

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

Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026

Start Time: 10:35 a.m.

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

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------|--|
| 10:35 a.m. | 1.0 | <p>Call to order, roll call, and establishment of a quorum</p> <p>Chairperson Jovita Dominguez called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. All members were present, and a quorum was established at 10:36 a.m. All Committee members joined the meeting remotely.</p> <p>Committee Members: Jovita Dominguez, BSN, RN-Chair
Patricia "Tricia" Wynne, Esq.
Dolores Trujillo, RN</p> <p>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</p> |
| 10:36 a.m. | 2.0 | <p>General instructions for the format of a teleconference meeting</p> <p>The BRN Moderator provided instructions regarding the WebEx/Slido public comment process, including how members of the public may request to speak, how unmuting works, and reminders regarding muting microphones when not speaking.</p> |
| 10:38 a.m. | 3.0 | <p>Public comments for items not on the agenda</p> <p>The BRN Moderator opened the public comment feature.</p> <p>Public Comment for Agenda Item</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3.0: None</p> |
| 10:39 a.m. | 4.0 | <p>Review, discuss, and vote on whether to approve previous meeting minutes</p> |

➤ October 21, 2025

Committee
Discussion: None

Motion: **Dolores Trujillo** moved to approve the Education/Licensing Committee meeting minutes from October 21, 2025, and to allow BRN staff to make non-substantive changes to correct name misspellings and/or typographical errors.

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item**

4.0: **Kari Barnes**, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, commented regarding her DEA Schedule II furnishing authority not being approved.

Executive Officer Loretta Melby clarified the requirements for pharmacology coursework and requested the commenter contact her directly via email for assistance.

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

10:46 a.m.

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

Supervising Nursing Education Consultant Dr. Mary Ann McCarthy summarized Board policy regarding curriculum changes and clinical facility approvals. She noted that:

NECs may review curriculum changes that do not significantly alter program philosophy, objectives, or content. Programs must obtain Board approval before assigning students to any clinical facility. All required documentation for the listed requests was received and reviewed.

Items under 5.1 are presented as consent agenda items.

Prelicensure Curriculum Changes Requested By:

Colleges: Carrington, Chabot, Gavilan, Hartnell, Los Angeles Trade Tech, Long Beach City, Los Angeles Southwest, Riverside City, Sacramento City, Solano Community, Ventura, Victor Valley, Westmont

Universities: California State University Fresno, Loma Linda University

Clinical Facility Approvals Requested By:

Colleges: Angeles, Gurnick, Marsha Fuerst School of Nursing

Universities: Azusa Pacific, California State University East Bay, Concordia, Samuel Merritt, San Diego State, Sonoma State, Stanbridge, West Coast, Westcliff

Progress Reports Received From:

Colleges: Cabrillo, College of the Siskiyous, Copper Mountain, Gavilan, Imperial Valley, Los Angeles City, Los Angeles Trade Tech, National Career, Pacific Union, Solano, Unitek

Universities: California State University Monterey Bay, Fresno Pacific, Loma Linda, Samuel Merritt, United States University

Committee

Discussion: None

10:48 a.m.

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

Second: **Jovita Dominguez**

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item**

5.1: None

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

10:50 a.m.

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

Dr. McCarthy presented the list of programs under Agenda Items 5.2.1 through 5.2.10, noting that:

All required documentation was received. All programs met Board rules and regulations. All items (5.2.1-5.2.10) are presented as consent agenda items.

Prelicensure Nursing Programs

5.2.1 California State University Stanislaus Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

- 5.2.2** American Career College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.3** College of the Redwoods Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.4** Fresno City College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.5** Modesto Junior College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 5.2.6** California State University Sacramento Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner Programs

- 5.2.7** California State University Fresno Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Program
- 5.2.8** California State University Stanislaus Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and PMHNP Programs
- 5.2.9** Fresno Pacific University FNP Program
- 5.2.10** American University of Health Sciences FNP Program (initial approval)

Committee

Discussion: None

Motion: **Dolores Trujillo** moved to recommend continuing approval of the prelicensure nursing programs and the advanced practice (nurse practitioner) nursing programs listed under Items 5.2.1 through 5.2.10.

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

**Public Comment
for Agenda
Item(s)**

5.2.1 – 5.2.10: None

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

10:53 a.m.

6.1

Discussion and possible action regarding prelicensure nursing programs in noncompliance

Dr. Mary Ann McCarthy, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant, provided an overview of Board regulations related to program compliance, continuing approval visits, and the Board's authority to issue written notices of noncompliance and, if necessary, remove program approval. She noted that the next three items (6.1.1–6.1.3)

involve programs currently in noncompliance and working toward correction.

6.1.1 Merritt College, Associate Degree Nursing Program (two years with non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)

Staff Summary: Merritt College has been in noncompliance since Spring 2023. The program was placed on Warning Status with Intent to Remove Program Approval at the August 2025 Board meeting. A new program director was hired in July 2025, resulting in significant progress. The program voluntarily paused Fall 2025 admissions to focus on student success. Quarterly updates to ELC are required until full compliance is achieved. Dr. McCarthy indicated the program is very close to returning to compliance, pending completion of curriculum updates.

Committee Discussion: **Patricia Wynne** noted the long duration of noncompliance but acknowledged the program's strong efforts and progress.

Dr. McCarthy confirmed the program is close to meeting all requirements.

Dolores Trujillo asked whether the program should remain on warning status until all work is complete; **Dr. McCarthy** confirmed yes, explaining that removing the warning prematurely would reset the statutory one-year compliance period.

Executive Officer Loretta Melby provided additional regulatory context, explaining the warning status provides a full year for correction. Removing the warning early would require restarting the compliance timeline. Warning status also informs prospective students of program issues. Once cleared, the program will return to full approval for a minimum of five years.

Committee

Action: Item treated as information only. No motion required.

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item**

6.1.1: None

11:02 a.m.

6.1.2 Antelope Valley College Associate Degree Nursing Program (non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)

Staff Summary: Antelope Valley underwent a routine continuing approval visit in October 2025. Three areas of noncompliance were identified. Two have been corrected; one remains outstanding: section 1424(g) requires faculty to have primary responsibility for program policies,

procedures, planning, organizing, and evaluation. The program continues working toward full compliance.

Committee Discussion: **Patricia Wynne** noted the program appears to be taking appropriate corrective action.

Dolores Trujillo commented on positive pass rates and attrition rates and expressed hope for timely compliance.

Motion: **Patricia Wynne** moved to recommend to defer taking action on the continuing approval status for Antelope Valley College while the program works to clear remaining noncompliances.

Second: **Dolores Trujillo**

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item**

6.1.2: None

11:06 a.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

11:07 a.m.

6.1.3 Madera Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program (non-compliances following a BRN continuing approval visit)

Staff Summary: Madera Community College is in noncompliance following a continuing approval visit. **Dr. McCarthy** noted the situation is administratively complex and recommended directing certain questions to the program director.

Committee Discussion: **Patricia Wynne** asked whether the program is on track to return to compliance despite challenges.

Dr. McCarthy deferred to the program director for specifics.

Program Director Nikki Visveshara stated that the program is optimistic about achieving full compliance and outlined the steps already underway to address faculty and administrative deficiencies. She reported that although no full-time faculty are currently assigned exclusively to the Madera campus, the college has approved two full-time nursing faculty positions. The first recruitment cycle closed in October, the hiring committee has met, and the program submitted all required hiring documentation. The program is now awaiting release of applicant materials from the HR department in order to begin

interviews. She further noted that the second full-time faculty position is scheduled to be posted later in the Spring 2026 semester, with a projected start date in Fall 2026.

Dolores Trujillo and **Patricia Wynne** expressed interest in monitoring progress closely.

Motion: **Patricia Wynne** moved to recommend to defer taking action on the continuing approval status for Madera Community College while the program works to clear noncompliances, including a requirement to return to ELC/Board in one year with quarterly reports to the assigned NEC.

Second: **Dolores Trujillo**

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Items**

6.1.3: None

11:13 a.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

11:13 a.m.

6.2

Discussion and possible action regarding a request for an enrollment increase for an approved prelicensure nursing program

REGION 5 Central Coast

11:14 a.m.

6.2.1

Hartnell College Associate Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

Committee Discussion: **Patricia Wynne** confirmed the program's current enrollment is 50 students annually, and the request is to increase to 75 students annually.

Committee members expressed support for the increase.

Motion: **Dolores Trujillo** moved to recommend acceptance of the enrollment increase for Hartnell College Associate Degree Nursing Program. Proposed Enrollment Pattern: 75 students every fall (Increase of 25 students annually)

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item**

6.2.1 None

11:19 a.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

11:19 a.m.

6.2.2 Santa Barbara City College Associate Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

Committee Discussion: **Patricia Wynne** described the increase as modest and supported the request.

Committee members agreed the program has strong performance indicators.

Motion: **Patricia Wynne** moved to recommend acceptance of the enrollment increase for Santa Barbara City College Associate Degree Nursing Program. Proposed Enrollment Pattern: Generic ADN Enrollment: 42 students each fall and spring (84 annually) (Increase of 20 students annually) Advanced Placement Enrollment: No change (10 annually)

Second: **Jovita Dominguez**

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item**

6.2.2: None

11:26 a.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

REGION 10 Southern Border

11:26 a.m.

6.2.3 University of San Diego Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

Committee Discussion: **Wynne** and **Trujillo** described the increase as modest and responsible.

Committee members praised the program's efforts to avoid negative impacts on regional partners.

Motion: **Patricia Wynne** moved to recommend acceptance of the enrollment increase for the University of San Diego Entry-Level Master's Degree Nursing Program.

Proposed Enrollment Pattern: 50 students every fall, 50 students every spring (100 students annually; increase of 40 students annually)

Second: **Jovita Dominguez**

Public Comment for Agenda Item 6.2.3: **Samantha Gerrard** (typed) asked how long the increase applies.

EO Melby clarified that the increase is permanent unless the school returns to the Board. New annual enrollment = 100 students.

Brittany L. Wilson asked whether educational content was being removed.

EO Melby clarified that curriculum hours remain the same. Only the distribution between direct care and simulation changed. California still exceeds national minimums.

Additional clarifications were provided regarding simulation standards, licensing requirements, and evidence-based practice.

11:43 a.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

11:44 a.m.

LUNCH BREAK

12:46 p.m.

QUORUM REESTABLISHED – All Members Present

12:46 p.m.

6.2.4 MiraCosta College Associate Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

Committee Discussion: **Wynne** asked about fluctuating attrition rates.

EO Melby explained COVID-related impacts in 2022–2023.

Dr. Yvette Duncan provided detailed context regarding LVN-to-RN attrition and corrective measures.

EO Melby added that post-COVID burnout contributed.

Motion: **Patricia Wynne** moved to recommend acceptance of the enrollment increase for MiraCosta College Associate Degree Nursing Program.

Proposed Enrollment Pattern:

Generic ADN: 25 students twice per year (50 annually) - Increase of 10 students annually

LVN-RN: 28 students once per year (28 annually) - Increase of 8 students annually

Second: Dolores Trujillo

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item**

6.2.4: None

12:57 p.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

Region 9 Orange

12:57 p.m.

6.2.5 Vanguard University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (enrollment increase)

Committee Discussion: **Trujillo** praised strong scores and attrition rates and asked about faculty capacity.

Dr. McCarthy confirmed adequate faculty.

Wynne and **Dominguez** expressed support.

Motion: **Jovita Dominguez** moved to recommend acceptance of the enrollment increase for Vanguard University.

Proposed Enrollment Pattern: 30 students twice per year (60 annually) (Increase of 30 students annually; adds one additional cohort)

Second: Patricia Wynne

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item
6.2.5:**

Alice Martanegara spoke in support.

Shirley Thomas thanked EO Melby. Commented on not wanting to impact their fellow facilities.

1:09 p.m.

Vote:

	JD	DT	PW
--	-----------	-----------	-----------

	Y	Y	Y
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			
Motion Passed			

Region 8 Los Angeles

1:09 p.m.

6.2.6 | Los Angeles Southwest College Associate Degree Program (enrollment increase)

Committee Discussion: **Wynne** asked about high attrition rates.

Indiana McClellan (program representative) described tutoring, workshops, and financial supports implemented.

EO Melby noted stable attrition rates that do not indicate structural issues.

Wynne expressed concern about balancing attrition with increased enrollment.

EO Melby clarified that first-semester policy drives attrition and is monitored.

Motion: **Patricia Wynne** moved to recommend acceptance of the enrollment increase for Los Angeles Southwest College.

Proposed Enrollment Pattern: 40 students twice per year
(Increase of 20 students annually)

Second: **Dolores Trujillo**

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item**

6.2.6: None

1:19 p.m.

Vote:

	JD	DT	PW
	Y	Y	Y
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			
Motion Passed			

REGION 7 Inland Empire

1:19 p.m.

6.2.7 | Arizona College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Program, Ontario (enrollment increase)

Committee **EO Melby** noted only two years of data are available.

Discussion:

Trujillo expressed concern about declining NCLEX scores and >20% attrition.

Julie Jordan (school representative) reported discrepancies in attrition reporting.

EO Melby clarified correct data interpretation.

Wynne and **Trujillo** stated they were not prepared to approve an increase without stronger data.

EO Melby recommended deferral, not denial.

Jordan described corrective actions for NCLEX decline.

1:43 p.m.

Motion: **Dolores Trujillo** moved to DEFER the enrollment increase request and require the program to return in August 2027.

Requested Enrollment Pattern (School's Request): 60 students three times per year (Increase of 60 students annually)

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item
6.2.7:**

Sherri Henderson, Program Director spoke about clinical placement limitations and concerns.

1:51 p.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

1:51 p.m.

6.3

Discussion and possible action regarding a request to grant initial approval of a new prelicensure nursing program

REGION 7 Inland Empire

6.3.1

California Nurses Educational Institute Associate Degree Program (initial self-study)

Committee

Discussion: None

Motion: **Patricia Wynne** moved to recommend granting initial approval for the California Nurses Educational Institute Associate Degree Program with the following enrollment pattern: 40 Generic ADN students each spring, 50 Advanced Placement students each summer. Total: 90 students annually. Instruction to begin summer (May) 2026

Second: **Dolores Trujillo**

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item**

6.3.1:

Sherri Henderson offered collaboration to avoid displacement of students.

1:58 p.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

1:59 p.m.

6.4

Discussion and possible action regarding a request to grant acceptance of a feasibility study for a new prelicensure nursing program

REGION 7 Inland Empire

1:59 p.m.

6.4.1

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

**Committee
Discussion:**

Wynne expressed concern about saturation in the region and insufficient collaboration documentation.

Abdel Yosef (school representative) clarified prior submissions and highlighted strong pass rates and collaboration efforts.

Trujillo asked about employment tracking.

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item**

6.4.1:

Priscilla Grecko (Pacific College) stated they were left out of the collaboration form and spoke to the saturation in the Ontario region and that she feels this would impact a lot of schools looking for pediatrics.

Janet Stotts responded that they would reach out to Priscilla and apologized for the oversight.

Sherri Henderson (Program Director, San Joaquin Valley College) spoke to being clinically displaced in the Central

Valley, specifically from Unitek. Also spoke to the further challenges of clinical impact in that area with the introduction of a new school.

Alice Martanegara spoke to the high saturation in the area.

2:36 p.m.

Motion: **Dolores Trujillo** moved to DEFER action on the feasibility study to allow Unitek College to provide additional information.

Requested Enrollment Pattern (School's Request): 40 students three times per year (120 annually)

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

2:37 p.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

2:37 p.m.

BREAK

2:46 p.m.

QUORUM REESTABLISHED – All Members Present

2:46 p.m.

6.4.2 Arizona College of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (secondary site, Stockton)

Committee Discussion: **Trujillo** expressed concern about limited historical data.

Dominguez asked whether the region is impacted.

EO Melby explained that collaboration, not saturation, is the key regulatory factor.

Wynne stated the school should strengthen its foundation before expanding.

Debbie Long (school representative) spoke to the resources that they have and the supportive environments they've fostered. Also spoke to working with the students in the community and keeping them there.

Public Comment for Agenda Item **Amanda Sakoda** (Delta College) commented on the risk of displacement of students.

6.4.2: **Jerry** (President, San Joaquin Delta College) voiced concerns on the expansion due to regional capacity and the concern on clinical placements.

Rae Charos (Associate Professor, University of the Pacific) commented on already being challenged with clinical placements.

Wendy Matthew (Director, CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing) commented on supporting the established partnerships already established and the strain on clinical placements, faculty and long term work facilities if introducing another program in the area.

Lisa Lucchesi (Dean, San Joaquin Delta College) spoke in opposition of the introduction of Arizona College in the area.

Lindsey Anderson (University of the Pacific) commented on the volume of clinical sites needed, especially in pediatrics, which is an area of concern when adding new programs.

Deborah Finn Romero (typed comment) asked for clarification on the regional map.

EO Melby explained the regional data, census data, as well as how DCA utilizes it at the BRN.

Nicoletta Bugnariu (Dean, University of the Pacific) commented on ensuring the students entering the programs are supported for success and urged the board to not approve this program in the region. Also commented on the high tuition.

EO Melby commented that the board is aware of tuition but is not allowed to take that into consideration.

Patty Hall (typed comment) concerned with mental health placements that are currently impacted.

Sarah Switzer (typed comment) they tried to enter Sacramento and now they're trying to enter Stockton with high tuition.

EO Melby commented (again) that the board is not allowed to take tuition into consideration.

Debbie Long commented that they have been trying to stay in the surrounding areas and have not been hopping around. Also reiterated that they have partners that are not currently being utilized and will not be displacing any students. Echoed her sentiments in collaborating with any program.

Jason Dunne (Chief Academic Officer) echoed Debbie’s comments and sentiments on the success of their program and asked for consideration for a deferral.

3:30 p.m. **Motion:** **Dolores Trujillo** moved to DEFER action until August 2027.

Requested Enrollment Pattern (School’s Request): 48 students three times per year (144 annually)

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

3:33 p.m.

Vote:

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

Motion Passed

REGION 10 Southern Border

3:35 p.m. **6.4.3** San Diego State University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (secondary site, Chula Vista)

Committee Discussion: **Trujillo** praised the data.

Wynne found the collaboration strong.

Dominguez asked about regional impact.

EO Melby confirmed the region is impacted but collaboration was positive.

Motion: **Jovita Dominguez** moved to recommend acceptance of the feasibility study for SDSU’s secondary site in Chula Vista.

Requested Enrollment Pattern: 50 students each fall (50 annually)

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

**Public
Comment for
Agenda Item**

6.4.3: None

3:43 p.m.

Vote:

	JD	DT	PW
--	-----------	-----------	-----------

	Y	Y	Y
<u>Key:</u> Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			
Motion Passed			

6.4.4 Stanbridge University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program (secondary site, San Marcos)

Item deferred to next ELC meeting.

3:43 p.m.

7.0

Adjournment

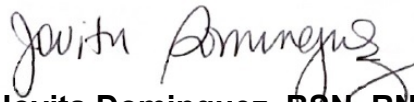
- Jovita Dominguez, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 3:43 p.m.

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