

**Texas Board of Nursing  
Differentiated Essential Competencies of Graduates of Texas Nursing  
Programs (DECs) Workgroup  
Meeting via Videoconference  
November 9, 2020**

**10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., or until all business is concluded, if earlier**

The Texas Board of Nursing posts this notice of its November 9, 2020, meeting of the Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs) Workgroup, to be held via videoconference. Video conference meetings are authorized by Tex. Gov't Code §551.127. On March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas certified COVID-19 as posing an imminent threat of disaster to the public health and safety and declared a state of disaster in all counties of Texas. On March 16, 2020, due to the declared COVID-19 disaster, the Governor of the State of Texas suspended certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, including those that require government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location, and authorized virtual open meetings in an effort to reduce non-essential in-person contact. The Governor's disaster declaration has been renewed each month since March and was last renewed on October 7, 2020. Accordingly, the Texas Board of Nursing will hold the public meeting of its DECs Workgroup by videoconference.

The public will have the opportunity to view the meeting. The meeting will be broadcast on the Board of Nursing's YouTube channel at:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRKOEkhMeL\\_IzZkpKDBe01Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRKOEkhMeL_IzZkpKDBe01Q).

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**Agenda**

- 10:00 a.m.     Call to Order – Kristin Benton  
                    Welcome and Introductions – Kristin Benton
- 10:15 a.m.     Review of Agenda – Kristin Benton  
                    Workgroup Charge – Tamara Rhodes  
                    Election of Chair
- 10:30 a.m.     Background:  
                    Historical Perspective – Beverly Skloss  
                    Preparatory Steps – Jan Hooper  
                    Overview of the Major Concepts in the DECs – Alexandria Chamberlain

- 10:50 a.m. First Step: Overview of the 25 Core Competencies  
Suggested Revisions – Kristin Benton
- 11:15 a.m. Suggested Revisions to Member of the Profession – Virginia Ayars
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch Break
- 12:30 p.m. Suggested Revisions to Provider of Patient-Centered Care – Gayle Varnell
- 1:00 p.m. Suggested Revisions to Advocate for Patient Safety – Tim Sherman
- 1:30 p.m. Suggested Revisions to Member of the Health Care Profession – Elise McDermott
- 2:15 p.m. Plans for Gathering Feedback and Distribution of Document  
Additional Items for Staff Development of Final Document
- 3:00 p.m. Adjourn