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## DELIVERED VIA EMAIL ONLY

October 13, 2023

Heather Bigard, EdD  
President  
Lake-Sumter State College

Jessica Shearer, PhD, RN, CNE  
Dean of Allied Health  
Lake-Sumter State College  
9501 U.S. 441  
Leesburg, FL 34788

Dear Dr. Bigard and Dr. Shearer:

This letter is formal notification of the action taken by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) at its meeting in September 2023. The Board of Commissioners granted continuing accreditation to the associate nursing program and scheduled the next evaluation visit for Spring 2031. Please see ACEN Policy #9 Disclosure of Information About an Accredited Program for the required disclosure statement regarding this decision, which must be made to all current and prospective students within seven business days of this letter.

Deliberations centered on the materials available to the Board from this accreditation review process and the recommendation for accreditation proposed by the peer evaluators on the site visit team and the Evaluation Review Panel. Final decisions were made based on the 2023 Standards and Criteria.

The Board identified the following:

### **Areas of Strength**

#### **Standard 3 Students, Criterion 3.4**

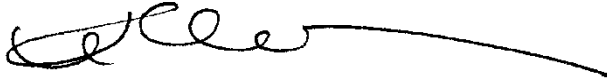
- The variety of student support services, hiring of a Student Success Coordinator, and the faculty interventions that have allowed the program to maintain program completion rates during COVID-19 and with a high-risk student population. Interviews with students and community members emphasize the support for student success. A community member commented “the faculty intervene to help the student before the student knows that they need something.”

#### **Standard 6 Outcomes, Criterion 6.2**

- The program achieving a licensure examination pass rate at or above 90% consecutively for the last three years while maintaining program completion rates.

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement! If you have questions about this action or about ACEN policies and procedures, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Kathy Chappell, PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN  
Chief Executive Officer