



THE UNIVERSITY
OF TEXAS
AT ARLINGTON

Office of the President

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Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, President
Commission on Colleges
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

I am writing to notify the Commission that The University of Texas at Arlington (UT Arlington) plans to offer the RN to BSN degree via the internet, in partnership with Higher Education Holdings (HEH), a company located at 2200 Ross Ave, #3800, Dallas, Texas, 75201. The intended launch date for the first cohort of students is October 2008, with subsequent cohorts to follow every few months using a quarter system.


HEH will assist in the marketing, promotion, and delivery of the RN to BSN courses. Higher Education Holdings will market the degree program to hospitals and health care facilities in a bulk format. Instead of marketing to individual students, as is the traditional practice for institutions of higher education, HEH will market the program to institutions (in this case, hospitals) for their employees. Students will access the courses individually via the internet.

HEH will also provide technical support for the courses delivered via their courseware and academic support via academic coaches hired to help facilitate student navigation of the course. This distribution and learning model mirrors a partnership between Lamar University and HEH which has been previously approved by the Commission.

UT Arlington has offered the RN to BSN degree for many years, and already offers the degree via the internet. In 2005, the Commission approved a proposal from UT Arlington for internet distribution to Texarkana College, Paris Junior College, Trinity Valley Community College, Grayson County College, University of North Texas System Center Dallas, and McLennan Community College. In the currently proposed program with HEH, as with the previously approved programs, the course content, course structure, and final course grades are the sole responsibility of the University of Texas at Arlington.

Please let me know if the Commission requires additional information.

Sincerely,



James D. Spaniolo
President

c: Donna K. Wilkinson
Ron Elsenbaumer
Michael Moore
Elizabeth Poster
Pam Haws