LARAMIE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Cheyenne ✦ Laramie ✦ Pine Bluffs

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Caitlin Mackenna, Nursing Program Director

DATE: June 19, 2019

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Approve Increased cost for Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Services for the Nursing Program

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approves the expenditure of $70,000 for ATI (Assessment Technologies Institute), a national RN licensure exam preparation company. The entire amount is currently available from the nursing budget from course and program fees the students are assessed.

ATI is the leading provider of online learning programs that are instrumental in improving faculty effectiveness as well as student and program outcomes in nursing programs across the country. ATI supports students beginning with the TEAS admission assessment and continues on with integrated testing, curriculum support, and clinical prep through NCLEX preparation.

As part of participation in the statewide ReNEW curriculum for nursing, the LCCC nursing program changed vendors from Kaplan to ATI in July 2018. The purpose in changing vendors is unification of all the programs. The intent of having all the nursing programs in the state using the same standardized tests and assessment products is the ability to compare outcomes for the statewide curriculum. ATI is also comprehensively utilized throughout the nursing program. It is used to provide standardized tests at the end of each course; which provides a direct measure to evaluate whether the end of course outcomes were met. The standardized tests are also used at the end of the program as a direct measure for meeting the end of program student learning outcomes. The nursing accreditation body, ACEN, requires both of these types of measurements.

ATI is also a preparation tool for students to prepare for the RN national licensure exam, NCLEX. Preparation for licensure begins in the first semester. Tools and resources for students are integrated across the program. At the end of the program ATI provides a 3-day on site program review and preparation for the national licensure exam. Students who participate in the review classes increase their chance of passing NCLEX by 97%. ATI also includes additional products such as skills modules, test-taking strategies for students while in the nursing program and practice NCLEX style questions (a high demand request from students.). Faculty also use ATI for active learning strategies in the classroom and clinical setting, as well as other resources across the program.

Over the last 8 years, the LCCC nursing program has performed at or slightly above the national average exam pass rate. To maintain our accreditation we are required to be at or above the national average. To be considered a program of excellence that we aspire towards, we would like to see our pass rates at 90% and higher. ATI provides the tools and resources for the program, faculty and students to achieve our goal of excellence.