



Agenda Item 4.0

REVIEW AND VOTE ON WHETHER TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

BRN Education/Licensing Committee | November 5, 2026

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
EDUCATION/LICENSING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

DRAFT

Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Start Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: The Education/Licensing Committee meeting was held via remote access in accordance with Government Code section 11123.5. All Committee members joined the meeting remotely.

9:00 a.m.

1.0

Call to order, roll call, and establishment of a quorum

Chair Jovita Dominguez, BSN, RN called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

A quorum was established at 9:02 a.m. All Committee members participated remotely.

Committee Jovita Dominguez, BSN, RN-Chair

Members: Roi David Lollar
Patricia "Tricia" Wynne, Esq.

BRN Staff: Loretta (Lori) Melby, RN, MSN – Executive Officer
Reza Pejuhesh – DCA Legal Affairs Division, Attorney
Mary Ann McCarthy, EdD, MSN, RN, PHN, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant - Staff Liaison

9:02 a.m.

2.0

General instructions for the format of a teleconference meeting

At the Chair's request, and with Committee consensus, Item 3.0 (Public Comment for items not on the agenda) was reordered to the end of the agenda (prior to adjournment) to ensure completion of Committee business. BRN Legal Counsel noted the Committee's meeting length is variable and provided general timing expectations.

BRN Moderator summarized teleconference participation procedures (WebEx Q&A via Slido). A brief Slido configuration adjustment was made to allow identification for unmuting; functionality was tested and confirmed.

9:07 a.m.

4.0

Review and vote on whether to approve previous meeting minutes

4.1 May 13, 2026

Committee None

Discussion:

Motion: **Jovita Dominguez** moved to accept the Education/Licensing Committee meeting minutes from May 13, 2026, and to allow BRN staff to make non-substantive corrections (e.g., name misspellings and typographical errors).

Second: **David Lollar**

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item**

4.1: None

Vote:

	JD	DL	PW
	Y	Y	Y
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

9:13 a.m.

5.0

(Items under 5.0 were considered as consent agenda items unless pulled for individual discussion and/or action; none were pulled.)

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

Mary Ann McCarthy, EdD, MSN, RN, PHN, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant - Staff Liaison presented:

Curriculum changes that do not alter philosophy, objectives, or content may be implemented prior to Board approval, subject to NEC review.

Programs shall not utilize any facility for clinical experience without prior Board approval. Programs must submit evidence of compliance and assign students only to facilities that meet written outcomes for clinical learning.

BRN staff received and reviewed all documents for Item 5.1; details are listed in the materials packet.

Prelicensure Curriculum Changes requested by:

Colleges: Carrington College, Golden West College, Mount San Antonio College, Porterville College, Riverside City College, Saddleback College, Yuba College

Universities: Western University of Health Sciences, California Northstate University, California State University, East Bay, California State University, Sacramento, Point Loma Nazarene University, Saint Mary's College of California, William Jessup University

Clinical Facility Approvals requested by:

Colleges: Butte College, College of the Redwoods, Golden West College, Santa Rosa Junior College

Universities: Pepperdine University, Azusa Pacific University, California State University, Los Angeles, Stanbridge University, University of San Francisco, West Coast University

Progress Reports regarding:

Colleges: Allan Hancock College, Copper Mountain College, Cypress College, Fresno City College, Los Angeles City College, Santa Rosa Junior College

Universities: Azusa Pacific University, University of San Francisco, California State University, Channel Islands, Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts-San Jose, Samuel Merritt University, Unitek College

Advanced Practice (Nurse Practitioner): Touro University

Committee Discussion: None

Motion: **Jovita Dominguez** moved to recommend approval of the proposed curriculum revisions and clinical facilities, and to acknowledge receipt of program progress reports.

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

Public Comment for Agenda Item 5.1: **Samantha Gerard** attempted to comment but confirmed her remarks were for items not on the agenda; she reserved comment for later.

Vote:

	JD	DL	PW
	Y	Y	Y
<u>Key:</u> Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

9:18 a.m.

5.2 Discussion and possible action regarding whether to recommend continuing approval of approved nursing programs

Prelicensure nursing programs

5.2.1 Western University of Health Sciences Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program

- 5.2.2 San Diego State University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.3 Antelope Valley College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.4 Gavilan College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.5 Imperial Valley College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.6 Santa Rosa Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.7 Ventura College Associate Degree Nursing Program

Advanced practice nursing programs

- 5.2.8 University of California Irvine Nurse Practitioner Program
- 5.2.9 Western University of Health Sciences Nurse Practitioner Program

Committee Discussion: **MaryAnn McCarthy:** BRN staff received and reviewed documentation for Items 5.2.1–5.2.9. Programs met all Board rules and regulations for continuing approval.

Motion: **Jovita Dominguez** moved to recommend continuing approval of the listed prelicensure and nurse practitioner programs.

Second: **David Lollar**

Public Comment for Agenda Items 5.2.1 – 5.2.9: None

Vote:

	JD	DL	PW
	Y	Y	Y
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

9:21 a.m. **6.0** **Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Board regarding a potentially adverse change in fiscal condition**

9:21 a.m. **6.1.1** **Dominican University of California**

Committee Discussion: **Loretta Melby:** Under 16 CCR § 1432, approved nursing programs must notify the Board within 10 days of any change in fiscal condition that will or may adversely affect applicants or enrolled students. BRN was provided recent actions by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) concerning fiscal monitoring; letters in the packet (Dominican University of California; Saint Mary's College of California; William Jessup University) include warnings and required actions. BRN's consumer protection focus prompted Committee review; staff and NECs will monitor institutions and place updates on future ELC agendas as needed.

Institution Remarks (summary): Clarified that the November 1 deliverable is not a full teach-out plan; it is a preliminary program/enrollment list and possible transfer destinations (if needed). Institutional planning emphasizes supporting currently enrolled students, maintaining approved enrollment patterns, and hiring needed nursing faculty (no nursing-specific hiring freeze).

Committee members appreciated clarification and confirmed focus on student continuity and resources for nursing.

Motion: **Jovita Dominguez** moved to recommend that the Board require quarterly reports from Dominican's Nursing Program to its assigned NEC regarding the program's fiscal standing.

Second: **David Lollar**

Public Comment for Agenda Item 6.1.1: None

Vote:

	JD	DL	PW
	Y	Y	Y
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

9:45 a.m.

6.1.2 Saint Mary's College of California

Institution Remarks (summary): The institution remains fully accredited by WSCUC; recognizes the alert regarding their finances but states that it does not currently jeopardize accreditation or degree validity. College is operating with a balanced budget and working toward long-term sustainability (enrollment and financial plans). Nursing program resources are protected; recent investments include new full-time

instructional/clinical faculty and a state-of-the-art simulation lab.
Approved enrollment patterns continue.

Committee Discussion: **David Lollar** found the commitment to faculty hiring, program resources, and leadership support encouraging

Motion: **Jovita Dominguez** moved to recommend that the Board require quarterly reports from Saint Mary's Nursing Program to its assigned NEC regarding the program's fiscal standing.

Second: **David Lollar**

Public Comment for Agenda Item 6.1.2: None

Vote:

	JD	DL	PW
	Y	Y	Y
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

9:55 a.m.

6.1.3 William Jessup University

Institution Remarks (summary): The University affirmed its commitment to the nursing program; it recently hired an additional full-time pediatric nursing faculty member. WSCUC concerns primarily referenced prior expense/revenue balance during program buildout; institution reported the nursing budget is being executed as planned.

Committee Discussion: Members noted the action items appeared less urgent/exigent than the other institutions; monitoring via brief NEC updates is appropriate.

Motion: **Patricia Wynne** moved to recommend that the Board require quarterly reports from William Jessup's Nursing Program to its assigned NEC regarding the program's fiscal standing.

Second: **David Lollar**

Public Comment for Agenda Item 6.1.3: *Slido opened; a member of the public attempted to comment but could not unmute. The Chair provided additional time for typed comments; no comment was received.*

Vote:

	JD	DL	PW
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	Y	Y	Y
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

10:03 a.m.

6.2 Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Board regarding outstanding compliance issues

6.2.1 Pasadena City College Associate Degree Nursing Program

Mary Ann McMarthy summarized the compliance history:

- Pasadena City College (PCC) presented before the ELC and full Board in May and June 2026 for compliance issues.
- In June, the Board required PCC to appear at every ELC and Board meeting until a continuing approval visit is completed (planned by May 2027).
- The program director has not been able to secure or confirm clinical sites, preventing onboarding of students and faculty.
- The dean continues controlling the placement system, significantly impacting students.
- PCC reduced Fall 2026 enrollment by 10 students to align with available resources.

Staff referenced the Executive Summary and materials beginning on p. 74 of the packet.

Committee Discussion: **Patricia Wynne** noted initial optimism after reviewing materials, but expressed concern after hearing staff's update. PCC representatives were asked to address clinical placement issues.

Program Representatives (PCC):

- PCC reported hiring progress:
 - A clinical coordinator now in place.
 - Onboarding new faculty.
 - Lab updated with new lab coordinator.
 - Recruiting a simulation lab faculty member.
- Dr. Micah Young (MD) explained:
 - PCC lost a clinical site due to a hospital ownership change and contract renegotiation.
 - PCC has secured alternate clinical sites; all faculty notified to begin onboarding.
- Multiple program representatives faced audio/video issues during discussion.

PCC Program Director Statement (Dr. Carol Friedman)
(after regaining audio access)

Dr. Friedman stated:

- PCC is making progress on compliance areas.
- Scheduling delays are acknowledged; reasons include uncertainty in clinical sites and onboarding delays.

- No students have missed required clinical hours; if any graduate lacks required hours, they must make them up.
- Spring schedules will improve with new processes.
- PCC has hired:
 - Five full-time faculty members.
 - A full-time managerial clinical coordinator.
 - A consultant to assist the director in addressing compliance issues.
- She affirmed she does have the authority required of program directors under BRN regulations.
- Faculty scheduling delays will be resolved and will not recur.

Committee members expressed:

- Appreciation for PCC's openness and improvements.
- That this item remains information only, unless the Committee wishes to recommend additional Board actions (none chosen).

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item
6.2.1:**

Public comment for 6.2.1 was extensive and included:
Student and Recent Graduate Comments:

- Concerns regarding missing clinical placements, delayed schedules, onboarding delays (especially at LAC hospitals), and missed specialty hours.
- Fears of loss of instructional quality, lack of communication, and cultural issues within the school.
- Requests for clarity regarding laws governing clinical hours and adjustments.

BRN Executive Officer Loretta Melby responded:

- Detailed explanation of California requirements:
 - 500 direct-patient-care hours minimum.
 - 30 hours minimum in each specialty area.
 - Remaining hours (approx. 310) may be simulation/skills-based and may be adjusted in temporary curriculum revisions.
- Clarified the difference between:
 - Curriculum changes (under BRN authority), and
 - Scheduling/onboarding (under school and clinical site authority, not BRN).
- Corrected misunderstandings regarding pandemic-related emergency flexibilities, which are no longer active.
- Stated BRN does not review individual students' clinical logs, but verifies program-level compliance.
- Affirmed that all PCC students remain eligible for licensure, and no restriction on NCLEX authorization exists at this time.
- Encouraged students to use school grievance processes and the Chancellor's Office if needed.

Additional Public Concerns:

- Repeated concerns about communication failures, fears of retaliation, and contradictory statements between BRN meetings and student experiences.
- Questions about whether PCC's promised clinical coordinator had actually been hired (EO Melby confirmed yes).

Technical Issues:

- Numerous audio/video issues required extended adjustments.
- Committee took a break from 10:42–11:00 a.m.
- Quorum reestablished after break to resolve technical issues at 11:00 a.m.

When asked again after the break, no additional commenters requested to speak. Public comment was closed.

This item was information only. No motion was made.

11:29 a.m.

**6.3 Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Board regarding a request to grant initial approval of a secondary site of a prelicensure nursing program
REGION 7 Inland Empire**

6.3.1 Unitek College, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (secondary site in Ontario)

Mary Ann McCarthy summarized:

- Unitek submitted an initial self-study for a new prelicensure BSN program at a secondary site in Ontario, California (Region 7).
- The feasibility study for this site was approved by the Board in March 2026.
- Proposed enrollment: 40 students, three times per year (120 annually).
- Growth data and academic collaboration components were completed during feasibility review.
- Executive summary begins on p. 83 of the packet.
- NEC review confirms all requirements met and program is eligible to begin enrolling students.

Committee Discussion: **Patricia Wynne** asked about data gaps regarding attrition and NCLEX pass rates.

Loretta Melby clarified those items applied to the *next* agenda item, not Unitek.

No concerns were raised regarding Unitek.

Motion: **Jovita Dominguez** moved to recommend granting initial approval of the Unitek College BSN secondary site in Ontario, with an enrollment pattern of 40 students, three times per year, for 120 students annually.

Second: **David Lollar**

Public Comment for Agenda Item **Valsala Zachariah (typed comment):** concerned that the market is saturated.

6.3.1:

Loretta Melby: explained that impact concerns were reviewed during the feasibility study and considered by the Board at that stage. Initial approval at this meeting relates only to confirming program compliance with requirements to enroll students.

Vote:

	JD	DL	PW
	Y	Y	Y
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

11:37 a.m.

6.4 Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Board regarding a request to grant acceptance of a feasibility study for a new prelicensure nursing program

REGION 10 Southern Border

6.4.1 Stanbridge University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (secondary site in San Marcos)

Committee Discussion: **Patricia Wynne:** asked about the incomplete information on attrition.

Mary Ann McCarthy: explained the process of asking and obtaining more information.

Patricia Wynne: voiced concerns on the high attrition rates.

Loretta Melby: provided more clarification and shared concerns regarding resources.

Motion: **David Lollar:** recommend deferring acceptance of the feasibility study for a new prelicensure baccalaureate degree nursing program, secondary campus in San Marcos, requested by Stanbridge University

Second: **Jovita Dominguez**

Public Comment for Agenda Item 6.4.1: **Samantha Gerard:** made a comment on behalf of Southwestern College on fears of displacement and spoke out in opposition.

Connie Lafuente: spoke in opposition due to limited clinical capacity and fears of displacement.

Wendy Handsbrow, Director of School of Nursing, CSU San Marcos: spoke in opposition of this program expansion due to limited clinical capacity.

Dr. Yvette Duncan, Director of RN Program, MiraCosta College: spoke in opposition of this program expansion due to concerns of displacement.

Maria Dudley, retired clinical faculty: spoke in opposition.

Kisha Alvarado: asked if LVNs are considered as saturation regarding clinical placements and also asked if there are milage caps for students regarding clinical travel.

Loretta Melby: answered that they are considered regarding clinical placements for new students and that there is no mileage cap.

1:01 p.m.

1:46 p.m.

BREAK

QUORUM REESTABLISHED

Continued
Public
Comment for
Agenda Item
6.4.1:

Alice Martanegara, Dean of Nursing, Arizona College: spoke in opposition due to concern over clinical placements.

Vote:

	JD	DL	PW
	Y	Y	Y
<u>Key:</u> Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

1:59 p.m.

3.0 Public comment for items not on the agenda; items for future agendas

Public
Comment for
Agenda Item

Jacob, Nightingale College student, LVN: spoke to advocate for equivalency.

3.0: **Bibi Ijaz:** spoke of the pushback and harassment that they received after speaking up with concerns about Nightingale College.

Loretta Melby: stressed the importance of taking harassment claims seriously.

Reza Pejuhesh: spoke in support of individuals coming forward with pertinent information.

Mia: spoke in positive support of Nightingale College staff and faculty, and their desire to practice as an RN in California.

Danica Olay: spoke in frustration over waiting 4 months now for the Nightingale College review and having to wait to take the NCLEX, having already paid.

Sanam Sharma: spoke about the importance of patient safety and whether or not Nightingale College students are receiving proper instruction via virtual and clinical instruction.

Linda Espinosa: spoke in support of Nightingale College and hopes that the issues are resolved by September.

Al Moss, LVN: commented in support of the VR clinicals obtained through Nightingale College.

3:03 p.m.

7.0

Adjournment

➤ David Lollar adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

Submitted by:

Accepted by:

Loretta Melby, MSN, RN

Executive Officer

California Board of Registered Nursing

Jovita Dominguez, BSN, RN

Chairperson, Education/Licensing Committee

California Board of Registered Nursing

Please Note: BRN staff prepared these meeting minutes with the assistance of artificial intelligence and conducted a full review to ensure completeness and accuracy.