

November 15, 2010



Commission on
Collegiate Nursing
Education

Serving the
Public Interest
Through Quality
Accreditation

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Joan L. Shaver, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean
College of Nursing
The University of Arizona
1305 North Martin, Room 316
Tucson, AZ 85721-0203

Dear Dr. Shaver:

On behalf of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), I am pleased to advise you that the CCNE Board of Commissioners acted at its meeting on October 14-16, 2010, to grant accreditation of the baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing at The University of Arizona for the term of 10 years, extending to December 31, 2020. The Board also acted to grant accreditation of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program for the term of 5 years, extending to December 31, 2015. These accreditation actions are effective as of April 26, 2010, which was the first day of the programs' recent CCNE on-site evaluation.

You should plan for the next on-site evaluation of the baccalaureate and master's programs to take place in the spring of 2020. You should plan for the next on-site evaluation of the DNP program to take place in the spring of 2015.

At its meeting, the Board determined that the programs met all four accreditation standards. The Board additionally determined that there are no compliance concerns with respect to the key elements.

As is required for all accredited programs, the Board requested that each program submit a Continuous Improvement Progress Report (CIPR) at the mid-point of the accreditation term. The CIPR should address the nursing program's continued compliance with all accreditation standards.

The deadline for the baccalaureate and master's programs to submit the progress report to CCNE is December 1, 2015. The Report Review Committee, and then the Board of Commissioners, will review the progress report in the spring of 2016.

The deadline for the DNP program to submit the progress report to CCNE is December 1, 2013. The Report Review Committee, and then the Board of Commissioners, will review the progress report in the spring of 2014.

Please note that the aforementioned CIPRs will need to address the CCNE standards that are in effect at the time of submission. In the reminder letter sent approximately 5 months prior to the CIPR due date, CCNE will inform the program of the specific standards to be used and will provide guidance for the preparation of the report. For more information about CIPRs, please refer to the CCNE *Procedures for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Degree Nursing Programs*, available at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Accreditation/pdf/Procedures.pdf>.

A copy of the accreditation report that was sent to you earlier, along with your response to it, is being transmitted to the institution's chief executive officer as the Commission's official report to The University of Arizona. We hope that both the

results of your self-study process and the accreditation report will be useful to the continued growth and development of the nursing programs. Certificates of accreditation are enclosed.

As a reminder, programs are expected to continue to comply with the CCNE standards and procedures throughout the period of accreditation. This includes advising CCNE in the event of any substantive change in your nursing programs or of any major organizational changes that may affect the programs' administration, scope, or quality. Substantive change notifications must be submitted to CCNE no earlier than 90 days prior to implementation or occurrence of the change, but no later than 90 after implementation or occurrence of the change. These reporting requirements are discussed further in the CCNE *Procedures*.

We appreciate the many courtesies and the helpfulness extended to the CCNE evaluation team in the spring of 2010. The Commissioners join me in expressing our best wishes as you proceed with tasks important to the future of your nursing programs.

Sincerely,



Carol Ledbetter, PhD, FNP, BC, FAAN
Chair, Board of Commissioners

cc: President Robert N. Shelton
CCNE Board of Commissioners
CCNE Accreditation Review Committee
CCNE Evaluation Team

