

GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE
LPN – Quarterly Report
January – March 2016

1) The Practical Nursing program began the Spring semester with 28 students. These students are taking the Nursing Foundations and Pharmacology Courses this semester. They will be starting clinical rotations at GMH's Skilled Nursing Facility in Barrigada.

2) The 2015 Practical Nursing program completed in December with 23 students successfully attaining the curriculum requirements to graduate with a certificate in Practical Nursing. We anxiously anticipate our students will begin to take their NCLEX-PN exam beginning very soon.

The 2014 Practical Nursing program completed with 21 students successfully attaining the curriculum requirements to graduate with a certificate in Practical Nursing. Ten graduates passed on their first try and six failed which currently brings our pass rate to 63% for this cohort. Four have reported their intent to continue their education into UOG's RN program and therefore, have expressed that they will not be applying to take the NCLEX-PN exam. Despite this information we are pleased to report that these four students have been accepted into UOG's RN program.

In December, 2014 the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) increased the standards and question format for the NCLEX PN and RN exams. The board reported that they anticipated a decrease in the average NCLEX pass rate nationwide with changes made to the exam (NCSBN, 2015). The department is currently working to update our curriculum and program to increase our NCLEX-PN pass rate and align our standards with the changes for the NCLEX-PN exam and NCSBN expectations. Additionally, the PN faculty have come together during their Spring break through the funding of the Area Health Education Center grant to provide an NCLEX-PN review for all former students incorporating NCSBN expectations. 26 students have enrolled for this course.

Reaching out to our graduates to encourage them to take the NCLEX-PN right away following graduation remains a challenge for our department. However, it is a challenge we are committed to improving. Contact updates and connections with local employers as well as the University has provided us with the opportunity to receive updates on our recent graduates as well as their progression in the community.

3) The certificate in Practical Nursing program prepares students to become Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN). LPNs work in a variety of settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, doctor's offices, home health care, public health departments, schools, and various government programs. Ideally they work under the supervision of Registered Nurses. Students who successfully complete the three semester program will be eligible to take the National Council on State Board of Nursing (NCSBN) and will enable students to earn a license in Practical Nursing.

5) Admissions to the LPN program includes: advisement from the Allied Health Department personnel, completion of the general education requirements, official transcript evaluations, pre-entrance exam, nursing essay, and a health clearance.

6) The Guam Community College has an open door policy. Anyone has the right to apply and succeed. We are limited by the Rules and Regulations of the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners; which, as do most states, limits the number of students accepted to 10 students for each instructor.

Quarterly report prepared by:
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Reference:
Setting the NCLEX Passing Standards. 2015 Retrieved from: <https://www.ncsbn.org/2630.htm>.