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CCNEACCREDITATION.ORG

June 9, 2021

Heather Owens, PhD, RN  
Associate Dean for Nursing & Chief Nursing Officer  
Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences  
Bellarmine University  
2001 Newburg Rd.  
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Louisville, KY 40205-0671

Dear Dr. Owens:

On behalf of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), I am pleased to advise you that the CCNE Board of Commissioners acted at its meeting on May 11-14, 2021 to grant accreditation to the **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program** at Bellarmine University for 10 years, extending to June 30, 2031. The accreditation action is effective as of October 7, 2020, which is the first day of the program's recent CCNE evaluation. You should plan for the next on-site evaluation to take place in the fall of 2030.

The program was considered by the Board using the *CCNE Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs* (2018).

At its meeting, the Board determined that the program met all four accreditation standards. The Board additionally determined that there are no compliance concerns with respect to the key elements.

As is required for all accredited programs, a continuous improvement progress report (CIPR) must be submitted at the midpoint of the accreditation term. Please note that the CIPR needs to demonstrate the program's compliance with the CCNE standards and key elements that are in effect at the time of its submission. As a courtesy, CCNE will send a reminder letter to the chief nurse administrator informing the program of the specific standards to be addressed and providing guidance for the preparation of the report. The deadline for submitting the CIPR to CCNE is June 1, 2026. The Report Review Committee, and then the Board of Commissioners, will review the CIPR. For more information about CIPRs and the report review process, please refer to the CCNE procedures.

As you know, the team report and the program's response to the team report are available to the institution in the CCNE Online Community. We hope that the results of the self-study process and the team report will be useful to the continued growth and development of the nursing program. Due to limited access to the CCNE office as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the certificate of accreditation will be mailed to you when operations permit staff to do so.

As previously conveyed by CCNE and in accordance with U.S. Department of Education requirements, CCNE is required to conduct an in-person verification visit, within a reasonable period of time, to all programs that have hosted a comprehensive virtual evaluation. CCNE will share additional information about this follow-up visit requirement later this year.

In accordance with CCNE policy, if a program or institution elects to make a public disclosure of a program's accreditation status with CCNE, the program or institution

must disclose that status accurately. The program or institution disclosing the information must identify the nursing program and its affiliation with CCNE. Please refer to CCNE's disclosure policy and the statements CCNE has approved for use, as well as information on use of the CCNE accreditation seal, at <http://www.aacnnursing.org/CCNE/Seal-Policy/Baccalaureate-Graduate>. Please ensure that the institution's website and other materials are updated to reflect this language, as appropriate.

As a reminder, programs are expected to comply with the CCNE standards and procedures throughout the period of accreditation. These documents are available at <https://www.aacnnursing.org/CCNE-Accreditation/Accreditation-Resources/Standards-Procedures-Guidelines>. Information on advising CCNE in the event of a substantive change affecting the nursing program is available at <https://www.aacnnursing.org/CCNE-Accreditation/What-We-Do/Bacc-Graduate-Change-Notifications>. Substantive change notifications must be submitted to CCNE no earlier than 90 days prior to implementation or occurrence of the change, but no later than 90 days after implementation or occurrence of the change. These reporting requirements are described further in the CCNE procedures.

Thank you for your participation in the CCNE accreditation process. The Commissioners join me in expressing our very best wishes as you continue to promote excellence in nursing education.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Ritt, EdD, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, CNE  
Chair, CCNE Board of Commissioners

cc: President Susan Donovan  
CCNE Board of Commissioners  
CCNE Accreditation Review Committee  
CCNE Evaluation Team