

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2016 2:16:15 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2016 2:13 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS BOARD NURSING BON

First Name: Karen

Last Name: Cox

Title: COO -- Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO

Organization you are affiliated with: Excelsior College (graduate)

Email:

City: Kansas City

State: Missouri

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

As a licensed practical nurse in the 1970's few options were available to help me move forward into the profession of nursing. Traditional educational programs required full-time attendance, but my full-time work made that impossible. In Regents College (now known as Excelsior), I found a pathway to my dream. Unfortunately, the situation for today's LPNs isn't much different. Excelsior College remains one of the only options for people like me who have to work and want to move ahead.

The competency-based model Excelsior uses validates that graduates have acquired the necessary knowledge and skill of a first day Registered Nurse and can apply that ability to their work as nurses. The model assures that patient care will meet the demands on the profession. As a nursing leader for thirty years, I have seen over and over that this model works and that Excelsior's graduates perform as well or better than those of traditional programs.

My degree paved the way for me to earn a BSN from the University of Kansas approximately one year after my associate's degree was awarded. I've since earned a master's and doctoral degree. Beyond my degrees, I have become a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, the highest level of professional recognition for nurses, and I am now president-elect of that organization. I've also served as a Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow and was inducted as the inaugural Burry Chair in Nursing Advocacy and Leadership at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO, where I am the Chief Operating Officer.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: It seems safe to say that my Excelsior degree has served me well. I ask that you provide this same opportunity to future graduates.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree