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CCNEACCREDITATION.ORG

## CORRECTED

February 14, 2023

Kimberly A. Olszewski, DNP, CRNP, COHN-S/CM, FAOHN  
Senior Associate Dean  
School of Nursing  
Commonwealth University  
400 E. 2nd Street  
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Dear Dr. Olszewski,

I am writing to share that the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Board of Commissioners considered your letter of October 13, 2022, in which Commonwealth University explicated the integration of Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, Mansfield University, and Lock Haven University into Commonwealth University. The letter addressed the impact of this institutional change on the CCNE-accredited baccalaureate degree program in nursing, master's degree program in nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. Per this letter, it is CCNE's understanding that the integration will include the baccalaureate degree nursing programs at Mansfield University and Lock Haven University, neither of which have a pre-existing affiliation with CCNE. The letter indicated that all changes are effective July 1, 2022.

Upon reviewing your letter, the Board determined that the programs will need to seek new applicant status through Commonwealth University, as their new parent organization, in order to pursue CCNE accreditation. This determination is consistent with CCNE application and substantive change notification policies and practices.

As a result of the history of accreditation with CCNE at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, and the Board's recognition of the uniqueness of the situation, the Board agreed to:

1. waive the \$5,500 new applicant fee for the nursing programs at Commonwealth University;
2. enable the nursing programs at Commonwealth University to be eligible for up to a maximum 10-year term of accreditation (new applicant programs ordinarily are eligible to receive up to a maximum 5-year term of accreditation); and
3. make the accreditation decisions for the nursing programs at Commonwealth University retroactive to July 1, 2022.

The terms of accreditation for the baccalaureate degree program in nursing, master's degree program in nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice program, now operating under the auspices of Commonwealth University, will remain the same, expiring June 30, 2032. The next on-site evaluation is scheduled for fall of 2031.

The October 13, 2022 letter additionally indicated that "Commonwealth University is currently working with a curriculum consultant to integrate programs, and form an

innovative, competency-based curriculum ... over the next two years” (pp. 3-4). Once the curriculum revision has been completed, the nursing program is directed to submit a substantive change notification to CCNE. CCNE staff are available to assist you with completion of the substantive change notification. Guidelines for submitting a substantive change notification, a template, and a fillable cover sheet are available [online](#). Please contact Ms. Lina Nandy, CCNE Director of Program Monitoring, at [LNandy@ccneaccreditation.org](mailto:LNandy@ccneaccreditation.org) or 202-887-6791 x245 with any questions regarding substantive change notifications.

The Commissioners join me in expressing our best wishes as you proceed with tasks important to the future of your nursing program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip R. Martinez, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Philip R. Martinez, Jr., EdD, MSN, APRN-BC, CCRN-CMC  
Chair, Board of Commissioners

