



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Termination of a Site/ Degree Program

UNIVERSITY:	USD
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	Associate of Science in Nursing [U.AS.NURS-LPN]
SITE PROPOSED FOR TERMINATION¹	Watertown, SD 1201 Arrow Avenue Watertown, SD 57201-0730
CIP CODE:	51.3801
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Nursing
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	School of Health Sciences

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

_____ Date

President of the University

1. Program Degree Level:

Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

2. Category:²

Certificate Specialization Minor Major

3. Provide a justification for terminating delivery at the site:

The South Dakota Board of Technical Education approved Lake Area Technical Institute (LATI) to start a Licensed Practical Nurse to Registered Nurse (1+1: LPN →ASN) program in Watertown. The expected date of start is fall 2018. Currently, the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program at LATI serves as the main pipeline to the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) program at University of South Dakota (USD). With LATI starting their own associate degree program, USD anticipates significant drop in enrollment. It is most likely that LPN students at LATI would want to transition into the associate program at LATI instead of coming to the USD program. Low demand for AS programming and competition for clinical sites will make continuation of our associate degree programming impractical and fiscally unsound for the Watertown site.

4. If there are current students in the program, what are the implications of terminating the site and what is the plan for completion by the students?

All students (N=26) currently enrolled in the USD ASN program at the Watertown site will continue their nursing courses and will be able to complete their program of study to their expected graduation date in December 2018. All students enrolled in the ASN program at USD will receive notifications of our intent to close the program. Students will continue to work with

¹ If this is an off-campus site, please include the physical address of the site as well as a description or name of the location.

² Note: Certificates, specializations, and minors may only be terminated and not placed on inactive status due to limitations in Colleague.

advisors to ensure successful completion of their program of study. In accordance with our current policies if a student does not maintain continuous enrollment, or has withdrawn, dropped, or failed with less than a C grade in any of the nursing courses during the “teach out” period, the student will be encouraged to apply to the LATI associate degree program. A meeting took place on November 8, 2017 between Dr. Nerud USD ASN program director and Ms. Foley LATI Nursing program director. LATI has agreed to accommodate those students and consideration will be given to applicants who have a letter of recommendation from USD nursing and meet LATI admission criteria (See Table 1 for details of the plan). During the “teach out” period we will ensure that all resources currently available to the students will remain in place and this includes sufficient faculty and staff. We remain committed to adequately prepare competent graduates. Student records will be maintained in accordance with the University of South Dakota and Board of Regents Record keeping policy. The program was accredited by ACEN in 2014. Therefore, all students currently enrolled in the program will graduate from an accredited program.

Table 1. Plan for completions for students who withdraw, fail or drop from USD ASN program

Semester	Unsuccessful course completion	Plan for student
Fall 2017	NURS 261: Advanced Nursing Concepts I	Apply to LATI LPN-AAS program for fall 2018 admission
Spring 2018	NURS 282: Advanced Nursing Concepts II	Apply to LATI LPN-AAS program for fall 2018 with possible ATI test-out of content (to be determined by LATI).
Fall 2018	NURS 286: Complex Nursing Concepts	Apply to LATI LPN-AAS program for spring 2019 with possible ATI test out of content (to be determined by LATI).

5. **What is the last date (day/month/year) by which a student can graduate in the program?**
12/12/2018
6. **What is the proposed date (day/month/year) terminated status takes effect (the proposed date for terminated status is also the last date a student may enroll in or declare the program)?** 8/21/2017
7. **What are the potential cost savings of terminating the program site and what are the planned uses of the savings?**
The overall cost of delivering the ASN program at the Watertown site is \$420,000 per year. Tuition and fees revenues produced at the site cover roughly \$260,000 of the full \$420,000 in direct expenses. General funds from the state cover the remaining \$160,000 in expense. Closure of the program will result in potential savings of about \$160,000. Savings will re-directed to offset growth and related expenses in the Baccalaureate in Nursing Program (BSN), which is offered at 4 physical sites in addition to an online track designed for licensed nurses who are pursuing baccalaureate education (RN-BSN).
8. **What are the resulting employee terminations and other possible implications including impact on other programs?**
Due to program closure, 4 fulltime faculty contracts will not be renewed. However, we anticipate that LATI will have 2 open positions that could be potentially filled by 2 of those faculty, if faculty members wish to apply for those positions. Faculty will also be encouraged to apply for open positions in our Baccalaureate program at the other sites.

Closure of the ASN program should have no adverse impact on the BSN program in our institution since funds will be re-directed from the ASN to the BSN program to support growth at multiple sites. We have notified President Cartney and his leadership team at LATI of our intention to close our program upon graduation of our last student cohort in December 2018. Meetings occurred with Ms. Foley Director of the Nursing program at LATI and Mr. Cartney to ensure they understood the rationale for our decision and commitment to work with LATI to ensure smooth transition of programming and that the needs of the community are met.