



NLN Commission for Nursing  
Education Accreditation

VIA EMAIL ONLY

June 23, 2025

Sarah Carlson, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNL  
Director of Nursing  
Practical/Vocational Nursing Program  
Northeast Iowa Community College  
8342 NICC Dr.  
Peosta, IA 52068

Dear Sarah Carlson:

Thank you for your submission of the 2024 National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA) Annual Report. The NLN CNEA Board of Commissioners has reviewed and accepted your submitted report for the Northeast Iowa Community College and Practical/Vocational Nursing Program with the Pre-licensure Track. The Board noted areas that warrant attention as they may impact the program's ability to meet the NLN CNEA Standards of Accreditation. These include:

**Standard III, Quality Indicator III-A.** Upon review of the program's 2024 Annual Report, the Executive Committee was unable to verify that a majority of faculty without a graduate degree have clear progression plans in place. The program is encouraged to maintain a robust action plan to address any concerns. According to the NLN CNEA Standards of Accreditation, "Programs that employ faculty without the graduate degree credential design and implement organizational development plans with a goal of demonstrating trending progression toward achieving a full complement of faculty who are prepared at the graduate level. The majority of faculty who do not hold a graduate degree document evidence of active and steady progression toward achieving a graduate degree in nursing or a related field within a defined timeline" (2021, p. 23).

No additional information must be submitted at this time. However, the program is encouraged to engage in the continuous quality improvement process to ensure the program is meeting the NLN CNEA Standards of Accreditation.

The program's next detailed review is Spring 2034.

On behalf of the NLN CNEA Board of Commissioners, thank you for your continued commitment to providing quality nursing education.

Any questions, please let us know. We're here to help.

Sincerely,

*Teresa Shellenbarger*

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

CC: Dave Dahms, MBA, Interim President, Northeast Iowa Community College  
Anne Schlepphorst, Interim Executive Director, Iowa State Board of Nursing  
Barbara Gellman-Danley, PhD, President, Higher Learning Commission  
Susan Welch, PhD(c), EdD, RN, CNE, alumnus CCRN, Chair, Board of  
Commissioners, NLN CNEA