December 4, 2014

Dear Nursing Program Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in East Stroudsburg University. We wish to inform you that the East Stroudsburg Nursing Program was placed on Provisional status by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing as a result of our graduates not meeting the state requirements of having an 80% pass rate on the NCLEX state board examination. This change in status is effective December 1, 2014.

Change from full to provisional status by the state board of nursing does not change the programs full accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), nor is the university closing the nursing program. The ESU nursing program continues its forty year tradition of providing quality nursing education that is guided by the program’s revised curriculum implemented in 2013.

The percentage of graduates who take the NCLEX exam and pass on their first attempt is one of the criteria for determining types of approval for nursing programs (49 PA. Code. 21.33). The Class of 2014 yield 27 graduates, with 24 students taking the NCLEX exam from July 1, 2014 to September 20, 2014. Nineteen students were successful in passing the exam for a pass rate of 79.17%. Between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014, a total of 25 students took the NCLEX exam which resulted in six students who were not successful in passing. Based on this data, the current pass rate for our program is 76%. However, three of the students in the Class of 2014 took and passed the NCLEX exam after September 30th, and the six students who failed the exam initially, passed on the second attempt.

Students currently enrolled in the Nursing Program remain eligible to take the NCLEX-RN upon graduation while the program is under provisional approval status. As per the PA State Board of Nursing regulations, a detailed performance improvement plan needs to be submitted and reviewed. The nursing program has a period of two (2) years to improve NCLEX-RN pass rates of its graduates to be in compliance with the board’s regulations. Throughout this period, the nursing program remains accredited. Please be assured that that the success of our nursing students in our program and with passing the NCLEX-RN exam is the number one priority for the nursing faculty and university administration. If you have any questions in regards to this letter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Laura M. Waters, PhD, RN
Associate Professor/Chair, Department of Nursing

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