



Northwest Iowa  
Community College

603 West Park Street  
Sheldon, Iowa 51201

Phone 712-324-5061 or  
toll free 1-800-352-4907, Ext. 105

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Northwest Iowa Community College Nursing Programs Earn Approval from Iowa Board of Nursing**

Ruth Hobson and Karie Stamer, NCC Nursing Instructors, attended the Iowa Board of Nursing meeting in Des Moines, Iowa on Wednesday, February 24. At the meeting, the Board officially gave Northwest Iowa Community College a six year approval for the Practical Nursing and Associate Degree Nursing Programs.

This approval comes after completion of a large self-study and an onsite visit by two Board members that took place in October of 2009. The Board had some very good recommendations for NCC's programs and after responding to those recommendations the approval was granted.

The nursing programs at Northwest Iowa Community College continue to excel in NCLEX (National Council of Licensing Exams) pass rates. The 2009 pass rate for the Practical Nursing Program was 100% with NCC being only one of two community colleges at 100%. The pass rate for the Associate Degree Program was 94.4% which was 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the state including all community colleges and four year institutions that have nursing programs in the state of Iowa.

Hobson commented, "Approval of the Practical Nursing and Associate Degree Nursing programs by the Iowa Board of Nursing is an essential step in providing nursing education to northwest Iowans. Student success in our programs is ultimately measured by success on the NCLEX in which our students have exceeded the national and state averages for the past several years."

The Board of Nursing also officially approved the delivery of the Extended Associate Degree Nursing (EADN) program using a hybrid format, which will be implemented in the fall of 2010.

Hobson explained, "The Extended Associate Nursing Degree program is being developed with funds Northwest Iowa Community College received from a federally funded Title III grant. The date of implementation is expected to be Fall of 2010. The EADN program course schedule will include a fall and spring semester, a summer term, and an additional fall semester. By extending the time by one semester and making more of the content online learning, we are hoping to appeal to LPN's who need to maintain a full time job while working toward their Associate's Degree in Nursing. At the community college level, many of our students are non-traditional and need this type of flexibility in order to continue on with their education."

For more information contact the Admissions Office at [studentservices@nwicc.edu](mailto:studentservices@nwicc.edu) or call 324-5061 or 800-352-4907. Or visit our website at [www.nwicc.edu](http://www.nwicc.edu). At NCC There's a Place For You!