing College's (UNC) Feasibility Study was accepted by the Board on August 24, 2023 with an enrollment pattern of 40 generic and 5 LVN to RN advance placement students twice a year for a total of 90 students annually.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
United Nursing College	ADN - Private	Murrieta	Riverside	7	August-23	Feasibility	90 annually	Approved	None

UNC is now requesting with their initial self-study, an enrollment pattern of 40 generic students and 20 LVN-RN students twice a year for a total of 120 students annually starting in January 2024. This is an increase of the 30 students from the accepted feasibility study.

Region 7 Data 2018-2023

New student growth in Region 7 in the last 5 years = 1396 new students annually through the approval of 8 enrollment increases (354 students annually), 5 new campuses (732 students annually), 2 new programs (140 students annually), and 2 feasibility studies going through the final program approval process, including this program (170 students annually).

One enrollment increase was deferred: California Baptist University – 32 enrollments; however, this request was later approved by the Board during the February 2019 meeting.

Nursing Program Information					Board Meeting Information				
School	Program Type	City	County	Region	Meeting Date	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustment
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 Act	None
California Baptist University	BSN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-19	Enrollment Increase	from 160 to 196 annually, increase 32	Approved	None
Arizona College	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-20	Feasibility	120 annually	Approved	None
CSU San Bernardino	BSN	Palm Desert	Riverside	7	April-20	Enrollment Increase	from 114 to 132, increase 18	Approved	None
Arizona College	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-21	New Program	120 annually	Approved	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-21	New Campus	125 annually	Approved	None
Stanbridge University	BSN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	May-21	New Campus	160 annually	Approved	None
Palo Verde College	ADN	Blythe	Riverside	7	February-21	Feasibility	20 annually	Approved	None
Concordia University	BSN - Private	Ontario	San Bernardino	7	November-22	New Campus	216 annually	Approved	None
Palo Verde College	ADN	Blythe	Riverside	7	November-22	New Program	20 annually	Approved	None
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Rancho Mirage	Riverside	7	August-22	New Campus	96 annually	Approved	None
Loma Linda University	BSN - Private	Loma Linda	San Bernardino	7	August-22	Enrollment Increase	from 168 to 210, increase 42	Approved	None
College of the Desert	ADN	Palm Desert	Riverside	7	August-22	Enrollment increase	from 120 to 200, increase 80	Approved	None
Riverside City College	ADN	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-23	Enrollment Increase	from 180 to 260 annually, increase of 80	Approved	None
Marsha Fuerst SON - Glendale C	ADN - Private	Riverside	Riverside	7	February-23	New Campus	135 annually	Approved	None
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Ontario	Riverside	7	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 36 students to 102 annually, increase 66	Approved	None
San Joaquin Valley College	ADN - Private	Rancho Mirage	Riverside	7	May-23	Enrollment Increase	from 96 students to 102 annually, increase 6	Approved	None
American Career College	ADN - Private	Ontario	Riverside	7	August-23	Enrollment Increase	from 125 to 155 for 2024 only, increase 30	Approved	None
United Nursing College	ADN - Private	Murrieta	Riverside	7	August-23	Feasibility	90 annually	Approved	None
Westcliff University	BSN - Private	Corona	Riverside	7	August-23	Feasibility	80 annually	Approved	None

Self-Study Executive Summary United Nursing College

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

The United Nursing College (UNC) is a proposed Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program. The institution will provide a two-year degree program located in Riverside County in the city of Murrieta, CA in the southwestern Riverside County. Murrieta is a suburban city covering 33.6 square miles, with a population of 3081.4 per square mile. It is located 5 miles northwest of Temecula, with the cities of Menifee, Wildomar, and Riverside within 29 miles north. French Valley just east of Murrieta, south of Riverside, and other nearby cities and towns to include Canyon Lake, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Perris, and San Jacinto. Murrieta is located in the center of the Los Angeles-San Diego Mega-region.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING

The UNC building has been approved by the City of Murrieta and the County of Riverside to open and begin operations. The building has 20,000 sq. ft. dedicated to four large classrooms, three fully equipped skills labs, and a high-fidelity simulation lab. The classrooms are equipped with active learning furniture. The skills lab features on-site lab instructors and various mid-fidelity manikins and task trainers for skill practice, enhanced learning, and remediation. UNC has a dedicated simulation lab that will house high-fidelity training manikins. The simulation lab is 1900 sq ft. and consists of the main room for supplies and debriefing, four simulation rooms, and four control rooms to simulate the clinical setting. UNC completed the required initial site visit on August 29, 2023, in preparation for our Self-Study presentation.

APPROVAL AND ACCREDITATION STATUS

UNC has provisional approval to operate as an institution of higher learning to grant an RN-BSN post-licensure degree by the Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). The BPPE has also determined that UNC will receive provisional approval to operate the ADN program as an institution of higher learning to offer the ADN degree upon receipt of approval from the California Board of Registered Nursing. The BRN accepted our Feasibility Study on August 24, 2023, and we are now prepared and ready to present our Self-Study at this time.

Institutional accreditation will be sought through the Accreditation Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) upon completion of the first 2 years of operation. Programmatic accreditation through the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) within the first 5 years of operation.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The ADN program is a two-year program requiring 66.5 units. This program will provide pre-licensure associate degree nursing education to prepare students for practice as generalist registered nurses. Students will be prepared to work with a diverse patient population across a variety of clinical settings.

The curriculum is a modified Concept-Based Curriculum (CBC) and has been developed to best prepare our students to enter the workforce with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to meet the high demands of today's healthcare needs.

The program will be four semesters in length and each semester will build upon the previous one. Formative and summative assessments will be used to assess progress and evaluate the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs). Faculty will continually evaluate, and revise curriculum as needed to ensure students are consistently meeting the SLOs and PLOs.

CLINICAL PLACEMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS

We have created partnerships with healthcare professionals, educators, business leaders, local hospitals, clinics, wellness coaches, and healthcare facilities. These partnerships will not only support the growth of United Nursing College but will help to grow the community overall by providing healthcare education and much-needed RN professionals to the rapidly growing area. United Nursing College was invited to host the City of Murrieta's Medical Leader's luncheon with an overwhelming response of over 80 people attending, one of the highest turnouts for these events. This event is sponsored by the Murrieta Chamber of Commerce and attendees include the Mayor of Murrieta; Academic Leaders from Mount San Jacinto College; Board Members and Medical Leaders from Loma Linda Medical Center, Temecula Valley Medical Center, Southwest Healthcare Rancho Springs Hospital, Southwest Healthcare Inland Valley Hospital, Encompass Acute Rehabilitation Hospital of Murrieta, Renaissance Village, Hospice of the Valley, Michelle's Place, and more. This event has allowed UUN to showcase its student-centered facility and to build further support and excitement amongst the community. The community of Murrieta has rallied around UUN and expressed its support, enthusiasm, and desire to partner to bring well-prepared nurses into its workforce.

The program currently has fully executed affiliation agreements/contracts with four major medical centers in Riverside County for inpatient acute care clinical placements including Riverside Community Hospital, Inland Valley Medical Center, Rancho Springs Medical Center, and Temecula Valley Hospital to provide clinical placements. We also have an affiliation agreement with Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Murrieta, which is approved by The Joint Commission as an acute care in-patient rehabilitation facility. These clinical placements do not displace other programs, and this was discussed with the Inland Empire Health Education Consortium at the last meeting attended. In addition to these four medical centers, we have secured affiliation agreements/contracts with rehabilitation centers, ambulatory surgery centers, urgent care centers, inpatient behavioral health, and clinics, and now have sufficient clinical placements in all specialty areas to enroll 40 generic students and 20 LVN-RN students twice a year for a total of 120 students annually.

RESOURCES

The program is fully funded as evidenced in the program proforma. This includes providing learning materials and supplies, including state-of-the-art equipment, such as dedicated skills labs with life-size mid-fidelity manikins and a simulation lab with high-fidelity simulators. The institution also provides financial support for daily operations of the program including full-time and part-time faculty and staff.

UNC's ADN program has sufficient resources as evidenced in the program proforma to include four dedicated classrooms, four laboratories, and a state-of-the-art simulation lab with four patient rooms equipped with high-fidelity training manikins. Simulation is integrated throughout all courses. Students will be able to practice specific scenarios under the guidance of their instructors who will be watching from a separate control room. Each simulation room is designed to resemble a hospital room, including a bed, vital signs monitoring equipment, a sink, and 1-2 manikins. The classrooms contain active learning furniture to allow for a flipped classroom, student collaboration, and active participation and engagement. The library holds ten private computer stations equipped with computers for student use and a separate area with lounge chairs and a plethora of nursing books. The library will also accommodate students who require a quiet environment and learning disability accommodations. The administration suite has offices for the administrative staff and faculty. There is also a faculty/staff lounge equipped with tables/chairs, a microwave, a sink, and a refrigerator. Each full-time administrator and faculty are provided with their own office and computer systems. There is a conference room that can be utilized for faculty and committee meetings, as well as private student meetings.

ADMINISTRATION

The administration at United Nursing College consists of the Chief Executive Officer, Dr. John Hong, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, Dr. Julia Robinson, Associate Dean of Nursing, Dr. Michelle Rowland, and Dean of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Adam Rowland.

United Nursing College supports a shared governance that is structured to include administrators, staff, faculty, students, and the communities in which it serves. This structure allows for a collaborative and inclusive method of engagement, improved outcomes, and will serve to ensure UNC continues to meet its institutional and programmatic goals.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR INFORMATION:

Dr. Julia Robinson is the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health and serves as the director for the Registered Nursing Program at United Nursing College. This position is 80-90% administrative, with 10-20% allocated for instruction. This is a new institution seeking initial approval; however, Dr. Robinson has served as director and assistant director for an ADN program in San Diego from 2016-2021 and held a full-time tenured nursing faculty position since 2008. She holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree from the University of San Diego, a Master's Degree in Nursing with Board-Certification as a Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist, and a Post-Master's Certificate in Family

Nurse Practitioner. She retired from clinical practice after 20 years in 2016, but she remains current on a per diem basis.

With faculty input, the dean/director develops, implements, and manages the program's budget and grant funding activities. The dean/director manages all aspects of the program including planning, curriculum development, implementation, and evaluation. Additionally, Dr. Robinson manages compliance with the BPPE, the Board of Registered Nursing, and serves as a student advocate.

The Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health/Assistant Director of Nursing, Dr. Michelle Rowland, holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree in Nursing Education from Regis College, and a Master's Degree from Grand Canyon University. Dr. Rowland has worked as a nursing educator in an ADN pre-licensure registered nursing program since 2018. Dr. Rowland is provided 80-90% administrative time and 10-20% time allocated for instruction. Additionally, she serves as the acting director of nursing in the absence of the director.

The director and assistant director work together to administer the nursing programs, ensure program outcomes are met, and serve as a support to faculty, staff and students.

FACULTY AND STAFF

There are currently eight full-time faculty and five part-time faculty hired to teach in the ADN program. Four full-time faculty hold a doctorate degree, with four holding a master's degree. United Nursing College (UNC) will hire additional full-time faculty prior to the role out of each nursing course, with plans of ten full-time faculty, and twenty part-time faculty when all courses are in progress. UNC has secured several additional full-time and part-time faculty with signed letters of intent for employment while awaiting program approval. All current faculty meet or exceed instructor qualifications in their specialties/disciplines as required by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) and the Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). The institution is committed to hiring faculty as needed to maintain a fully staffed college with qualified faculty. UNC will have two to three full-time BRN approved faculty members in each nursing course, with sufficient numbers of part-time clinical instructors to meet the current ratios as required by the clinical facilities. UNC has a strong commitment to mentoring and fostering growth for our new faculty. The Dean/Director has chosen an office on the faculty side of the school to be present and serve as a mentor to provide ongoing support for the growth of new faculty.

Faculty are expected to review and update the curriculum regularly. They are expected to seek evidence-based research to provide and teach best practices to the students. In order to maintain currency in their practice, faculty are expected to continue their personal and professional growth by participating in professional development, such as scholarly activities and professional conferences to maintain practice currency in their specialties.

United Nursing College employs two full-time staff members, Academic Program Manager, Amy Hinchman, and Academic Program Assistant, Christie Maranville, who serve as support staff to faculty and students.

The Academic Program Manager (APM) assists in the operational planning, establishment, execution, and evaluation of the programs offered. The APM oversees fiscal, administrative, and human resources management of UNC programs. Other responsibilities include serving as principal point of representation and liaison with external constituencies on the local and state level on operational matters and providing day-to-day technical/professional guidance and leadership as appropriate to the area of expertise. The APM will interact with academic administrators, faculty members, prospective students, enrolled students, and community members.

The Academic Program Assistant (APA) performs a variety of administrative and program support functions that require a detailed knowledge of policies, practices and procedures. Serves as a liaison between the department or program and faculty, students, other academic departments, and the community. Participates in student services and programs that support and enhance educational experiences, such as evaluating student needs and facilitating student involvement as well as coordinating and administering programs, events, and projects that support student engagement.

All administrators, faculty, and staff are required to attend orientation at the start of employment. Each new employee is assigned a mentor to assist in their assimilation to the institution and United Nursing College. The institution holds a professional development workshop before each new semester for the purpose of learning new skills, reviewing student learning outcomes, Systematic Program Evaluation (SPE) data analysis, curriculum, and policies. This workshop helps to improve the effectiveness of education and serves as a communication platform for all faculty. UNC offers an annual stipend toward professional development for each faculty and staff member to assist, support, and encourage participation in conferences/seminars, continuing education, publication, and more.

STUDENTS

UNC students will be provided equal access to education, programs, classes, and services without regard to national origin, race, ethnicity, color, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, age, genetic information, ancestry, medical condition or disability, or religion.

Program information meetings will be held within the community and on campus. The meeting schedule will be posted on the UNC website. Students, prospective students, and UNC employees have electronic access to institution policies. These relate to admission, enrollment, academic integrity, non-discrimination, code of conduct, etc. All students will be provided with a student handbook within their online Canvas course. Nursing students must maintain compliance with the regulations established by the CA BRN and clinical facilities utilized for clinical rotations.

We recognize that nursing school can be stressful, and UNC has created several student spaces to help minimize stress and support collaboration. There is a meditation room with a sofa, calming décor, and yoga mats where students can go to relax, meditate, stretch, etc. This room also serves as a lactation room and is equipped with a fridge and a lock for privacy. The student lounge is another place where students can gather to eat, study, relax, and collaborate. The student lounge has two microwaves, two vending machines (on order), and a corkboard wall. There is a large common area with an inspirational word wall and collaborative furniture for students as well. UNC has also applied for a business/vendor's license and will have a U-Café store where students can purchase healthy snacks and sandwiches/wraps. There are café tables and benches outside the café. The U-Café will also offer free non-perishable foods/essential items for students with food insecurity.

CONCLUSION

United Nursing College is excited about the opportunity to provide an exceptional nursing education program. We are committed to continuous improvement and meeting accreditation standards. Our mission and goals align with the highest standards of nursing education, and we look forward to contributing to the development of competent, compassionate, and culturally competent nurses who will positively impact the healthcare industry.

UNC respectfully requests the UNC Self-Study be approved for placement on the Board agenda for discussion and action for the approval of enrollment of 40 generic students and 20 LVN-RN students twice a year for a total of 120 students annually for a January 2024 start. Thank you for considering our self-study report, and we welcome the opportunity to engage with the accreditation process further. We are confident that our nursing program will continue to thrive and produce outstanding healthcare professionals.



Agenda Item 8.10

**Discussion and possible action regarding a feasibility study
for new prelicensure nursing programs
(16 CCR § 1421) (present)**

BRN Education/Licensing Committee | October 5, 2023

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

AGENDA ITEM:8.10.1

ACTION DATE: October 5, 2023

REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a feasibility study for new prelicensure nursing program California Northstate University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Donna Shipp, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: California Northstate University has submitted a feasibility study for a new Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing program at the existing Rancho Cordova campus in northern California. CNU’s original feasibility study was received December 2022. CNU is in Sacramento County and has 2 existing campuses, one in Elk Grove and the second is located in Rancho Cordova. The physical address of Rancho Cordova campus is 2910 Prospect Park Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

Description of the Institution:

CNU was developed after a successful College of Pharmacy was launched in 2008. Since then, the university now consists of the Elk Grove campus located at 9700 West Taron Drive Elk Grove, CA 95757 which offers the College of Medicine, College of Pharmacy, College of Dental Medicine, and College of Graduate Studies, which includes the Masters in Pharmaceutical Sciences. The second campus, which is the designated site for the proposed BSN prelicensure program is home to the College of Health Sciences, College of Psychology, and the Master’s in Healthcare Administration.

CNU reports a history of successful performance with existing healthcare programs. Current enrollment for CNU’s healthcare programs are as follows

- College of Health Sciences 138 students
- Master’s Degree in Healthcare Administration 10 students
- Master’s Degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences 23 students
- College of Pharmacy 302 students
- College of Medicine 425 students
- College of Psychology 66 students
- College of Dental Medicine 77 students

CNU shared the following table of Board Pass rates for the College of Pharmacy and the College of Medicine.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Pharmacy: NAPLEX	85%	86%	81%	85%	77%	70%
Medicine: USMLE Step 1	95%	99%	100%	99%	96%	96%
Medicine: USMLE Step 2	100%	100%	96%	99%	96%	100%

Table 1. Board Passage Rates for the College of Pharmacy and the College of Medicine by testing year.

Accreditation Status:

CNU reports being fully accredited by WASC Senior College and University Commission. Each of the previously mentioned healthcare programs are in various stages of the accreditation

process through specialized accrediting bodies including Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Educations for the PharmD, Liaison Committee for Medical Education for the MD, the American Psychological Association for the PsyD, and Commission on Dental Accreditation for the DMD. Additionally, CNU is licensed through California State Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education.

Geographic Description:

As noted in the attached executive summary prepared by the program, “CNU Rancho Cordova campus is located on the south side of Hwy 50 between Zinfandel Drive and Sunrise Blvd. Hwy 50 is the dividing line between Sacramento County to the north and the City of Sacramento on the south. Situated on the far eastern side of the Greater Sacramento area, it is in proximity to El Dorado and Amador Counties”. While Amador County and El Dorado County have no registered nursing programs, the program does explain that they are "underserved areas for healthcare" and the population is growing, thereby exacerbating the need for healthcare workers. There are several nursing programs in the Greater Sacramento area, offering varying levels of nursing degrees from Associate Degree in Nursing to Entry-level master’s degree in nursing.

Economic and Population growth:

According to data provided within the feasibility study, the population of Rancho Cordova is 79,332 and the “average household income is \$93K with 7.3% at \$200K or above”. Additional information included in the program submission referenced “44% of the adult population has a bachelor’s degree or higher with an additional 15% having some college work”. The executive summary references a Sacramento Business Review publication titled Emerging Trends in Sacramento’s Economy which “identified that the four large healthcare systems in the region (UC Davis Health, Kaiser Permanente, Sutter Health, and Common Spirit (Dignity) Health all have plans to build new hospitals or expand their capacities soon”.

Enrollment Request:

CNU is requesting an enrollment of 30 students, three times per year for a total of 90 students annually with an anticipated first enrollment in Fall 2024 and a projected first graduation date in August 2026.

Resources:

CNU will be utilizing existing space at the Rancho Cordova campus that currently houses the undergraduate College of Health Sciences. CNU reports that existing classroom space is sufficient for the proposed BSN prelicensure program. There are plans to remodel current underutilized spaces to support the new enrollments. The campus currently has a library, science learning labs, computer labs, student advising and counseling services. Documentation submitted also describes space “available with the buildings to construct the 10,200 square foot skills lab and simulation center”. Program plans to utilize high-fidelity and low-fidelity simulation equipment which was accounted for in their budget projections.

Curriculum:

The proposed BSN program will be a nine, 16-week semester curriculum delivered over three years. Total units for graduation estimated at this time to be 127 with 42 semester units of nursing: 24 theory and 18 clinical. A thorough review of curriculum and required content for licensure will occur in the self-study phase.

Budget and tuition:

CNU reports “total assets worth over \$180 million” and states that the university has made a

“financial commitment to the nursing program and has set aside \$20 million over five years to start and maintain the nursing program”. In addition to this defined \$20 million, the program will also receive an additional \$8 million for startup costs, including but not limited to equipment and supplies. “The proposed tuition is \$50,000 annually, with an \$18,000 merit scholarship option open to all applicants”. Total cost of three-year program tuition and fees is \$110, 488 for students who apply for the \$18,000 per year merit scholarship and for students who chose not to apply, three-year tuition and fees will be \$146,488. The program anticipates sustainability “through tuition and commitment of discretionary funds to provide essential academic resources”. The program anticipates it will be “self-supporting within two years of achieving full enrollment”.

Clinical sites:

Due to existing healthcare programs at CNU, the university identified several long-standing relationships with health systems in the area such as Adventist Health, Kaiser, Marshall Medical and Sutter Health. These relationships include existing Clinical Affiliation Agreements that include nursing students as well as existing disciplines. New Clinical Affiliation Agreements were obtained from five new sites and EDP-i-01s were submitted to show evidence of potential clinical placement availability for all required content areas. Additionally, the program is in its final stages of also securing three additional new Clinical Affiliations which will support additional pediatric and mental health/psychiatric nursing as well as more medical-surgical and geriatrics placements. Additionally, “CNU is in the initial stages of developing a teaching hospital, Innovation Park Medical Center, which will be located in the Natomas area of Sacramento”. The planned facility will be a 250-bed acute care hospital, including a Level II Trauma Center. The planned 475,000 square foot facility will serve the Greater Sacramento community healthcare needs as well as provide clinical experiences for all existing healthcare programs at CNU. While CNU does not have an “official ground-breaking” date, the demolition of pre-existing structure on the designated site has been completed and ground-breaking is expected “very soon” with a planned completion of Fall 2026 or Spring 2027.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

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

8.10.1 California Northstate University- new program feasibility

Requesting an enrollment pattern of 30 students three-times per year, for an annual enrollment of 90 students per year.

Closest nursing program is Chamberlain University BSN program (less than a mile away - located across the street from CNU).

Region 1 Data 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 1 over the past 5 years = 523 new students through 4 enrollment increases (183 students annually), 1 new campus (160 students annually), 2 new programs (140 students annually), and 1 feasibility study going through final program approval (40 students biennially).

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

Feasibility Study Executive Summary
California Northstate University
Heather Brown, PhD; Rikki Corniola, PhD, MS; Angela Strawn, EdD, MSN, RN

Letter of Intent

In accordance with Section 2786.5(a)(1) of the Nursing Practice Act, a letter of intent along with the approval fee for the creation of a new Bachelor of Science in Nursing program was submitted by California Northstate University (CNU) with receipt confirmed on August 12, 2022. On December 22, 2022, an initial feasibility study was submitted. A Nursing Education Consultant was assigned in March 2023 with communication beginning end of April 2023. CNU now requests to have the feasibility study accepted for placement on the Education and Licensing Committee agenda for October 2023.

Description of the Institution

California Northstate University (CNU) is a healthcare-focused institution dedicated to educating, developing, and training individuals to provide competent, patient-centered care. The institution was founded and is led by President and CEO, Alvin Cheung, PharmD, MHA. The university is governed by an 11-member Board of Trustees as well as advised by an 8-member Board of Directors to ensure a mission-driven institution that is fiscally responsible and sustainable.

As part of the University development process, healthcare community leaders within Sacramento Valley were engaged in a series of meetings to plan the strategic development of healthcare related programs. CNU launched with the College of Pharmacy (PharmD) in 2008 and has intentionally added programs to advance its mission and address worker shortages. The College of Medicine (MD) was added to the University in 2015 in addition to the undergraduate College of Health Sciences (BS). The University has continued to engage the community and stakeholders to strategically grow to support Sacramento's increasing demand for healthcare services with the launch of a master's program in pharmaceutical sciences (MPS), and a master's program in healthcare administration (MHA) through the College of Graduate Studies. CNU has seen the addition of three more doctoral level programs including dental medicine (DMD), clinical psychology (PsyD), and a PhD program in pharmaceutical and biomedical sciences. As CNU continues its mission, its leaders are advancing with the construction of a teaching hospital, Innovation Park Medical Center, to be located in the Natomas area of Sacramento.

The College of Health Sciences (CHS), located at the Rancho Cordova campus and home to the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences, will offer the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, when approved. CHS already delivers most of the general education, pre-nursing curriculum as well as the student success support services required as part of the proposed direct entry BSN program. The current student population includes first-time freshman, transfer students, and post baccalaureate students driven to enter careers in the health professions. Many students in the college are following a pre-medical pathway. CHS anticipates that most of the BSN students will be first time college students or transfer students from local institutions ranging in ages 18-24. The BSN students will attend the requisite general education and science courses along with the other students in health-related majors.

The Rancho Cordova campus has sufficient building space to construct a 10,200 sq. ft. simulation center to support student learning. Draft architectural plans for the Simulation Center were approved by the Board of Directors (August 3rd, 2023).

Accreditation Status

CNU is fully accredited through the Western Associate of School and Colleges Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), a regional accreditor. Each of the professional programs are in various stages of the accreditation process through specialized accrediting bodies including Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) for the PharmD, Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) for the MD, the American Psychological Association for the PsyD, and Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) for the DMD. Accreditation through WSCUC and the specialized accreditors ensures CNU students that the programs meet the required standards and elements to be eligible for licensure and practice of health professions careers.

CNU is licensed through California State Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). CCR2786.2 recognizes the memorandum of understanding existing between BPPE and the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) for the BSN.

In addition to degree granting programs approved through regional and professional accreditation, CNU has committed to offering continuing education programs for five licensed professional healthcare disciplines: Medicine, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy, Psychology and Nursing. A full-time director coordinates CE provider accreditations and approvals. Specifically, CNU is an approved CE provider through the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, Dental Board of California, Academy of General Dentistry/Provider Approval of Continuing Education, American Psychological Association, and California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider #17796. The following CE offerings were provided for Registered Nurses: The Gap in Nurse Leadership Development, April 18, 2023; The Benefits of Humor in Pediatric Nursing, July 19, 2023. The next event will be October 24, 2023, on the Psychological Safety for People of Color in Nursing. As a commitment to the profession, CNU provides all CE programs at no cost to the participants.

Geographic Area and Need for Program

Data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the BRN show there are nearly double the number of qualified applicants available for admission than seats available in the greater Sacramento region. This supports a strong demand for BSN level education in the greater Sacramento area.

Furthermore, the surrounding areas to the CNU Rancho Cordova campus are seeing major population growth including the City of Folsom and the City of El Dorado Hills in El Dorado County. Additionally, Amador County, which shares the length of its northern border with El Dorado County, is also an underserved area for healthcare. There are no nursing programs in these 2 counties. With booming populations and limited healthcare access currently, the demand for BSN-prepared nursing professionals will be highlighted and the need for education will be exacerbated.

Economic Growth: Projected Local and Regional Area

The CNU Rancho Cordova campus is located on the south side of Hwy 50 between Zinfandel Drive and Sunrise Blvd. Hwy 50 is the dividing line between Sacramento County to the north and the City of Sacramento on the south. Situated on the far eastern side of the Greater Sacramento area, it is in proximity to El Dorado and Amador Counties. Within the surrounding area of the campus for the proposed CNU BSN program, the cities of Rancho Cordova and Folsom have been experiencing sustained growth and expansion in local economies. Along with this growth in population, comes the development of high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools to support the education infrastructure. To serve the increasing populations of these areas, at least one regional health system is proposing a new medical center, which will undoubtedly increase demands for BSN prepared nurses. A recent job search already displays openings for more than 70 positions in Amador County alone.

Healthcare and Nursing Workforce Needs in the Community

The Sacramento Business Review published Emerging Trends in Sacramento's Economy and identified that the four large healthcare systems in the region (UC Davis Health, Kaiser Permanente, Sutter Health, and Common Spirit [Dignity] Health all have plans to build new hospitals or expand their capacities soon. In addition to CNU's newly launched plans for a teaching hospital, Innovation Park Medical Center, this represents a clear increased demand for nursing professionals in the region.

Sacramento is the capital of California and healthcare is one of the largest sectors in the region. Expansion of all major health systems, emergence of a new teaching hospital, and an anticipated widespread workforce retirement after a worldwide pandemic support the need to prepare the next generation of nursing professionals. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics the occupational outlook for registered nurses includes a 6% increase in the demand between 2021 and 2031. This relates to about 195,400 new jobs created over that decade. Additionally, a decline in RN license renewals, retirements, and the presence of traveling providers in healthcare settings may exacerbate that projected need. By expanding the nursing education offerings in the area, unmet demand from local student populations can begin to be addressed and future worker shortages can be prevented.

Program Description

The proposed BSN program is designed around a 9-semester (16-week semester) curriculum delivered over three calendar years. The first year will focus on the general education courses required by CCR 1426. The second year will begin with the completion of the general education requirements and the CNU requirement for service-learning. This term will also include a course in Introduction to Professional Nursing. The second semester of year two, and all subsequent semesters, will focus on the courses that cover the theory and clinical experience for the five (5) content areas required for licensure. Curricular content will include the theory and clinical requirements for the Public Health Nurse certification. In addition, students will have courses in ethics, evidence-based practice, informatics, health policy, and leadership. The final semester will include a capstone course that focuses on nursing and meets CNU's graduation requirements for a capstone project. CNU plans to integrate the ATI Complete elements into the relevant courses to provide formative and summative assessment. The curriculum is designed to prepare nurses for the complexities of the ever-evolving healthcare environment as stated

by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education (2021). CNU will seek programmatic accreditation by CCNE when it is eligible. In addition, the core competencies of Quality and Safety Education in Nursing (QSEN) will be integrated into the framework for the program. The goal is to start the first cohort of 30 students in the Fall 2024 or Spring 2025; then start cohorts of 30 students each semester for an annual enrollment of 90 students.

Applicant Pool and Sustainability

Locally, there are registered nursing programs and sustained demand for this educational track. Based on data collected through the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) college navigator, there are at least 1,063 undergraduates enrolled in nursing majors at the following local institutions: CSUS Sacramento, Pacific Union, Chamberlain University, Dominican University, and Samuel Merritt University. With Sacramento State reporting that its nursing major is impacted, meaning they have more applicants into that major than they can accommodate, there is an opportunity to support local students interested in nursing as a major.

CNU CHS already has established relationships with local area high schools, colleges, and universities. The college will leverage these relationships to market the program and attract qualified applicants. Additionally, the data on the educational dynamics along the Hwy 50 corridor from Rancho Cordova to the city of El Dorado Hills shows a population that values higher education and has income levels to support it for their families. The Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD), that has signed an affiliation agreement with CNU, has 20K+ students in 34 schools including 6 high schools. Vista Del Lago High School (98% graduation rate) is ranked #175 in the state followed closely behind by Folsom High School at #177. Both high schools have strong STEM programs, and many have parents employed in the high-tech industries located in the area such as Intel and Hewlett Packard. FCUSD employs 20 school nurses and will provide clinical placement for CNU students. The City of Folsom reports that 97% of the households have computers; 92% have high school or higher degrees with 51% having bachelors or higher degrees. The City of Rancho Cordova reports 44% of the adult population has bachelor's degrees or higher with an additional 15% having some college work. The City of El Dorado Hills reports that 55% of the adult population has bachelor's degrees or higher and 98% of the households have computers.

Although CNU anticipates fully enrolling its initial cohorts, the BSN program is funded by the University's strategic allocation. The allocation comes from the University's capital reserve for growth and expansion of programs. The University has several revenue streams derived from tuition, research grants, real estate investment & earnings, and other income producing investments within the portfolio.

CCR1426 Compliance

The planned BSN program is compliant with the regulations required by the California Board of Registered Nursing. The BSN totals 127 credits which includes 24 units in theory; 18 in clinical. The curriculum is designed to also include the requirements for the public health certificate according to CCR 1491. The total curriculum content meets all the

requirements of CCR 1426 Required Curriculum. The EDP-P-06 describes how the curriculum meets CCR 1429 Licensed Vocational Nurse Thirty Unit Option.

Budget Projection

CNU has total assets worth over \$180 million. Based on the nursing program budget proforma, the University has made a financial commitment to the nursing program and has set aside \$20 million over five years to start and maintain the nursing program. The University also set aside an additional \$8 million for startup costs for equipment and supplies for the nursing program. The projected budget demonstrates the building of reserves to sustain the proposed program. The proposed tuition is \$50,000 annually, with an \$18,000 merit scholarship option open to all applicants. The BSN program will be sustained through tuition and commitment of discretionary funds to provide essential academic resources. This program will be self-supporting within two years of achieving full enrollment. Any decreases in revenue due to attrition will be covered by strategic allocation and start-up funds.

Resources

The location of the BSN program will join the campus site currently housing the undergraduate College of Health Sciences. This site has a library, science learning labs, computer labs, student advising and counseling services. The undergraduate college has sufficient classroom space available for the launch of the BSN program. The college will add additional 30-person and 60-person classrooms remodeled from current underutilized spaces to support increases in enrollment. Each classroom space is equipped with Wi-Fi internet access, a desktop computer for the instructor, projector, and/or screens or monitors.

The approved skills/simulation center will include 4 immersive simulation rooms each with a high-fidelity manikin (including one birthing manikin), control room and de-briefing room to accommodate cohort size of 10-12 students. There will also be 2 skills lab/classrooms each with 6 hospital beds, 1 gurney, and 1 exam table. The skills labs will house a mid-fidelity manikin in each of the hospital beds plus counter/tabletop room for task trainers such as IV arms and trach care. Each patient cubicle will be individually curtained, have headwalls for oxygen/suction availability plus bedside computers for recording on EHR software and doing assessments. The skills rooms will be large enough for a classroom-type setting accommodating 15-20 students for delivery of content and to support skills development. The design includes a reception area and offices for the simulation coordinator and faculty; locker rooms for students; prep room and ample storage space. Access to the center will be by badge only to protect the maintenance of the equipment and provide oversight when students are in the labs.

A Program Advisory Board (PAB) was formed for the purpose of engaging a broad-spectrum of community leaders from nursing, healthcare, higher education, policy, governmental relations and communication to provide guidance, support and networking in the development and launch of the BSN program. The PAB has held meetings on December 13, 2022; April 18, 2023, and June 16, 2023. Next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2023. Program Advisory Board (PAB) members will be called upon to offer

experience and expertise in the ongoing relationships with clinical partners and the community to integrate feedback into the direction and needs of the BSN program.

Clinical Placement and Affiliation Agreements

CNU has many long-standing relationships in the Greater Sacramento Area with numerous healthcare providers through the College of Medicine, College of Pharmacy, and College of Psychology. Some of the existing affiliation agreements include Sutter Health, Sutter Foundation, Kaiser, Marshall Medical, and Adventist Health. The existing agreements with Kaiser and Adventist Health covered the addition of the nursing program. Revised agreements with addendum for nursing were executed with Sutter Health, Sutter Foundation and Marshall Medical. New affiliation agreements have been established with Brookfield School, Folsom Cordova Unified School District, Heritage Oaks Hospital, Sacramento Life Center, Sacramento Kindness Campaign, and Joshua's House Volunteer Hospice. Other affiliation agreements in process are: InnovAge, Cristo Rey High School, and St. Francis High School. CNU has secured clinical verification forms from Brookfield School, Folsom Cordova Unified School District, Heritage Oaks Hospital, Kaiser South Hospital, Sacramento Life Center, and Joshua's House Volunteer Hospice. The existing clinical relationships will support all required clinical hours as stated in RN CCR 1426 & 1427 including specialty sites for obstetrics, pediatrics, and behavioral health. Once complete, the University's planned teaching hospital will provide access to clinical experiences not only for CNU students but for other area programs. The projected hospital completion date is fall of 2026 – spring 2027.

Conclusion

The California Northstate University Feasibility Study has adequately demonstrated a regional demand from the local healthcare systems and applicant pool for bachelor's educated nurses as well as the ability of the local and regional population to economically support the program. Supported through strategic allocation of start-up funds sufficient to build out and operate the BSN program, CNU is adhering to the mission of advancing the science and art of healthcare through education, service, research, personal wellness, and social accountability. CNU respectfully requests that the Feasibility Study be approved for placement on the Board agenda for discussion and advancement to the in-depth self-study phase of seeking BRN approval.

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
Education/Licensing Committee
Agenda Item Summary

AGENDA ITEM: 8.10.2
DATE: October 5, 2023

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and possible action regarding a feasibility study for new prelicensure nursing program Homestead Schools Associate Degree Nursing Program

REQUESTED BY: Donna Shipp, Nursing Education Consultant

BACKGROUND: Homestead Schools Inc. has submitted a feasibility study for a new Associate Degree in Nursing program in Torrance, California. Homestead Schools original feasibility study was received February 2022. Homestead Schools resubmitted a revised feasibility study in May 2023 and is being brought forward at this time. Homestead Schools, Inc. is located “in a modern office complex in the central business district of Torrance, California.” The physical address is 23800 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 200, Torrance, CA in Los Angeles County.

Description of the Institution:

Homestead Schools Inc. is a non-profit organization corporation formed in 1991. Homestead Schools began offering training in vocational nursing in 2007 and since then has added programs in medical assisting, nurse assisting, home health aide and a RN to BSN, and MSN-Nurse Educator program. At the time of this feasibility, Homestead Schools has a total of 182 students enrolled within the nursing programs and 32 faculty members. 162 of the 180 students are enrolled in the Vocational Nurse Program. The program reports the following first-time NCLEX VN pass rates for the last 5 years: 2017 - 91%, 2018- 89%, 2019- 100%, 2020- 75%, and 2021- 100%. Program also reports attrition rates for VN program over last five years of 6%-21%, with most recent year at 6%. The program also reports their VN graduate placement rate ranges from 81%-100%. The post-licensure RN-BSN program began 2015 with 12 students and all graduated with BSN degree May 2016. Homestead currently has four students enrolled in their RN-BSN program. The Master of Science Degree in Nursing-Nurse Educator Track began May 2019 and graduated 2021. There are currently three students enrolled in the MSN-Nurse Educator program. The nursing assistant training program currently has five students enrolled and five-year attrition rate ranges from 5% in 2018 and 0% from 2019-2022 with licensure rates ranging from 81%-90% and placement rates of 78%-100% over last five years. Home Health Aide program currently has seven students enrolled. Previous five year attrition rate is 0% and placement rate ranges from 86%-100%.

Accreditation Status:

Homestead Schools, Inc. reports being institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools and programmatically accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. It also has approval to operate from the Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE) and has a certificate of accreditation from the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT).

Geographic Description:

Torrance, CA is in the southwestern region of Los Angeles County, California. Torrance is bordered by the city of Redondo Beach to the west, Gardena and Lawndale to the north, City of

Los Angeles' Harbor Gateway and Lomita to the East and Palos Verdes Peninsula to the south. The school is easily accessible from two major freeways: San Diego Freeway (405) and Harbor Freeway (110). Homestead reports 19 licensed acute care hospitals within a 10 miles radius of Torrance, as well as multiple public health agencies, clinics, long term facilities and medical specialty clinics including obstetrics, pediatrics and psychiatric. Homestead also noted that there are 19 ADN programs within a 50-mile radius of Torrance City, however, Homestead's feasibility study, in its Sustainability of Enrollment for the proposed ADN program section, included statements related to "state budget cuts would mean that there are fewer available classes and a smaller pool of faculty at work in the community colleges. Facing a state funding cut, Community colleges may have to enroll fewer students and slash thousands of classes." Economic and Population growth: According to data provided within the feasibility study, the "average household income in Torrance is \$118,289 with a poverty rate of 6.87%." Additionally, "the median rental costs in recent years comes to \$1,736 per month, and the median house value is \$762,700." According to the 2019 US Census Data provided by the program, Torrance population was 143,592 with 46.63% white, 36.03% Asian, 2.91% Black or African American, and 6.28% some other race, and 6.94% two or more races." According to data shared within feasibility, "Torrance's population will continue to grow, its growth rate is expected to be modest over the next ten years."

Enrollment Request:

Homestead Schools, Inc. is requesting a first cohort of 30 students for Fall 2024. Then 60 students for Fall 2025, and then 90 students Fall 2026 and continuing with 90 students every Fall beyond 2026.

Resources:

Homestead Schools Inc. will be utilizing an existing building at 23800 Hawthorne Blvd, Ste 200. Program reports that existing 8 classrooms will be able to accommodate the projected student enrollments as 6 of the 8 classrooms accommodate 30 students, the other two accommodate 15 students. The program also identified 3 existing skill laboratories consisting of a total of 6 simulated patient care areas with necessary equipment and supplies. In addition to 3 skills labs, the program reports having a Clinical Simulation Lab which they will utilize for obstetric and pediatric instruction. The school also reports the presence of a library with books, journals, and other reference materials as well workstations for online access and projects. The site also has a Student Learning Resource Center for academic support as well as two computer labs. Faculty offices, support personnel offices, Records Room, break room and executive team offices are also currently in existence on campus (School President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Academic Officer, Financial Aid/Admissions Director, Director of Nursing and Admissions Staff). The school currently offers the following services: advising, tutoring, career and employment, campus learning assistance, counseling, NCLEX Preparation – Assessment through Technologies Institute, as well as Employment Placement Services. The school advised that some of their current VN faculty have interest in teaching in the ADN program, however, the program admits to actively seeking full time and part time faculty for each of the five nursing areas outlines in CCR 1426 Required Curriculum. A program director has already been hired.

Curriculum:

The proposed ADN program will be a two-year program conducted as four 18-week semesters (Fall & Spring) with winter break between fall and spring as well as a summer break after spring session. The projected curriculum will consist of 63.5 semester units, including 20.5 semester

units of nursing theory and 19 semester units of practice, totaling 39.5 semester units of concurrent nursing education. The curriculum will also include 24 general requirements which will need to be completed prior to being admitted into the nursing courses: 18 units of related sciences and 6 semester units of communication.

Budget and tuition: Homestead Schools Inc. describe its most current “Audited Financial Statement for the year 2022 shows the school has sufficient assets and financial resources to support this proposed ADN program and to ensure that all students who will enroll to this program will be able to complete and obtain their diploma.” The school is also approved by the Department of Education to offer federal grant and loans to its students and will be seeking additional accreditation for proposed program to enable their participation in Title IV funding. The proposed program is projected to cost students \$51,290. This includes tuition, fees, uniforms, and supplies. The school owner has approved and provided a budget of \$1,177.00 for the initial year of operation.

Clinical sites:

The school has secured 23 clinical placements, all within the Los Angeles County region, including six acute care hospitals as well as ten skilled nursing and four sub-acute facilities. The program sent out email correspondences to Program Directors of ADN programs within a 50-mile radius of Torrance City to advise of proposed program and proposed clinical facilities. The intent was to collaborate and coordinate efforts to ensure no displacement of existing students. Homestead Schools Inc received one request to avoid a specific facility for Psychological Nursing as the existing program was concerned about possible displacement. Homestead has opted to avoid that facility and use the other options that will still meet the needs of their projected students. No other correspondences were received. Homestead School is currently affiliated with and uses the regional consortium “The Nursing Resource Center” for their VN program and will be using it for the proposed ADN program as well.

NEXT STEP: Place on Board agenda.

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

8.10.2 Homestead Schools Inc- new program feasibility

Requesting an enrollment pattern of 30 students for Fall 2024, then 60 students Fall 2025, and then 90 students Fall of 2026 and continuing with 90 students every fall moving forward.

Closest nursing program is El Camino ADN Program (6 miles away).

Region 8 Data 2018-2023

Enrollment decisions for Region 8 past 5 years has resulted in the growth of 926 new students with the approval of 14 enrollment increases (383 students annually), 2 new campuses (225 students annually) and 4 new programs (318 students annually).

Two requests for enrollment increases in Region 8 were denied: Stanbridge University – 20 students and American Career College (ACC) – 100 enrollments (120 total denied).

One request for enrollment increase in Region 8 was deferred: ACC – 54 enrollments; however, this request was later approved by the Board during the November 2020 meeting.

School	Program T	City	County	Reg	Meeting Da	Request Type	Enrollment Increase Request	Action	Adjustm
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 Action	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	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
Westmont College	BSN - Private	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	8	November-21	New Program	48 annually	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 Car	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

Executive Summary Homestead Schools, Inc.

Description of the Institution: Homestead Schools, Inc. is located in a modern office complex in the central business district of Torrance, California. Homestead Schools, Inc. is a non-profit corporation organized in 1991 dedicated to meeting the educational needs of professionals from various disciplines, students and consumers. Homestead Schools, Inc. is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the California Board of Registered Nursing and American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Homestead Schools, Inc. started offering training in Vocational Nursing in 2007 after getting approval from the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians. Since then, the school has added programs in Medical Assisting, Nurse Assisting, Home Health Aide, RN to BSN, and Master of Science in Nursing programs.

Accreditation: Homestead Schools, Inc. is institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) and programmatically accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). It has approval to operate from the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE) and has a certificate of accreditation from California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT). Homestead Schools, Inc. is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the California Board of Registered Nursing and American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Homestead Schools is a Title IV School offering Federal Student Aid approved by the US Department of Education. It has also approval from the California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education (CSAAVE) to admit students from US military including their eligible dependents and approved as a training provider to receive Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) fund and by the Department of Homeland Security to issue I-20 for international students.

Geographic Area: Torrance is a city in the South Bay region of Los Angeles County. Torrance has 1.5 miles of beaches on the Pacific Ocean. Torrance has a moderate year-round climate with warm temperatures, sea breezes, low humidity and an average rainfall of 12.55 inches per year. Known for its low crime rates, the city consistently ranks among the safest cities in Los Angeles County. It has the second-highest percentage of Japanese demographic in California (8.9%). Torrance City is the 40th largest city in California and the 195th largest city in the United States. It is the eighth largest municipality in Los Angeles County.

Population and Economic Growth: Torrance is expected to enjoy 34% job growth over the next decade and already enjoys a robust and diverse economy. While Torrance's population will continue to grow, its growth rate is expected to be modest over the next ten years. Torrance has experienced growth in the Los Angeles region in areas of healthcare, professional scientific and technical services, logistics and construction. The employment growth in the City of Torrance has trended faster than other cities in Los Angeles region.

Los Angeles Nursing Shortage: In urban areas like the Los Angeles, the challenge comes from the sheer number of nurses who will be needed to care for a growing, aging population. Major findings in the report include the following pertinent data: Today, the greatest number of nurses is needed in the Los Angeles region, with an estimated shortage of 10,000 full-time equivalent RNs. The RN shortage will worsen in all until 2030, unless policies are enacted to address the problem. The largest number of vacant full-time equivalent positions in 2030 is expected to be in Los Angeles—a need for more than 20,000 additional registered nurses. The report's regional forecasts of the registered nurse workforce show that in Region 6 - Los Angeles, Ventura, and Orange counties: By 2025: The shortage will be over 15,000 full-time registered nurses. By 2030: A shortage of more than 20,000 FTE RNs. Between 2020 and 2025, the gap between supply and demand is expected to expand rapidly, as older RNs retire and demand for health services continues to grow. (UCSF Report, Joanne Spetz, August 22, 2016, <https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2006/08/97893/californias-nursing-shortage-crisis-will-vary-region-ucsf-report-shows>). There also have been decreases in new enrollments and graduations from RN education programs since the 2018-2019 academic years. Together, these changes have led to a reduction in the supply of RNs compared with previous projections. (Research Report, USCF by Joanne Spetz, Lela Chu, and Lisel Blash, August 2022. Forecast of the Registered Nurse Workforce in California 2022, Page 11. <https://www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/forms/forecast2022.pdf>)

By 2030, most of areas in California will not have the nurses to fill 30 percent of RN positions, Los Angeles will need enough RNs to fill 20,000 full-time-equivalent vacancies, and the state's northernmost counties will lack 40 percent of the registered nurses they need. (UCSF Report, Joanne Spetz, August 22, 2016). California is the #4 state that will need nurses the most by 2030. While it's been a known fact for years that California will be at the center of the nursing shortage crisis come 2030, the COVID-19 pandemic has only accelerated the issue. At two separate points over the last year the state, namely the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas, has been the epicenter of the pandemic, and its 300,000 nurses have been stretched to their limits. The concern now is that many nurses, especially older ones, will retire early due to the stress and over concern for their own health and well-being, which will only make the projected 11.5% shortage happen before 2030. (<https://kesq.com/stacker-california/2021/10/08/california-is-the-4-state-that-will-need-nurses-the-most-by-2030/>)

Current and Projected Shortage Indicators: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Employment Projections 2021-2031. The Registered Nursing (RN) workforce is expected to grow by 6% over the next decade. The RN workforce is expected to grow

from 3.1 million in 2021 to 3.3 million in 2031, an increase of 195,400 nurses. The Bureau also projects 203,200 openings for RNs each year through 2031 when nurse retirements and workforce exits are factored into the number of nurses needed in the U.S. According to the United States Registered Nurse Workforce Report Card and Shortage Forecast published in the September/October 2019 issue of the American Journal of Medical Quality, a shortage of registered nurses is projected to spread across the country through 2030. In this state-by-state analysis, the authors forecast a significant RN shortage in 30 states with the most intense shortage in the Western region of the U.S. Contributing Factors Impacting the Nursing Shortage: A significant segment of the nursing workforce is nearing retirement age. According to a 2020 National Nursing Workforce Survey conducted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing found that the average age for an RN is 52 years old, which may signal a large wave over the next 15 years. In a Health Affairs blog posted in May 2017, Dr. Peter Buerhaus, and colleagues project that more than 1 million registered nurses will retire from the workforce by 2030. The U.S. Census reported that by 2034, there will be 77.0 million people age 65 years and older compared to 76.5 million under the age of 18. With larger numbers of older adults, there will be an increased need for geriatric care, including care for individuals with chronic diseases and comorbidities.

Applicant Pool: Homestead Schools, Inc. has an extensive institutional, community and student support for the college to pursue an application with the California Board of Registered Nursing for ADN program. There is strong demand for additional nurses in the local healthcare facilities and the projected plans for healthcare expansion will produce additional beds in the next few years, thus further increasing the demand for new nurses. The school will be able to sustain its enrollment from pool of graduates of our Vocational Nursing program. Our surveys show that 96% of our current VN students expressed their desire to pursue RN program. There are about 200 plus qualified VN graduates who have been waiting and ready to enroll as soon as the RN program is approved. This proposed ADN program is a stepping stone for interested applicants to pursue their career into RN-BSN and MSN programs currently offered by Homestead Schools.

Description of the Nursing Program:

The initial nursing program proposed will be a generic Associate Degree Nursing program. It combines general education courses and clinical nursing courses that incorporates classroom instruction, laboratory simulation, and clinical practice. The Generic Option is designed for students with no prior nursing education and includes arts and science in nursing, communication skills, natural, behavioral and social sciences courses. The program requires two years to complete. The curriculum is designed to meet the 16CCR 1426 and incorporate the AACN Essentials and Core Competencies, ANA Scope of Practice and ANA Code of Ethics and QSEN Competencies. All courses were cross referenced to the following documents: California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) Guidelines; DACUM (Developing A Curriculum) – Entry Level Registered Nurse; National League of Nursing (NLN/AC) – Guidelines for Accreditation; National Council Licensure Examination-RN (NCLEX-RN) Test Plan; and Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Curriculum Model Program Outcomes and Terminal

Objectives. The student who completes an ADN program will meet the standards of competency delineated by the Board of Registered Nursing for the State of California.

Target Dates and Projected and Pattern of Enrollments: The first cohort of nursing students are scheduled to be admitted in Fall 2024 with the projected 30 students for the first class. The requested enrollment numbers and pattern will be as follows:

- First enrollment Fall 2024, 30 students for first year
- Second enrollment, Fall, 60 students
- Third enrollment, Fall 2026. 90 students
- Totaling 90 students annually every Fall moving forward from 2006 onward.

Budgetary Provisions and Program Cost: The proposed program is being developed with reserve funds from Homestead Schools, Inc. dedicated specifically for the ADN program. In preparing to implement the program, Homestead Schools, Inc. has made a substantial financial commitment. The school's most current Audited Financial Statement for the year 2023 shows the schools has sufficient assets and financial resources to support this proposed ADN program and to ensure that all students who will enroll to this program will be able to complete and obtain their diploma. The school has provided a budget of \$1,177,000 for its initial year of operation. Since the school is approved by the Department of Education to offer federal grant and loans to its students, the school will seek for additional accreditation for the ADN program which can eventually be eligible to participate in the Title IV funding, In this way, the school will be prepared for any contingencies that may occur and the quality education will surely not be interrupted.

Program Cost: The projected RN total program cost is \$67,042 including tuition, registration, lab supplies and equipment, textbooks, and uniforms. Homestead Schools has Title IV funding for the collection and disbursement of financial aid. Eligible nursing students may apply for financial aid. The tuition and other charges will come from Pell Grants, subsidized and subsidized federal student loans.

Faculty Resources: The school has a pool of qualified prospective faculty members that includes some of our active 25 VN instructors who have master's degree in nursing and interested to teach in the ADN program. During the initial year of operation, there will be two full-time and three part-time faculty then add 2 FTE faculty and 1-2 adjunct faculty in year two who meet the requirements stated in the California Code of Regulations Section 1425(a-f). Homestead Schools has already hired the Program Director for this proposed program who meets the BRN criteria.

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 ADN program. Facilities includes student learning resource center, skills lab, a high-fidelity clinical simulation lab, classrooms with a 36 maximum room capacity, faculty offices and lounge, student break room, computer labs for NCLEX preparation, debriefing and conference rooms.

Curriculum Design: The proposed ADN 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 ADN program has been designed to match regulatory standards and will be more defined through the self-study. Courses will be offered over an eighteen (18)-week semester. The curriculum is designed to be taught in four 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, and pediatrics. The curriculum shall consist of 63.5 semester units which shall include the following number of units in the specified course areas: arts and sciences of nursing – 39.5 semester units of which 20.5 semester units will be in theory and 19 semester units will be in the clinical practice; communication skills – six (6) semester units which shall include principles of oral, written, and group communication.; natural sciences (anatomy, physiology, and microbiology courses with labs) and behavioral and social sciences for 18 semester units.

Clinical Placement: Homestead Schools, Inc. demonstrates enough available sites to support the expected enrollment for the first class. The school has secured a total of 23 clinical placements with signed EDP-1-01 to 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). The school will continue to work to secure more clinical placements following BRN approval of its ADN program as back-up sites to ensure that there is no significant break in the educational process as students complete their clinical hours. The school has a clinical site coordinator who is tasked to continuously establish more partnership and affiliation with other clinical facilities and maintain effective and cooperative relationships with affiliated healthcare facilities.

Description of Collaboration and Coordination Efforts with Existing Registered Nursing Programs & Other Local and Regional Planning Consortium: Homestead Schools will not displace existing program placements. Some collaboration and coordination efforts have been done to prevent clinical displacement of other existing registered nursing programs. The institution has reached out to the Program Directors of schools offering Associate Degree in Nursing in Los Angeles Region within 50-mile radius of Torrance City through emails to establish collaboration and coordination with them to take into considerations the impact on the use of the clinical facilities. They were asked what appropriate plans and strategies that can be mutually done effectively to provide their existing students and our proposed students equal accommodation and availability of their clinical placements. One program director expressed concern about the impact of using the Mission Community Hospital for their psychiatric rotation. Homestead school responded and mentioned that the school has more than enough facilities for psych-mental health but will consider and be mindful of this request to prioritize their students

Phone calls were made to follow-up other schools included in the EDP-I-01. Five of them answered and expressed their support for this proposed program and willing to collaborate and work together toward the same goal to fill the need for more nurses.

Homestead Schools has previously joined the regional consortium “The Nursing Resource Center” that provides a one-stop online tool for clinical placements by bringing schools, hospitals and other clinical agencies together in one convenient online portal to allow access to the Centralized Clinical Placement System (CCPS). Upon BRN’s approval, the school’s program director for this proposed program will join the California Organization of Associate Degree in Nursing (COADN) not only to improve the quality of nursing education but to establish partnership and networking with other schools regarding availability and addition of clinical facilities. The school’s program director will also be participating in the Regional Nursing Summit to be involved in the planning and implementation processes that statewide consensus is building for changing the way California addresses clinical placements for pre-licensure nursing students.

Conclusion: This feasibility study demonstrates the critical need for a pre-licensure nursing program in the City of Torrance. This area is a rapidly developing Southern California region in terms of increasing population and it is projected to continue this growth pattern to 2030. There are sufficient licensed hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, nursing homes, specialty clinics and medical offices within the vicinity of Torrance City. These facilities provide a wide range of services appropriate to prepare students for the pre-licensure content of the program and provide job opportunities for the graduates. There is a strong demand for additional nurses in the local healthcare facilities and the projected plans for healthcare expansion will produce additional beds in the next few years, thus further increasing the demand for new nurses. To date, we have 23 approved clinical facilities (acute care hospitals, long-term care, rehabilitation, skilled nursing facilities) available for the clinical training of our proposed ADN students. The administration of Homestead Schools is committed to the realization, development, and operation of this proposed program. Additional funds have been already allocated to upgrade our physical resources and facilities including the Clinical Simulation Lab that currently houses high-fidelity grade manikins, build science laboratory, purchase more nursing skills equipment and supplies, hire additional faculty and support personnel, and expand program capacities. As evidenced by the data and details of this feasibility study, these support the need of a geographically convenient RN program in the City of Torrance. It is our hope that with the detail and comprehensiveness of our feasibility study, we have met the California Board of Nursing (BRN) regulations to establish a new pre-licensing ADN program in Torrance, CA. Homestead Schools respectfully requests that this feasibility study be considered for the upcoming BRN Education and Licensing Committee (ELC) for discussion and favorable action. The school administration, faculty and staff appreciate the time and assistance provided by our Nursing Education Consultant, Ms. Donna Shipp, MSN, PHN, RN.