

VIA EMAIL ONLY

October 18, 2022

Gail Raasakka, MSN, RN, CNE
Program Director
Associate Degree in Nursing Program
Williston State College
1410 University Avenue
Williston, ND 58801

Dear Gail Raasakka:

This letter provides formal notice of the action taken on the accreditation status of the Associate Degree in Nursing program delivered via distance education at Williston State College during the recent National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA) Board of Commissioners meeting in October 13-14, 2022. We are pleased to inform you that the NLN CNEA Board of Commissioners voted that initial accreditation be **granted** for the following program:

Associate Degree in Nursing Program (delivered via distance education)

The program was found to be compliant with all standards.

The program's initial accreditation status is effective for a maximum term of six years, beginning April 30, 2022, and terminating April 30, 2028.

The Board of Commissioners' decision was based upon a review of the program's self-study report, on-site program evaluation team report, the NLN CNEA Program Review Committee's report, and the determination that the program is in compliance with the NLN CNEA's Standards of Accreditation.

The program's on-site program evaluation review for continuing accreditation is scheduled for Fall 2027.

Programs accredited by NLN CNEA are required to complete an Annual Report due in January of each calendar year and submit a Mid-Cycle Report midway through the accreditation term to validate continued compliance with NLN CNEA accreditation standards. **The program's Mid-Cycle Report will be due January 2025.**

As per NLN CNEA policy, the NLN CNEA reserves the right to review and potentially terminate the accreditation status of any program with due notice under the following conditions:

- 1) Accreditation status of the governing institution changes;
- 2) State regulatory status of the nursing program changes;
- 3) Lack of compliance with required NLN CNEA reporting mechanisms (i.e., Annual Report and Mid-Cycle Report);
- 4) Failure to pay annual accreditation fees; OR

- 5) Other substantive institutional or program changes occur affecting the stability of the nursing program and the ability to remain compliant with NLN CNEA Standards of Accreditation.

If changes occur within the program as outlined above, NLN CNEA requires that programs notify NLN CNEA **within sixty days of the change in program status**. Failure to notify NLN CNEA of program changes of the nature listed above within the stipulated time frame may also lead to a review of and action on the program's accreditation status by the NLN CNEA Board of Commissioners.

Programs may choose to publicly disclose their NLN CNEA accreditation status. A certificate of accreditation and an electronic accreditation logo will be forthcoming for the program to display. For programs choosing to publicly disclose their accreditation status on printed or electronic materials, they must use the following public statement:

“The Associate Degree in Nursing program delivered via distance education at Williston State College is accredited by the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA) located at 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20037. 202-909-2487.”

Congratulations on achieving initial accreditation status with NLN CNEA and your commitment to providing quality nursing education! We look forward to the on-going success of your nursing program. If you have any questions about the accreditation process, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



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

CC: Bernell Hirning, PhD, President, Williston State College
Stacey Pfenning, DNP, APRN, FNP, FAANP, Executive Director, North Dakota SBON
Barbara Gellman-Danley, President, Higher Learning Commission
Joan Darden, PhD, RN, ANEF, Chair, Board of Commissioners, NLN CNEA
Jewel Diller, DNP, MEd, RN, Co-Chair, Program Review Committee, NLN CNEA
Stephanie Holaday, DrPH, MSN, BSN, CNE, Co-chair, Program Review Committee, NLN CNEA
Theresa Pietsch, PhD, RN, CRRN, CNE, Site Visit Team Leader
Rhonda McLain, PhD, MN, RN, CNE, Site Visit Team Member
Kathy Mau, Site Visit Team Member