



## CISCO COLLEGE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Cisco College Vocational Nursing Program: A Path to Success with 100% NCLEX Pass Rate**

*Abilene, Texas - November 1, 2024* – The Cisco College Vocational Nursing (VN) program has achieved an incredible milestone: for three consecutive graduating classes in the Fall of 2023, Spring of 2024, and Summer of 2024, every student has passed the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) on their first attempt. This remarkable success is the result of a rigorous and supportive program that combines innovative teaching methods with a focus on student well-being.

The VN program's success begins with its approach to learning. The program emphasizes conceptual-based learning, which focuses on connecting theory to practice. Students are trained to use evidence-based interventions, with an emphasis on independent nursing actions for both medical and nursing problems. This method ensures that students are not only learning in the classroom but are prepared to apply their knowledge in real-world clinical settings.

Academic and emotional preparation are equally important in ensuring success on the NCLEX. The Cisco College VN program stays up-to-date with the latest information from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) and incorporates modern technology into its curriculum. Students practice with NCLEX-style questions and scenarios, and each class takes a comprehensive NCLEX review course before the exam.

The emotional well-being of students is also a priority. For those identified with test anxiety, the program refers them to a remediation specialist to work on reducing stress through proven techniques. Students with documented medical issues can receive special accommodations during the exam to help them perform at their best.

The program has faced its share of challenges, including finding qualified faculty, meeting clinical site requirements, and adhering to state governing bodies' standards. However, Cisco

College's VN program has overcome these obstacles with determination, careful planning, and the dedication of its faculty.

Vice President of Instruction, Heather McClure, emphasizes the critical role the nursing faculty plays in the program's success: "I am consistently impressed by the skill and compassion of our nursing faculty. I take every opportunity to share how much of an impact our programs, nursing especially, have on the local economy and community. Our graduates are local, and the majority of them stay and work locally. Cisco helps build the local healthcare workforce, and we are proud of the role we play in Abilene and the surrounding areas."

Dr. Pearl Merritt, Dean of Nursing, shares a similar sentiment: "Our students are thoroughly prepared not only to pass the NCLEX but also to excel in their nursing careers. The emphasis we place on both academic rigor and clinical competence ensures that when our students enter the healthcare field, they are equipped to deliver high-quality care. We take pride in the success of our graduates and in knowing they leave Cisco College ready to make an immediate, positive impact in clinical settings."

Support from the nursing faculty plays a key role in student success. The faculty's commitment to student learning shines through in their willingness to work one-on-one with students when needed. Graduates consistently report that faculty members are approachable and focused on helping them succeed, which contributes greatly to their preparedness for both the NCLEX and their future nursing careers.

Through a combination of didactic education, clinical focus, and early identification of at-risk students, the program ensures that students are not only prepared to pass the NCLEX but are also equipped for long-term success in their nursing careers. Faculty dedication and a rigorous curriculum are key to maintaining this high standard.

When asked about future plans to maintain or even improve the program's success, Spencer Woody, Director of Nursing, stated, "Given the success we've had with our current curriculum and instruction methods, there's no need for a complete overhaul. However, we remain committed to continuous improvement by incorporating new technologies and teaching strategies to ensure our students receive the best education possible while staying aligned with industry advancements."

The program continues to adapt new technologies and classroom strategies to remain current, while maintaining its proven methods for student success.

For those considering a career in nursing, Woody advises, "Do your research." Investigate NCLEX results, speak with past students, and maintain a strong GPA. By following these steps, students can ensure they are making informed decisions and setting themselves up for success.

Cisco College's Vocational Nursing program stands out as a beacon of excellence in nursing education, with a proven track record of preparing students for success on the NCLEX and in their careers. As they continue to build on this achievement, the program shows no signs of slowing down.

For more information about the Cisco College Vocational Nursing program, or any of our other health science programs including Respiratory Care, Surgical Technology, and Pharmacy Technology, please visit **cisco.edu**.

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### ***About Cisco College***

Since first admitting students in 1940, Cisco College has offered programs and activities intended to encourage lifelong learning and enhance the quality of life in the communities it serves.

As a member of the Texas state system of publicly supported institutions of higher education, Cisco College maintains an open-door admissions policy and provides an array of learning, skill development and life experiences to motivate and challenge students. Classes are offered at two primary locations, Cisco and Abilene, in addition to several other off-campus sites. The College strives to maintain a student/faculty ratio which facilitates close interaction between faculty and students.

Cisco College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award Associate level degrees.

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