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CCNEACCREDITATION.ORG

November 12, 2021

Sandra D. Daniel, PhD, RN, PNP
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing
Georgia Southwestern State University
800 Georgia Southwestern State University Drive
Americus, GA 31709

Dear Dr. Daniel:

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 October 12-15, 2021 to grant accreditation to the **master's degree program in nursing** at Georgia Southwestern State University for 5 years, extending to December 31, 2026. The accreditation action is effective as of February 1, 2021, 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 spring of 2026.

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, 2024. 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 at a later date.

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 received by 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 Neal Weaver
CCNE Board of Commissioners
CCNE Accreditation Review Committee
CCNE Evaluation Team

