

JOINT STATEMENT OF THE
STATE BOARD OF NURSING FOR SOUTH CAROLINA
AND THE
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
FOR
REVIEW OF NEW NURSING PROGRAMS

Section I. The Concept of a Joint Committee for Program Review and Planning

The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education have agreed that all new nursing programs (practical, associate degree, diploma, baccalaureate, masters, doctoral, and practitioner), initiated by an agency or institution (public or private) involved or planning to become involved in the education of nurses, will be considered for approval only after the evaluation and recommendation by the Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education in terms of long-range plans for nursing education in South Carolina.

While the evaluation of the criteria established by the Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education and their recommendations will be considered pre-requisite to action taken by the State Board and the Commission, they do not replace or transcend the existing approval requirements outlined in the Laws Governing Nursing in South Carolina and the Policy and Procedures Concerning New Programs of the Commission on Higher Education.

Section II. Composition and Structure of Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education

The Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education is an interdisciplinary committee consisting of 28 members, representing the South Carolina Nurses' Association (11); South Carolina Medical Association (1); Division of Research and Statistical Services (1); S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (1); South Carolina Hospital Association (1); State Department of Education, Office of Vocational Education (1); South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (1); Student Nurses' Association of South Carolina (1); State Board of Nursing for South Carolina (1); State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education (1); South Carolina Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses, Inc. (2); and the public at large as selected by the South Carolina League for Nursing (3); State Health Coordinating Council (1); Health Education Authority (1); and General Public (1).

The Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education was created in 1971 at the request of the South Carolina Nurses' Association, the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina, and the South Carolina League for Nursing. It serves as an advisory body to the Commission on Higher Education and the State Board of Nursing to provide long-range plans for nursing education in South Carolina and to other agencies or individuals as deemed appropriate.

Section III. Responsibilities of the State Board of Nursing

The Laws Governing Nursing in South Carolina 40-33-1140 state "an institution desiring to establish a school of nursing or a course for training practical nurses shall apply to the Board and submit evidence that it is prepared to meet the standards prescribed by law." To comply with this requirement the following procedures are used.

- (1) The applicant institution requests an office consultation with the State Board of Nursing at which time they receive a copy of the Joint Statement, the Laws and Regulations Governing Nursing, the State Board of Nursing Criteria for Proposed Programs of Nursing, and the Policy and Procedures Concerning New Programs of the Commission on Higher Education. (Representatives of the Commission on Higher Education, State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education, and the Department of Education will attend meetings as appropriate).
- (2) The applicant institution is encouraged to establish a local advisory committee to assist in the development of a proposal.
- (3) The applicant institution is encouraged to work with the Division of Research and Statistics - Office of Cooperative Health Statistics and the appropriate HSA in conducting a needs assessment for additional nursing manpower including setting and educational preparation needed.
- (4) The applicant institution is informed about the survey procedure (Section VI) following completion of activities outlined in Section IV.
- (5) A Program Nurse Consultant of the State Board of Nursing staff is assigned to coordinate Board activities relevant to the proposal.

Section IV. Responsibilities of the Commission

The responsibility for implementation of review procedures, for planning, and the authority to approve educational programs (associate degree and above) in the public postsecondary institutions, including programs in nursing, allied health, and other aspects of health education, has been delegated by the State to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. The commission shares this responsibility with the State Board of Nursing for undergraduate nursing programs, since the State Board of Nursing makes a final review prior to accreditation which is their sole responsibility. The Commission on Higher Education will organize and conduct visits to proposed new programs for graduate education for nurses and for nurse practitioner programs located in public institutions of higher learning and shall include at least one representative named by the Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education and a representative from the State Board of Nursing. In this context the following procedures have been adopted for the review of nursing programs:

- (1) The applicant institution is required to send a Letter of Intent to the Commission on Higher Education, with an informational copy to the State Board of Nursing.
- (2) The staff of the Commission will forward to the applicant a complete set of instructions for preparation of the proposal, consisting of two parts:

- (a) Policy and Procedures Concerning New Programs (April, 1980)
 - (b) Joint Statement of the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.
- (3) The applicant institution will send the completed proposal to the Commission.
- (4) The Commission will send copies of the proposal to:
- (a) State Board of Nursing (10 copies)
 - (b) Division of Research and Statistical Services - Office of Cooperative Health Statistics (2 copies)
 - (c) Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education (28 copies)
- (5) The Commission will receive advice and recommendations from the above mentioned organizations as follows:
- (a) State Board of Nursing
Based on a site visit and the procedures outlined in Section VI of the Joint Statement, the State Board will advise the Commission and make recommendations concerning the clinical facilities, qualifications of the faculty, library resources, the extent of financial commitment of the administration to the program, and other relevant matters as outlined in Regulations of the Board "Criteria for Schools of Nursing" and "Basic Standards for an Educational Institution in Nursing".
 - (b) Office of Cooperative Health Statistics of the State Budget and Control Board
The Commission will request in writing an assessment of the need for additional nursing personnel in the State.
 - (c) Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education
Based on information obtained as outlined in Section IV and V of the Joint Statement, the Committee will assess the need for the new nursing program in terms of long-range planning and provide advice and recommendations to the Commission and the State Board of Nursing.
- (6) The Staff of the Commission will synthesize the interagency advice and recommendations as part of the review process in preparation for consideration by the Commission.

Section V. Responsibilities of Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education In Review of New Nursing Program Proposals

The Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education will evaluate a new nursing program in terms of long-range plans for nursing education by considering the following information from the completed application:

- (1) Type of Program and proposed date of establishment.
- (2) Determination of the service area.
- (3) A statement regarding the evidence of community need in the service area.
- (4) A listing of existing nursing programs in the service area and surrounding counties, including current student enrollment and graduation data for the past five years.
- (5) Evidence of cooperation and planning with existing nursing programs in the service area.
- (6) Projected enrollment plans by year for the first five years of the program.
- (7) Evidence that the program is consistent with sound practices in nursing education, and when appropriate, provides recognized academic credit.
- (8) Listing of facilities available to provide clinical experience.

Following the evaluation, the Committee will submit recommendations simultaneously to the Commission on Higher Education and the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina. The Commission and the State Board of Nursing will inform the Committee of the action taken on its recommendations and the final disposition of the proposal.

Section VI. Procedure for a Survey Visit

The State Board of Nursing shall organize and conduct survey visits to all proposed nursing programs at the undergraduate level. A new regulation under consideration by the 1981 session of General Assembly would include nurse practitioner programs not located in state institutions of higher learning. The survey team shall include at least one representative named by the Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education and at least one representative of the Commission on Higher Education.

The survey visit will primarily focus on the following:

- (1) The philosophy and purpose of the program.
- (2) The methodology designed to evaluate the outcome of the program.
- (3) The plan of organization and administration of the educational unit in nursing to determine if it provides for:
 - (a) adequate financial support for physical facilities, library and educational media resources, and provision of secretarial services, which are needed for the effective development and support of the program;
 - (b) a budget to establish the appropriate faculty-student ratio;
 - (c) a sound curriculum design consistent with the objectives for the level of nurses being prepared;

- (d) position descriptions which indicate the functions, qualifications, authority and supervision of each faculty and staff position in the nursing program;
 - (e) a plan for the professional development of faculty;
 - (f) a plan for student participation with the faculty in the identification of learning needs, evaluation of performance, and specific learning experiences.
- (4) The criteria for the selection, promotion, and readmission of students to the program;
 - (5) The faculty appointments relative to the following:
 - (a) educational qualifications and experience in nursing practice;
 - (b) knowledge of principles of teaching and the process of evaluation;
 - (c) knowledge and responsibility for the development, implementation, and evaluation of the curriculum.
 - (6) A plan developed for use of clinical facilities that provide for the following:
 - (a) faculty accountability directed toward obtaining quality clinical experiences;
 - (b) variety of settings to provide a wide range of clinical practice;
 - (c) selection of learning experiences which are consistent with the objectives for the level of preparation of the program;
 - (d) written agreements and working relationships between the educational institution and the health agencies providing the learning experiences, and
 - (e) an appropriate faculty-student ratio in the clinical area not to exceed 1:10.

To assist the proposed school in preparation for the basic survey visit, the State Board of Nursing will issue the following upon receipt of the proposal;

- (1) Dates for the survey visit.
- (2) Outline of activities to be included in survey agenda.
- (3) Criteria for evaluation of clinical facilities.

Each member of the survey team will be requested to prepare a written report based on the six(6) areas outlined in Section VI. The Board staff will then prepare a composite report which will be forwarded to the applicant institution, the Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education, the Commission on Higher Education and the State Board of Nursing.

Section VII. Interrelated and Joint Responsibilities of the Commission on Higher Education and the State Board of Nursing

The Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education, the Health Education Authority and the Committees on Academic Programs and Health and Medical Education will review and make recommendations on the proposal to the Commission on Higher Education and the State Board of Nursing. Following approval by the Commission on Higher Education, the proposal will be submitted to the State Board of Nursing for final review. If all standards as stated in Regulations of the Laws Governing Nursing in South Carolina are met by the educational unit, the status of Initial State Accreditation will be assigned the unit. This status is continued while there is evidence of sound operation and growth for a length of time sufficient to give assurance of a secure and educationally sound development. Following the results of the State Board Test Pool Examination of the first graduating class, the State Board of Nursing will review the program for Full State Accreditation. Upon recommendation of the State Board of Nursing, the school is then granted Full Accreditation by the State. Application for accreditation by the official national accrediting body, the National League for Nursing, should then be considered by the program.

* The Commission on Higher Education and the State Board of Nursing will review the Joint Statement bi-annually, and initiate such revisions as may improve the cooperative efforts of the two agencies in assuring the availability of quality nursing education for South Carolina.

Section VIII.

The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education are committed to equal opportunity in compliance with civil rights laws.

Ruth Q. Seigler, R.N.
Ruth Q. Seigler, R.N., Executive Director
State Board of Nursing for South Carolina

Howard R. Boozer
Howard R. Boozer, Ph.D., Executive Director
S.C. Commission on Higher Education

Date: February 5, 1981