



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Arne W. Owens
Director

Department of Health Professions

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Virginia Board of Nursing
Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE
Executive Director

Board of Nursing (804) 367-4515
www.dhp.virginia.gov/Boards/Nursing

May 23, 2024

Esi Gyenin, RN, MSN
Program Director
America School of Nursing
Practical Nursing Education Program
14000 Crown Court, Suite 102
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Certified Article Number

9414 7266 9904 2198 7781 86

SENDER'S RECORD

RE: Case Number 235912

Dear Esi Gyenin:

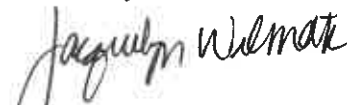
The recommendation made by the Education Special Conference Committee following your informal conference was presented to the Board of Nursing (“Board”) on May 21, 2024. The recommendation was accepted, and enclosed is a certified true copy of the Order issued by the Board.

In order to monitor your compliance with the terms and conditions of the Order, this matter will be forwarded to Charlette Ridout, Board of Nursing Staff. Please direct all questions, related to compliance with the Order to Ms. Charlette Ridout at Charlette.Ridout@dhp.virginia.gov. Regarding Term 2 of the Order contact Dr. Randall Mangrum, Nursing Education Program Manager at Randall.Mangrum@dhp.virginia.gov.

If you object to this Order and desire a formal hearing before the Board, a written request must be received by the Board **within 33 days from the date of service of the Order**. If no written request is received by that time, this Order will be final.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Jacquelyn Wilmoth at (804) 367-4527 or Jacquelyn.Wilmoth@dhp.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacquelyn Wilmoth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jacquelyn Wilmoth, R.N., M.S.N.
Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

cc: Julia Bennett, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division
Grace Stewart, Adjudication Specialist
Tonya James, Compliance Case Manager
Charlette Ridout, Board Staff
Randall Mangrum, DNP, RN, Nursing Education Program Manager
Arne W. Owens, Director, Department of Health Professions



Understanding Compliance Monitoring

The Board Order outlines the factual and legal basis for the Board's action as well as any terms imposed on the program. It is your primary source document for what the Board requires of you throughout the period of monitoring and provides instruction on deadlines and due dates related to the imposed terms.

Read the Board Order thoroughly and keep the Order handy for reference.

Board Orders are public documents and are accessible through the Board of Nursing website.

Monitoring the Terms of the Board Order

Compliance with the Board Order is monitored by a Compliance Case Manager. The name and contact information of the program's case manager has been provided in the cover letter of your Board Order. It is the program's responsibility to make initial contact with the Compliance Case Manager. The program is responsible for submitting required documents demonstrating compliance in accordance with the terms of the Board Order

Should your Board Order require the submission of Quarterly Reports, please submit to the Program Manager. Should your Board Order require a survey/site visit, the Program Manager will contact the program to schedule the visit.

Questions regarding Board Ordered Quarterly Reports and program visits should be directed to the Program Manager. Questions regarding all other terms of the Order shall be directed to the Compliance Case Manager.

Under Investigation?

If the program is under a subsequent investigation by the Board while under the terms of a Board Order, the program should continue to comply with the current Order and cooperate with the Board in its investigation.

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: AMERICA SCHOOL OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH
PRACTICAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM
Program Code: US28110100
Case Number: 235912**

RATIFICATION AND ORDER

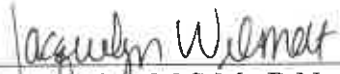
On May 21, 2024, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Education Special Conference Committee (“Committee”). America School of Nursing and Allied Health Practical Nursing Education Program (“Respondent”), was present and was not represented by legal counsel.

In consideration whereof, the Board of Nursing ACCEPTS the attached Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Committee and ADOPTS the Recommended Order in its entirety.

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

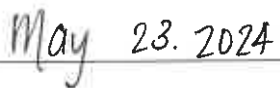
Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400(10), Respondent may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on June 25, 2024, request a formal administrative hearing before the Board by notifying Jay Douglas, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order shall be vacated. This Order shall become final on June 25, 2024 unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

FOR THE BOARD



Jay Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:



BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: AMERICA SCHOOL OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH
PRACTICAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM
Program Code: US28110100
Case Number: 235912**

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE EDUCATION SPECIAL CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE**

Jurisdiction and Procedural History

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), the Education Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”), held an informal conference on April 16, 2024 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that America School of Nursing and Allied Health Practical Nursing Education Program (“Respondent”), may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the operation of practical nursing education programs in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Present at this proceeding on behalf of Respondent were: Esi Gyenin, R.N., MSN, Program Director; Wade Sheriff, BSN, R.N., Faculty; Gabrielle Sarpony, BSN, R.N., Faculty; and Joseph Agyemang, Librarian.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and recommends that the Board adopt the following Order.

Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

1. America School of Nursing and Allied Health Practical Nursing Education Program (“Respondent”), was granted approval to operate a practical nursing education program on October 14, 2015.

2. Respondent violated 18 VAC 90-27-210(A) and (B) of the Regulations for Nursing Education Programs in that its passage rate for first-time test takers of the NCLEX (“passage rate”) was below 80% for three consecutive years. Specifically, in 2021, the passage rate was 53.66%; in 2022, the passage rate was 60%; and in 2023, the passage rate was 73.91%. On February 2, 2023, Respondent was placed on conditional approval status by the Board after two consecutive years with a passage rate below 80%.

3. At the informal conference, Respondent’s representatives were well-prepared, were able to speak to the program’s plan moving forward, and how they quickly developed an action plan based on their deficiencies.

4. All Respondent’s representatives present were able to answer questions from the Board. They worked as a team.

5. Respondent’s representatives described how they use educational support products to monitor students’ progress as well as make changes to the curriculum based on cohort data. They also described how they used their educational support products to ascertain whether students were ready to progress to subsequent courses. Students are now required to meet certain benchmarks in the educational support software as well as passing the coursework and exams.

6. Respondent’s representatives described making a recent change to their admission criteria based on their entrance exam results.

7. Respondent’s representatives also spoke to intervening with at-risk students earlier in the program.

8. Respondent’s representatives described how they have instituted incentives for taking the NCLEX sooner after graduation.

Recommended Order

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Committee recommends that the Board issue an Order as follows:

1. America School of Nursing and Allied Health Practical Nursing Education Program (“Respondent”) is continued on CONDITIONAL APPROVAL contingent upon its 2024 and 2025 passage rates meeting or exceeding 80%.
2. Respondent shall submit to a survey visit by the Board in 2024. Board staff will coordinate the survey visit date.
3. Within 60 days of the date of entry of this Order, Respondent shall:
 - a. Provide a copy of this Order to all current and prospective students, to all faculty members, and to the program’s advisory board.
 - b. Publish this Order on its website.
 - c. Update all publications and promotional materials to reflect that Respondent is on conditional approval.
4. Respondent shall comply with all the Board’s regulations for maintaining an approved practical nursing education program in Virginia.
5. Upon review of compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order, the Board will further consider Respondent’s approval status, which may require its appearance before a Committee of the Board.
6. Any violation of the terms and conditions of this Order or any law or regulation affecting the operation of nursing education programs in the Commonwealth of Virginia may constitute grounds for the withdrawal of approval of Respondent, and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such approval shall be withdrawn.

Reviewed and approved
By Yvette L. Dorsey, DNP, R.N.
Chair, Education Conference Special Committee