



NLN Commission for Nursing
Education Accreditation

VIA EMAIL

February 17, 2026

HARD COPY MAILED February 18, 2026

Carmen Lynne Nickel, MSN, RN, CPHRM
Director of Nursing
Western Oklahoma State College
2801 N Main Street
Altus, OK 73521

Dear Carmen Lynne Nickel:

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 February 10-12, 2026 Board of Commissioners' meeting for the Associate Degree in Nursing Program with Pre-licensure Track and LPN-AD Track (Distance) at Western Oklahoma State College. The Board reviewed the Report provided in relation to the Program's Probationary Status. Regarding the Program's Probationary Status expiring February 28, 2026, the Board has acted to vacate the Program's Probationary Status effective February 12, 2026 for the identified deficiencies in Standard I, Quality Indicators I-B and I-D, and Standard V, Quality Indicator V-J. This decision was made based upon data supporting compliance with the NLN CNEA Standards of Accreditation.

The NLN CNEA encourages the Program to inform all currently enrolled and prospective students and other interested constituents of the decision to vacate the Program's Probationary Status. The Program should also accurately reflect their updated accreditation status on their website and other publications.

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, FAAN
Executive Director, NLN CNEA

CC: Chad Wiginton, EdD, President, Western Oklahoma State College
Jenny Barnhouse, DNP, RN, Executive Director, Oklahoma State Board of Nursing
Barbara Gellman-Danley, President, Higher Learning Commission
Elizabeth Daggett, Director Accreditation Group, U.S. Department of Education
Brooke McAtee, Ph.D., MSN, RN, Chair, Board of Commissioners, NLN CNEA