June 21, 2023

LeAnne Wilhite, DNP, MSN, BSN
Interim Director of Nursing
Andrew College
501 College Street
Cuthbert, GA 39840

Dear Dr. LeAnne Wilhite:

This letter serves to acknowledge that the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA) Board of Commissioners has reviewed the Mid-cycle Report, the Mid-cycle Follow-up Report, and the Focused Site Visit Report submitted for the Associate Degree in Nursing Program at Andrew College during the June 14 – 15, 2023 meeting.

This letter will serve as formal notification of actions taken by the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA) at the June 14 – 15, 2023 Board of Commissioners’ meeting. After Board review of the Andrew College nursing licensure pass rates, the Andrew College Georgia Board of Nursing conditional approval status, the Mid-cycle Report, the Mid-cycle Follow-up Report, and the recent Focused Site Visit Report, the Board of Commissioners identified substantial and ongoing noncompliance concerns with Standard I, Quality Indicator I-D: The program achieves expected program outcomes related to graduates performance on licensure and certification examinations.

As outlined in the NLN CNEA Accreditation Standards for Nursing Education Programs (approved October 2021) the program is required to achieve a minimum graduate licensure pass rate of 80 percent among first-time takers, averaged over the most recent three-year calendar time period, for each pre-licensure program (practical/vocational, diploma, associate, and bachelor’s) producing graduates eligible to seek licensure (NLN CNEA, 2021, p. 11).

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) reported the following licensure pass rates for Andrew College (https://sos.ga.gov/sites/default/files/forms/38%20Reference%20-%20Rn%20Nursing%20Education%20Results.pdf):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>Three-year average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22.58%</td>
<td>57.14%</td>
<td>64.29%</td>
<td>48.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accordingly, the NLN CNEA Board of Commissioners has changed the accreditation status for the Andrew College, Cuthbert, GA Associate Degree in Nursing Program to probationary status for a period of one year effective immediately (June 15, 2023 – June 15, 2024).

If the program is not able to resolve the identified deficiencies and demonstrate compliance with the accreditation standards within the allotted time frame, the Board may act to withdraw accreditation from the program.
The Board may act to grant a good cause extension if the program has demonstrated substantial progress in addressing the identified deficiencies and requires only a limited period of time to finish resolving the deficiency. The Board will consider a good cause extension if the program has provided documented evidence of substantial progress toward resolution of the deficiency, definitive plans to achieve resolution within a specified timeline subject to approval by the Board, and the program demonstrates that student outcomes are not compromised.

The NLN CNEA Board of Commissioners is requiring the program to provide quarterly licensure examination reports be submitted to the NLN CNEA via email (cneaaccreditation@nln.org, attention Dr. Teresa Shellenbarger) to allow for ongoing monitoring of the licensure examination rates throughout the upcoming year. Additionally, the program must submit an updated detailed action plan to address deficiencies in licensure pass rates by August 30, 2023. Materials are to be submitted in the Accreditation Management System (e-portal) at https://cneaaccreditation@nln.org. Further information regarding these requirements is detailed below.

**Standard I, Quality Indicator I-D.** Program must submit quarterly licensure pass rate reports from the regulatory body and an updated licensure improvement action plan. According to the NLN CNEA Standards for Accreditation, “Programs not meeting the established benchmark for licensure and certification pass rates have completed an analysis of the situation, developed a plan to address identified factors impacting licensure and certification pass rates, and included actions and timelines for achieving the expected program pass rates” (2021, p. 12).

In accordance with U.S. Department of Education regulations and in accordance with Section 6-I. A of the NLN CNEA Policy Handbook, the NLN CNEA will make this decision public via the NLN CNEA website and through the dissemination of this notice to relevant stakeholders, including the U.S. Department of Education, Secretary of Education, state regulatory agencies of the program (the state board of nursing), and the institutional accreditation agency (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges).

In accordance with Section 3-VII of the NLN CNEA Accreditation Handbook: Policies and Procedures, the program is required to develop and submit to NLN CNEA a teach-out plan that provides for the equitable treatment of students if the program ceases to operate before all enrolled students have completed their program of study. Submit this plan by July 15, 2023 at 5 pm ET, via the accreditation electronic portal at https://cneaaccreditation.nln.org/.

In addition, in accordance U.S. Department of Education requirements, the NLN CNEA requires the program to inform all currently enrolled and prospective students the decision to place the program on probationary status within seven (7) business days of receipt of this letter. **We ask that you provide confirmation to us of this notification at cneaaccreditation@nln.org no later than June 30, 2023 that such notice has been timely made.**

Failure to submit the requested documentation may affect the program’s accreditation status with the NLN CNEA. If there are any questions about this request, please contact Dr. Teresa Shellenbarger at tshellenbarger@nln.org.
We thank you and your colleagues for your commitment to quality nursing education. Please contact me if you have any questions or if the NLN CNEA can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Teresa Shellenbarger, PhD, RN, CNE, CNEcl, ANEF
Executive Director, NLN CNEA

CC: Linda Buchanan, PhD, President, Andrew College
    Zelma Y. Delgado, MSHS, Executive Director, Georgia Board of Nursing
    Belle S. Wheelan, PhD, President, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
    Herman Bounds, Director Accreditation Group, U.S. Department of Education
    Joan Darden, PhD, RN, ANEF, Chair, Board of Commissioners, NLN CNEA