CCNE Compliance with U.S. Department of Education Standards

This is a brief summary of the elements of nursing education that CCNE reviews when accrediting programs.

**Student achievement must:**
- Be congruent with those of the parent institution;
- Reflect professional nursing standards and guidelines;
- Provide graduation rates within the expected time rate;
- Provide NCLEX-RN® Examination pass rates;
- Consider the needs and expectations of the community of interest; and
- Provide employment rates and employer satisfaction.

**Curriculum is developed, implemented and revised to:**
- Include a foundation of the arts, sciences and humanities;
- Incorporate The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice;
- Contain relevant professional nursing standards and guidelines; and
- Reflect ongoing efforts to improve program quality.

**Faculty members are:**
- Sufficient in number to accomplish the mission, goals, and expected student and faculty outcomes;
- Academically prepared for the areas in which they teach;
- Experientially prepared for the areas in which they teach;
- Participate in program and in the ongoing efforts to improve program quality; and
- Supported in teaching, scholarship, service and practice in keeping with the mission, goals and expected faculty outcomes.

**Facilities:** Physical resources are sufficient to enable the program to fulfill its expected outcomes. Adequacy of resources is reviewed periodically and resources are modified as needed.

**Fiscal and Administrative Capacity:** Periodic review and subsequent support ensures fiscal resources available to program to fulfill its mission, goals and expected outcomes.

**The chief nurse administrator:**
- Is a registered nurse (RN);
- Holds a graduate degree in nursing; and
- Is academically and experientially qualified, is vested with the administrative authority, and provides effective leadership to accomplish the mission, goals and expected student and faculty outcomes.

**Student Support:** Academic support services are sufficient to ensure quality and are evaluated on a regular basis to meet program and student needs.

**Recruiting/Admissions/Grading:** Institutional documents and publications accurately describe the nursing program’s offerings, outcomes, accreditation/approval status, academic calendar, recruitment and admission policies, transfer of credit policies, grading policies, degree completion requirements, tuition, and that fees are accurate.

**Program Length:** Length is sufficient for the students to meet the nine Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice.
**Student Complaints:** There are established policies by which the nursing unit defines and reviews formal complaints. Information from formal complaints is used, as appropriate, to foster ongoing program improvement.

**Compliance with Title IV:** Institution must be accredited by an approved program of the Department of Education and maintain Title IV eligibility. CCNE is not a gatekeeper for Title IV.

**References**


Personal Communication with Jennifer Butlin, executive director, CCNE.