

## **POLICY #5**

### **NOTIFICATION OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECISIONS**

---

A nursing program accredited by ACEN or seeking ACEN initial accreditation explicitly agrees that if accreditation is granted, all records pertaining to that program may be made available to the Secretary of Education, U.S. Department of Education, and the state regulatory agency for nursing as appropriate.

~~The Commission will submit to the Secretary of Education information regarding a program's compliance with federal student aid program requirements if the Secretary of Education requests such information, or the Commission believes that the program is failing to meet its Title IV responsibilities or is involved in fraud and abuse with respect to its activities. Prior to submission of information, the program will be provided an opportunity to comment on Commission findings.~~

~~Within 60 calendar days of a final adverse action, the Commission will make available to the Secretary of Education, appropriate state regulatory agencies, recognized accrediting agencies, and the public, a brief statement summarizing the reasons for the adverse action determination and the comments, if any, made by the program with regard to the Commission decision.~~

1. Within 30 calendar days of the accreditation decisions made at the **Board of Commissioners'** meetings, the ACEN staff will send written notification of the **Commission action Board's decision** to the nurse administrator **of the program**, the chief executive officer of the governing organization, the site visit team members, **and** the Secretary of Education, U.S. Department of Education, the appropriate state **licensing agency/authorizing agency**, **regulatory agency for nursing**, and the governing organization's accrediting agency.

#### Other Groups to be Informed

- a. State Regulatory Agencies for Nursing
- b. U.S. Department of Education Case Management Teams
- c. Accrediting Agencies of Governing Organizations
- d. State Departments of Education (as applicable)
- e. Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)
- f. Higher Education Publications, Inc.
- g. The Public (**through posting on the ACEN website**)

Information Provided to the Secretary of Education, U.S. Department of Education

The following information will be reported to the Secretary of Education at the same time it is reported to, as appropriate, to the nursing education unit, nurse administrator of the program, chief executive officer of the governing organization, appropriate state regulatory agency for nursing, governing organization's accrediting agency, and the public.

Report Category	Time for Submission		Programs Affected By Requirements							
	Other	Annually	C	CC	M	PMC	B	A	D	P
<b>Final Accreditation Decision</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial Accreditation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Granted</li> <li>○ Denied, with reasons</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Continuing Accreditation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Granted</li> <li>○ Granted with Conditions</li> <li>○ Granted with Warning</li> <li>○ Granted for Good Cause</li> <li>○ Denied, with reasons</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Outcome of Appeal, with reasons</li> <li>• Withdrawal</li> </ul>	Within 30 calendar days of Commission action- Board of Commissioners' decision	June (aggregated – Report to Constituents submitted)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Summary of Major Accreditation Activities		June (aggregated – Report to Constituents submitted)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Directory of Accredited Programs		Available Online	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Substantive Changes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Accredited Programs</li> <li>• Title IV Participants</li> </ul>	Within 30 calendar days of Commission action- Board of Commissioners' decision	June (aggregated – Report to Constituents submitted)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Complaints</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Against Accredited Programs</li> <li>• Against the ACEN</li> </ul>		June (aggregated – Report to Constituents submitted)	X		X		X	X	X	X
<b>Title IV Participant Compliance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive Loan Repayment Plan</li> <li>• Default Rates</li> </ul>	Within 30 calendar days of Commission action	June (aggregated – Report to Constituents submitted)	X		X		X	X	X	X

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adverse Financial or Compliance Audits</li> <li>Fraud or Abuse</li> </ul>										
Proposed Changes within the ACEN that alter the scope of recognition or compliance with requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy</li> <li>Procedures</li> <li>Standards and Criteria</li> </ul>	As necessary	5 years	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

C: Clinical Doctorate, CC: DNP Specialist Certificate; M: Master's, PMC: Post-Master's Certificate; B: Baccalaureate; A: Associate; D: Diploma; P: Practical

2. Within 60 calendar days of a the Board of Commissioners decision to final adverse action deny initial accreditation or deny continuing accreditation, the Commission ACEN will make available to the Secretary of Education, U.S. Department of Education, appropriate state regulatory agencies, recognized accrediting agencies, and the public, the nurse administrator of the program, chief executive officer of the governing organization, appropriate state regulatory agency for nursing, governing organization's accrediting agency, and the public, a brief statement summarizing the reasons for the adverse action determination decision and the comments, if any, made by the program with regard to the Commission decision.
3. The Commission ACEN will submit to the Secretary of Education information regarding a program's compliance with federal student aid program requirements if the Secretary of Education requests such information, or the Commission ACEN believes that the program is failing to meet its Title IV responsibilities or is involved in fraud and abuse with respect to its activities. If circumstances permit and to the extent feasible, prior to submission of information, the program will be provided an opportunity to comment on Commission findings.