



Nursing Program Information; Summary of Survey Report and Response

Current Approval Status: Full

Program Lorain County Community College Practical Nursing Program

Address 1005 North Abbe Road Elyria Ohio 44035
 (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Program Administrator Mary Grady, DNP, RN Program Administrator
 (Name) (Title)

Administrator Email mgrady@lorainccc.edu

Board Staff Kristie Oles, Ed.D., MSN, BA, RN, FRE

Date of Survey Visit: July 14-15, 2021

Date of Last Survey Visit: February 25, 2016

1. Type of program: Dip Assoc Bacc Master's P.N.

2. Total Enrollment: 37

3. Number of classes admitted per year: 1

4. Number of weeks in program: 40

5. NCLEX pass rate:
 2020 94.12% 2019 100% 2018 96.55% 2017 100%

The Board Survey Visit identified that some of the requirements of Chapter 4723-5, Ohio Administrative Code, were not met. The Program timely submitted documentation for the Board's consideration. **It is recommended that the Board grant the Program Full approval for a period of three years.**

A summary of the requirements not met and the written response explaining corrective actions taken by the Program are explained below.

6. Rule Compliance

The survey visit revealed evidence that certain aspects of the requirements contained in Chapter 4723-5, Ohio Administrative Code, were not met.

Rule 4723-5-11(A)(5)(c), OAC**Review of the Program**

The program utilized two registered nurses who did not meet the required minimum qualifications. Cynthia Wallace's RN license was subject to restrictions when she was utilized as a preceptor in 2017, 2018, and 2019. In addition, Christina Stadin's RN license was subject to restrictions when she was utilized as a preceptor in 2018.

Program Response

The Lorain County Community College Practical Nursing Program is pleased to have this opportunity to respond to the Board of Nursing Survey Visit Report (SVR) completed after our site visit that occurred on July 14 and July 15, 2021. The SVR report indicates that LCCC's Practical Nursing Program failed to meet the requirements listed in Ohio Administrative Code Rules 4723-5-11(A)(5)(c) and OAC 4723-5-20(B). While the LCCC Practical Nursing Program does not dispute the findings, which occurred under the former program leadership, we wish to emphasize that our current Program Coordinator, Ms. Deborah Brown, and Program Administrator, Dr. Mary Grady, identified the error and have instituted corrective action to prevent the issue from recurring in the future. Their leadership ensured that only 4 LPN students were affected during the years covered by the SVR.

These citations listed in the SVR are a result of 2 nurses being used as preceptors between summer 2017 to summer 2019 who had board actions on their licenses. The Practical Nursing Program utilizes preceptors in the final semester (each summer) of the program as a capstone experience. The Program Coordinator, during the spring semester, arranges for preceptors to be paired one-on-one with a student for clinical experience in a nursing home their summer semester. However, the now retired former Program Coordinator neglected to confirm the qualifications of 2 preceptors, who had restrictions on their licenses. One nurse's license was subject to restrictions when she was utilized as a preceptor in 2017, 2018, and 2019. The other nurse's license was subject to restrictions when she was utilized as a preceptor in 2018. This

resulted in 4 students over the course of those years being supervised in clinical experiences by two nurses who did not meet the minimum qualifications. When Ms. Brown, the current Practical Nursing Coordinator, assumed her role on June 1, 2019, upon the retirement of the previous Program Coordinator, the preceptor assignments had already been made. At LCCC, the Practical Nursing Program Coordinator reports to the Nursing Programs Administrator, who oversees the PN and RN (Associate Degree) programs. Dr. Mary Grady was appointed as the new Programs Administrator on June 1, 2020, after the previous Programs Administrator retired on May 31, 2020. Working collaboratively, both Ms. Brown and Dr. Grady have taken proactive steps to ensure program compliance with the OBN and OAC requirements. They wish to emphasize that no unqualified preceptors have been assigned under their collaborative supervision and assure the Board of Nursing that they have revised the program preceptor policy to ensure that no preceptor with a board action on their license will be used in the program again.

The revised policy verifies preceptors are qualified in two ways: It requires potential preceptors to confirm they are qualified, and it requires the Program Coordinator to confirm the preceptor's nursing license is current and valid. Under the revised preceptor policy, the program will continue to use the preceptor qualification form provided by the OBN. However, the Nursing Program has added a new form that a preceptor must sign that states that they have no board action on their license (Appendix A). This new form will require preceptors to be upfront about their license status and act as an additional filter to make sure the nursing license is verified properly by the Program Coordinator. The newly created form will be adapted by both PN and RN programs to ensure continuity in the LCCC Nursing Programs.

To summarize, the Practical Nursing Program has taken the following actions to resolve this issue:

- The preceptors noted in this citation will never be used in the program again. The one preceptor was last used in 2018 and the other in 2019. Neither preceptor was assigned after the summer of 2019.
- A Preceptor Packet has been issued to all preceptors since the summer of 2020 by the new PN Program Coordinator. Beginning in summer 2021, a signature form for the preceptors to sign was added to the packet. This form states that the preceptor received the packet. Since the OBN site visit in July 2021, the program has added the following to the form described above (See Appendix A):

I understand that I must have a current, valid and unrestricted nursing license. Ohio Board of Nursing Code 4723-3-01 Definitions (D) "Current, valid license" and "current, valid certificate" mean an authorization to practice issued under Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code that is not inactive, suspended, revoked, or subject to restrictions, and for which the holder continues to meet all of the requirements for issuance.

- The New Program Coordinator has been and will continue to follow the revised preceptor policy, found in the LCCC Nursing Faculty Handbook (Appendix B and C). The policy (Appendix B) was revised to include the highlighted section: “This process will include confirmation that the preceptor has an active Ohio nursing license, **and that the preceptor has no board action listed on the Ohio Board of Nursing website at the time of licensure verification.**”
- The policy (Appendix C) was revisited, and no changes needed. Nursing faculty in both programs were educated on the OBN code for preceptors and definition (Ohio Board of Nursing Code 4723-3-01 Definitions) of what a current and valid nursing license means according to the law during the LCCC faculty meeting on August 17, 2021.
- The Preceptor Log (Appendix D) is utilized in the Program to document that the preceptor form from the Ohio Board of Nursing was reviewed and that the preceptor’s nursing license was verified. The Program Coordinator added a column this August 2021 that documents that the preceptor’s nursing license has no board actions and must be initialed by the LCCC representative reviewing the forms. This addition will serve as a “double check” system to make sure licenses are verified properly.

As the Ohio Board of Nursing reviews LCCC’s Practical Nursing Program, we respectfully ask that it considers the program’s many strengths and its importance to our community. The program state board pass rates have been excellent:

2017: 100%
2018: 96.67%
2019: 100%
2020: 94.12 %

Over the past 5 years, the Practical Nursing Program has educated 124 practical nurses. These LPN’s have passed their NCLEX-PN and are now in the workforce, helping to meet the healthcare needs of the community. Area stakeholders hold our program in high esteem and our graduates are usually offered positions during their last semester of the program where they do their preceptor experiences. The program continues to maintain ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) credentials, having been re-approved in 2017 and scheduled for review in fall 2024.

Rule 4723-5-20(B), OAC **Review of the Program**

Program students were supervised in clinical experiences by two registered nurses who did not meet the minimum qualifications.

Program Response

Please see above response provided.