

**ARIZONA STATE
BOARD OF NURSING**



***PROFESSIONAL AND PRACTICAL
NURSING PROGRAM
PROPOSAL APPLICATION***



Janice K. Brewer
Governor

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Arizona State Board of Nursing

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NURSING PROGRAM PROPOSAL APPLICATION AND INFORMATION

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Introduction *Starting A Nursing Program* Proposal Application for RN and PN Nursing Programs

Thank you for your interest in establishing a nursing program in the state of Arizona. This application packet contains the proposal application form, checklist, and worksheet, as well as information regarding statutes and rules that pertain to the application process. As the process is complex, it is strongly recommended that prior to submitting an application all applicants review the attached material and then contact Pamela Randolph, to arrange for an appointment to discuss the application. Ms. Randolph may be reached as follows:

Pamela K. Randolph, RN, MS
Associate Director of Education and Evidence-Based Regulation
Arizona State Board of Nursing
4747 North 7th Street, Suite 200
Phoenix, Arizona 85014
(602) 771-7803
(602) 771-7888 fax
prandolph@azbn.gov

As part of your preparation to submit an application for proposal approval, please review the Arizona State Board of Nursing the Submission of Materials to Education Committee policy which establishes guidelines and timeframes for submitting applications to the Education Advisory Committee.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Randolph".

Pamela K. Randolph, RN, MS
Associate Director of Education and
Evidence Based Regulation



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STARTING A NURSING PROGRAM Questions and Answers

Is any sort of accreditation needed?

Yes, the educational institution offering the program needs to be accredited as a post-secondary institution by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Three entities commonly accredit educational institutions that offer nursing programs:

- North Central Association (NCA) is the regional accrediting agency for Arizona. NCA accredits full service public and private colleges and universities, as well as independent and vocational schools.
- Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) is a national accrediting body that accredits private independent and vocational schools.
- Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) is a national accrediting body accredits private career colleges and schools that offer health education programs

Does the program itself need to be accredited?

While the Board recognizes and encourages program accreditation by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Council (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), this type of accreditation is not mandated for Board approval.

What is the approval process?

There are three stages to the approval process required by Board administrative rules.

- A proposal to offer a program needs to be filed under A.A.C. R4-19-207. The proposal establishes the intent to conduct a nursing program and reviews some of the requirements to ensure you are eligible to apply. The Education Committee, composed of nursing educators and nurses in practice, reviews all proposals and makes a recommendation regarding approval to the Board. The Board will make a decision about the proposal at their next regularly scheduled meeting after the Education Committee meeting.
- If the Board approves the proposal, the program may then apply for provisional approval, the second step in the process. Provisional approval involves the submission of a self-study by the educational institution and a site visit by Board staff to verify, clarify and amplify the contents of the self-study. The same review process by the Education Advisory Committee and the Board is conducted with this application. When Board grants provisional approval, the program may offer nursing classes and clinical instruction. Provisional approval may be granted with contingencies. If that is the case, all contingencies must be met before offering any part of the program. The program must admit a class within 12 months of receiving provisional approval.

- After and within 2 years of graduating the first class, the program shall apply for full approval under R4-19-208. The application process is the same as for provisional approval. Failure to apply for full approval within the specified time period will cause your approval to be rescinded.

What are the Board standards for program approval?

The Board standards for program approval are found in the Nurse Practice Act/Rules of the Board. Article 2 of the Board administrative rules contains the rules for approved programs in Arizona. A.A.C. R4-19-207 contains the rules for the proposal and provisional applications and R4-19-208 contains the rules for full approval application. The Nurse Practice Act may be obtained from the Board website www.azbn.gov/NursePracticeAct.aspx.

Who will answer my questions during the process?

The Education Consultant at the Board is available to answer your questions. The consultant can provide guidance and direct you appropriately during the process. She will also be conducting the site visits. Information on how to contact the consultant is included below.

When do the Education Committee and the Board meet?

The Board meets every other month on odd months, usually during the third week of the month. The Education Committee usually meets on a Friday during the even months. For exact dates and times, please contact the Board website www.azbn.gov.

Where do I start?

It is recommended that a representative of an accredited school meet with the Education Consultant before applying. If the school is not accredited, accreditation should be obtained before the application process is begun.

EDUCATION CONSULTANT:

Pamela K. Randolph, RN, MS
Associate Director of Education and Evidence-Based Regulation
Arizona State Board of Nursing
4747 North 7th Street, Suite 200
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NURSING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Background:

Board staff is receiving many applications from programs that are part of a national private career education schools. Assessing whether proposals meet rule requirements for nursing program administrator is problematic due to layers of corporate and local oversight. Additionally we have had unusual requests regarding the nursing program administrator function for existing programs in Arizona. This document is provided to clarify enforcement of existing rules. All rules relating to nursing program administrator are detailed below.

Rules:

R4-19-201. Organization and Administration

- D. The parent institution shall center the administrative control of the nursing program in the nursing program administrator.
- H. The parent institution shall appoint a nursing program administrator who meets the requirements of R4-19-203.
- J. A nursing program shall notify the Board of a vacancy or pending vacancy in the position of nursing program administrator within 15 days of the program's awareness of the vacancy or pending vacancy and do the following:
 - 1. Appoint an interim administrator or a permanent administrator who meets the requirements of R4-19-203(A) within 15 days of the effective date of the vacancy, and
 - 2. Notify the Board of the appointment of an interim or permanent administrator within 15 days of appointment and provide a copy of the administrator's credentials to the Board.

R4-19-202. Resources, Facilities, Services, and Records

- A. The parent institution of a nursing program shall consider the size of the program faculty and number of program students and shall provide facilities for the program that meet the following requirements:
 - 1. A private office for the administrator of the nursing program;

R4-19-203. Administrator; Qualifications and Duties

- A. A nursing program shall appoint an administrator who holds a current Arizona registered nurse license in good standing or multi-state privilege to practice in Arizona under A.R.S., Title 32, Chapter 15 and:
 - 1. For professional nursing programs, a graduate degree with a major in nursing; or
 - 2. For practical nursing programs, a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing.
- B. The administrator shall have comparable status with other program administrators in the parent institution and shall report directly to an academic officer of the institution.
- C. The administrator shall:
 - 1. Administer the nursing education program;
 - 2. Facilitate and coordinate activities related to academic policies, personnel policies, curriculum, resources, facilities, services, and program evaluation;
 - 3. Prepare and administer the budget;
 - 4. Recommend candidates for faculty appointment, retention, and promotion;
 - 5. In addition to any other evaluation used by the parent institution, ensure that faculty are evaluated:

- a. At least every three years,
 - b. By the nurse administrator or a nurse educator designated by the nurse administrator, and
 - c. In the areas of teaching ability and nursing knowledge and skills.
6. Maintain, enforce, and evaluate written policies and procedures that require all students, faculty, and preceptors who participate in clinical practice settings to be physically and mentally able to provide safe client care; and
 7. Participate in activities that contribute to the governance of the parent institution.
- D. The administrator of the nursing program shall not teach more than 45 contact hours per academic session.

R4-19-204. Faculty; Personnel Policies; Qualifications and Duties

- G. The nursing faculty, together with the program administrator, shall:
1. Develop, implement, and evaluate the program of learning; and
 2. Develop and implement standards for the admission, progression, and graduation of students

Examples of Issues:

1. A national chain of career colleges appoints a corporate nursing director to develop nursing program curriculum and policies and to oversee all nursing programs across multiple campuses in multiple states. The local campus is independently accredited. The national chain hires and identifies a local campus nursing administrator as administrator of the nursing program in their application. The organizational chart reveals that the local site administrator of the nursing program is reporting directly to a campus director but also is reporting to the corporate director of nursing. Policies reveal that most administrative aspects of the program are determined by a corporate nursing director.

Current interpretation: The program is advised that whoever they appoint as administrator must have administrative control over the program and the ability to modify curriculum, admission standards etc. There can be a relationship with the corporate nursing director for advice or consultation. Additionally the parent institution can set policies for curriculum change such as advisory committees and peer review as commonly occurs in most program, but the administrator is the person responsible for the program and must have a mechanism to institute and effect change to meet the unique needs of the particular program in AZ.

2. The administrator of a school with a small program calls and asks if the nursing program administrator can be part time.

Current interpretation: Nothing in current rules prohibits the position from being part time, however the program was told this was not advisable and the administrator should be available during normal operating hours to oversee all aspects of the program and ensure the curriculum and policies are implemented effectively.

3. A rural program requires the nursing program administrator to teach 45 hours during the school year however a site visit revealed that the administrator was teaching over 45 hours and was also administering the CNA program and did not have sufficient time or assistance to tend to her administrative duties plus teach, therefore had to use her “own time” on weekends to teach.

Current interpretation: This is a slippery slope that could lead to a situation where the administrator position is expected to use personal time

to teach in addition to administrative duties. The current rule was designed and intended to prevent this. The program is advised that no administrator can teach more than 45 hours in any academic session for their own educational institution. In fact in this situation, the Board would suggest that the administrator not teach at all since there does not seem to be sufficient time to accomplish administrative duties which led to other violations of rules due to not accomplishing essential role requirements such as evaluation of faculty.

4. A nursing program, upon the resignation of the nursing program administrator, appoints 2 faculty members to perform administrative duties while maintaining their teaching loads.

Current interpretation: Programs can have only one administrator and that administrator must meet all requirements. An interim administrator's job description must meet the rule requirements for nursing program administrators including limited teaching.

5. Another variant of the above: a program reorganizes the nursing department and leaves the current administrator in place, however promotes another nursing faculty to oversee him/her and approve all program decisions—this is not an academic officer of the institution. The program identifies the current administrator as the program administrator.

Current interpretation: This does not appear to meet rule requirements as the administrator must answer to an academic officer of the institution. The lines of authority and communication appear very muddled here.

6. A large program has an overall program administrator and several site coordinators. Do the current rules prevent the site coordinators from teaching more than 45 hours in one academic session?

Current interpretation: No, rule only applies to designated administrator for the total program.

submitted for only one course, with documentation by the program administrator that this is the prototype used for all courses.

Rationale: This format enables both the program and the committee to determine whether the applying program meets rule requirements.

4. Materials must be received 3 weeks before the committee meeting date.

Rationale: To provide adequate time for compiling, mailing, and committee review of documents.

5. Materials reviewed at the committee meeting will be electronically submitted to the Board at the next meeting with the committee recommendation unless the program requests or agrees to hold or withdraw the application or the committee did not make a recommendation because more information is needed.

Rationale: To ensure that adequate numbers of copies are available for Board members and appropriate staff and decisions are rendered on applications in a timely manner.

6. Courtesy review by the education consultant may be requested and shall only be provided as time permits. Entities requesting a courtesy review of the application, must submit the following items 5 weeks before the meeting:
 - a. A paper copy of the draft that is clearly marked “draft—courtesy review only,”
 - b. A written request for the review,
 - c. Contact information to include: the person’s name, e-mail, fax, phone numbers, and hours of availability.

Rationale: To assist programs to address issues related to rules in an adequate manner and prepare programs for questions they might receive at the committee meeting.

7. The Chair of the committee may accept late materials if the program demonstrates that the delay in submission was due to factors outside the control of the entity offering the program.

Rationale: Allows for flexibility in the event of an emergency

Schedule (Updated as Committee Meetings are known or change)

Date Due at Board Office for Courtesy Review	Date Due at Board Office for Distribution to Committee	Date of Education Committee Meeting
October 30, 2009	November 13, 2009	December 4, 2009
January 15, 2010	January 29, 2010	February 19, 2010
March 4, 2010	March 18, 2010	April 8, 2010 (Thursday)
May 7, 2010	May 21, 2010	June 11, 2010
July 2, 2010	July 16, 2010	August 6, 2010

Rule	Met	Description of how program meets rule requirement	Evidence (Document/page number)
<p>D. <u>The parent institution shall center the administrative control of the nursing program in the nursing program administrator.</u></p>	Met	<p>Administrative control is centered in the nursing administrator. Dr. Susan Smith, the administrator of the program, provides leadership for the faculty and facilitates decision-making. Dr. Smith represents the faculty and program at College Council meetings. Additionally Dr. Smith prepares and submits the program budget, is a part of the grievance process, and evaluates all faculty members according to institutional policy and Arizona State Board of Nursing rules. Dr. Smith and the faculty jointly determine admission, graduation, and progression requirements for the program. Dr. Smith enforces faculty decisions.</p>	<p>See Appendix C page 51-65: Program Administrator Job description; Sample of Faculty meeting minutes; Nursing program Budget; Grievance Procedure (p. 24 Nursing Student Handbook).</p>

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APPLICATION FOR PROPOSAL APPROVAL

This application and accompanying information is intended to assist your program in the PROPOSAL approval process. Proposal approval must be obtained before provisional approval is granted.

Program Name: _____	Parent Institution: _____
Address: _____	Phone: _____
_____	Nsng. Admin. _____
Other Sites: _____	Fax: _____
_____	E-mail _____
Anticipated start date of program: _____	Anticipated date you will apply for provisional approval: _____

Director of Program (Signature)

Date

Print Name

Administrator of Parent Institution (Signature)

Date

Print Name

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL

The administrator should submit 7 hard copies and one electronic copy of a written proposal to offer a nursing program according to the time-frames on the document *Policies for Submission of Materials to Education Committee*. In order to help you prepare the proposal and subsequent provisional approval application, a copy of the nurse practice act is provided. Please call the education consultant at any time during the entire process for any concerns or questions at (602) 771-7803.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PROPOSAL:

The 7 copies of the proposal should be bound in some manner (stapled is fine) with consecutively numbered pages. Do not submit notebooks, folders, 3 ring binders etc. as they are bulky and costly to mail and file. An electronic copy should be submitted as well as one unbound and unstapled copy so that the Board can make additional copies as needed.

For proposal approval, you must carefully address all provisions of R4-19-207. Every provision needs a full explanation and description of compliance. Common areas that programs have not adequately addressed in the past include subsections 3b, 3f, 3h, and 3j. Please contact Pamela Randolph to discuss the type of documentation that would be necessary under these provisions if you have any questions. If your implementation date is less than 6 months from the submission of the proposal, the Board may require that you submit signed clinical contracts as a condition of proposal approval.

R4-19-207

R4-19-207. Application for Provisional Approval of a Nursing Program

- A. Before establishing a nursing program, a parent institution shall submit an application for proposal approval to the Board that includes the following information and documentation:
1. Name and address of the parent institution;
 2. Statement of intent to establish a nursing program, including the academic and licensure level of the program; and
 3. Proposal that includes, but is not limited to, the following information:
 - a. Documentation of the present and future need for the program in the state including availability of potential students and need for entry level nurses;
 - b. Potential effect on existing nursing programs in a 50-mile radius of the proposed program;
 - c. Organizational structure of the educational institution documenting the relationship of the nursing program within the institution;
 - d. Accreditation status of the parent institution;
 - e. Purpose, mission, and goals of the nursing program;
 - f. Availability of qualified administrator and faculty;
 - g. Number of budgeted faculty positions;
 - h. Source and description of clinical resources for the program;
 - i. Anticipated student population;
 - j. Documentation of adequate academic facilities and staff to support the nursing program;
 - k. Evidence of financial resources adequate for the planning, implementation, and continuation of the nursing program; and

1. Tentative time schedule for planning and initiating the nursing program and the intended date for entry of the first class into the program.

PROPOSAL APPROVAL PROCESS:

1. The Education Committee will review the proposal and make a recommendation to the Board at their next regularly scheduled meeting. Programs are encouraged to send a representative to this meeting to present any additional information and answer questions. Outcomes of this meeting will either be a recommendation to the Board or to return to the Committee with additional information.
2. The Board will then take action on your proposal approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting in compliance with open meeting law. The Board will consider the recommendation of the Education Committee, but the Board is not obligated to adopt any recommendations. Decisions made by the Board may be different than the Education Committee recommendation. Programs are encouraged to attend the Board meeting.

You will be notified of the dates of the Education Committee and Board meetings and offered a scheduled time that the Board will consider the application. The Board may delay the time for any reason, but will not consider the item before the scheduled time. Following the Board meeting you will be given a letter apprising you of the board action. The most likely options the Board may consider are:

1. Grant proposal approval. Proposal approval expires if an application for provisional approval is not received within one year of the granting of proposal approval.
2. Grant proposal approval upon receipt of additional documents,
3. Denial of approval, or
4. Comprehensive request for additional information.

NEXT STEP:

Once proposal approval is granted, the program may apply for provisional approval. The program must apply for provisional approval within one year of the proposal approval or the proposal approval expires. Please see the application for provisional approval for guidelines in this process.

Documents Needed:

Policy on Submission of Materials to Education Committee

Nurse Practice Act

WORKSHEET FOR PROPOSAL APPROVAL

Rule R4-19-207

- A. Before establishing a nursing program a parent institution shall submit an application for proposal approval to the Board that includes the following information and documentation:

	Rule	DESCRIPTION THAT SUPPORTS COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULE	EVIDENCE (DOCUMENT/PAGE NUMBER, AS APPLICABLE)
1.	Name and address of the parent institution;		
2.	Statement of intent to establish a nursing program, including the academic and licensure level of the program; and		
3.	Proposal that includes, but is not limited to, the following information:		
a.	Documentation of the present and future need for the program in the state including availability of potential students and need for entry level nurses;		
b.	Potential effect on existing nursing programs in a 50-mile radius of the proposed program;		
c.	Organizational structure of the educational institution documenting the relationship of the nursing program within the institution;		
d.	Accreditation status of the parent institution;		
e.	Purpose, mission, and		

	goals of the nursing program;		
f.	Availability of qualified administrator and faculty;		
g.	Number of budgeted faculty positions;		
h.	Source and description of clinical resources for the program;		
i.	Anticipated student population;		
j.	Documentation of adequate academic facilities and staff to support the nursing program;		
k.	Evidence of financial resources adequate for the planning, implementation, and continuation of the nursing program; and		
l.	Tentative time schedule for planning and initiating the nursing program and the intended date for entry of the first class into the program.		
B.	The Board shall grant proposal approval to any parent institution that demonstrates:		
1.	The need for a program,		
2.	The resources to operate a program,		
3.	The availability of students,		
4.	The availability and		

	resources to secure a qualified administrator and faculty, and		
5.	Satisfaction of the accreditation requirements in R4-19-201(A).		

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HEALTH CARE FACILITY AVAILABILITY FORM

Programs seeking provisional approval or to expand capacity need to complete one form for each clinical health care facility where new or additional students will be placed for 2 years. The information contained in this form will provide evidence for the Board to determine if the program meets the requirements of R4-19-207(D)(2)(f) for provisional approval applicants and R4-19-209 (B)(1) for existing program applicants.

Name of School: Program: RN LPN Multiple-Exit	Name of Director/Designee: Telephone number: E-mail Address:
Name of Health Care Facility: Type of health care facility (Acute, OPD, SNF, Public Health etc.) Average Daily Census for the agency:	Name of Facility Contact/Student Placement Coordinator: Telephone Number: Email Address:

Type of units where students can be placed	Medical-Surgical	L&D/ Couplet Care	Pediatrics	Psych-Mental Health	Geriatrics	Critical Care/ Special Care	Community Health/ Home Health
Number of GROUPS the program is planning to place in the clinical area per academic YEAR (indicate year).	200_	200_	200_	200_	200_	200_	200_
	200_	200_	200_	200_	200_	200_	200_
Shifts (circle one) and days of the week available for placement of student GROUPS (Attach extra sheets as needed) D=DAYS E-EVENINGS N=NIGHTS	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_
	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8
	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12
	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_	Shifts 200_
	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8	D/E/N 8
	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12	D/N 12
	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S

Signature of Program Director/Designee

Date

NURSING STUDENT PLACEMENT COORDINATOR OF THE FACILITY

Please complete the following information to verify the availability for placement. Indicate yes or no to the following statements and provide additional information as requested.

___ All placements specified in this document are currently unused and available

___ Only the following placements specified in this document are currently unused and available: _____

___ The following placements are not available at this time but are anticipated to be available at the time of the student's clinical experience without displacing any other nursing students/program (provide breakdown): _____

___ We could only place students in the following units if a program currently using the unit cancelled placements: _____

By signing this document I agree that the clinical placements offered in this document are available for the expected dates, and if they are not available as anticipated, I or another facility representative will assist the program in locating acceptable clinical placements.

Name of Nursing Student Placement Coordinator

Title

Date

Signature

Telephone Number

E-mail Address

**STATUTES OF THE
*STATE BOARD OF NURSING***

**ARS §32-1644:
APPROVAL OF NURSING
SCHOOLS AND NURSING
PROGRAMS; APPLICATION;
MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS**

**COMPILED BY
ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
REVISED 2004**

*FOR A COMPLETE COPY OF THE NURSE PRACTICE ACT STATUTES AND RULES PLEASE VISIT OUR
WEBSITE AT www.azbn.gov/NursePracticeAct.aspx*

§32-1644. Approval of nursing schools and nursing programs; application; maintenance of standards

A. The board shall approve all new prelicensure nursing, nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist programs pursuant to this section. A postsecondary educational institution or school in this state that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States department of education desiring to conduct a registered nursing, practical nursing, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist program shall apply to the board for approval and submit satisfactory proof that it is prepared to meet and maintain the minimum standards prescribed by this chapter and board rules.

B. The board or its authorized agent shall conduct a survey of the institution or program applying for approval and shall submit a written report of its findings to the board. If the board determines that the program meets the requirements prescribed in its rules, it shall approve the applicant as either a registered nursing program, practical nursing program, nurse practitioner program or clinical nurse specialist program in a specialty area.

C. A nursing program approved by the board may also be accredited by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the board. If a prelicensure nursing program is accredited by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the board, the board does not have authority over it unless any of the following occurs:

1. The board receives a complaint about the program relating to patient safety.
2. The program falls below the standards prescribed by the board in its rules.
3. The program loses its accreditation by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the board.
4. The program allows its accreditation by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the board to lapse.

D. From time to time the board, through its authorized employees or representatives, may resurvey all approved programs in the state and shall file written reports of these resurveys with the board. If the board determines that an approved nursing program is not maintaining the required standards, it shall immediately give written notice to the program specifying the defects. If the defects are not corrected within a reasonable time as determined by the board, the board may take either of the following actions:

1. Approve the program but restrict the program's ability to admit new students until the program complies with board standards.
2. Remove the program from the list of approved nursing programs until the program complies with board standards.

E. All approved nursing programs shall maintain accurate and current records showing in full the theoretical and practical courses given to each student.

F. The board does not have regulatory authority over the following approved nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist programs unless the conditions prescribed in subsection C are met:

1. A nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist program that is part of a graduate program in nursing accredited by an agency recognized by the board if the program was surveyed as part of the graduate program accreditation.
2. A nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist program that is accredited by an agency recognized by the board.

Added by Laws 1983, Ch. 105, § 15. Amended by Laws 1984, Ch. 245, § 14; Laws 1995, Ch. 255, § 15; Laws 1996, Ch. 351, § 16; Laws 2002, Ch. 203, § 22 eff. May 9, 2002; Laws 2004, Ch. 104 § 1.

**RULES OF THE
*STATE BOARD OF NURSING***

**ARTICLE 2:
ARIZONA
PROFESSIONAL AND PRACTICAL
NURSING PROGRAMS**

**ISSUED BY
ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
REVISED February 2, 2009**

*FOR A COMPLETE COPY OF THE NURSE PRACTICE ACT STATUTES AND RULES
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.azbn.gov/NursePracticeAct.aspx*

ARTICLE 2. ARIZONA PROFESSIONAL AND PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAMS

R4-19-201. Organization and Administration

- A. The parent institution of a nursing program shall be accredited as a post-secondary institution, college, or university, by an accrediting body that is recognized as an accrediting body by the U.S. Department of Education.
- B. A nursing program shall have a written statement of mission and goals consistent with those of the parent institution and compatible with current concepts in nursing education.
- C. A nursing program shall be an integral part of the parent institution and shall have equivalent status with other academic units of the parent institution.
- D. The parent institution shall center the administrative control of the nursing program in the nursing program administrator.
- E. A nursing program shall provide an organizational chart that identifies the relationships, lines of authority, and channels of communication within the program, and between the program and the parent institution.
- F. A nursing program shall have a written agreement between the program and each clinical agency where clinical experience is provided to the program's students that:
 1. Defines the rights and responsibilities of both the clinical agency and the nursing program,
 2. Lists the role and authority of the governing bodies of both the clinical agency and the nursing program,
 3. Allows faculty members of the program the right to participate in selecting learning experiences for students, and
 4. Contains a termination clause that provides sufficient time for enrolled students to complete the clinical experience upon termination of the agreement.
- G. A nursing program shall have written policies that provide a mechanism for student input into the development of academic policies and procedures and participation in the evaluation plan.
- H. The parent institution shall appoint a nursing program administrator who meets the requirements of R4-19-203.
- I. A nursing program shall have a written plan for the systematic evaluation of the total program. The plan shall include the methodology, frequency of evaluation, assignment of responsibility, and evaluative criteria. The following areas shall be evaluated:
 1. Internal structure of the program, its relationship to the parent institution, and compatibility of program policies and procedures with those of the parent institution;
 2. Mission and goals;
 3. Curriculum;
 4. Education facilities, resources, and services;
 5. Clinical resources;
 6. Student achievement of program educational outcomes;
 7. Graduate performance on the licensing examination;
 8. Faculty performance; and
 9. Protection of patient safety.
- J. A nursing program shall notify the Board of a vacancy or pending vacancy in the position of nursing program administrator within 15 days of the program's awareness of the vacancy or pending vacancy and do the following:
 1. Appoint an interim administrator or a permanent administrator who meets the requirements of R4-19-203(A) within 15 days of the effective date of the vacancy, and
 2. Notify the Board of the appointment of an interim or permanent administrator within 15 days of appointment and provide a copy of the administrator's credentials to the Board.

Historical Note

Former Section I, Part I; Amended effective January 20, 1975 (Supp. 75-1). Former Section R4-19-11 repealed, new Section R4-19-11 adopted effective February 20, 1980 (Supp. 80-1). Amended effective July 16, 1984 (Supp. 84-4). Former Section R4-19-11 renumbered as Section R4-19-201 (Supp. 86-1). Section repealed; new Section adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-202. Resources, Facilities, Services, and Records

- A. The parent institution of a nursing program shall consider the size of the program faculty and number of program students and shall provide facilities for the program that meet the following requirements:
 1. A private office for the administrator of the nursing program;
 2. Faculty offices that are conveniently located and comparable to other faculty offices of the parent institution;
 3. Space for private faculty-student conferences;
 4. Space for clerical staff, records, files, and equipment;
 5. Facilities including classrooms, laboratories, and conference rooms available at the time needed, and equivalent in size, number, and type to facilities provided by approved programs of equivalent size, or, in the case of no equivalent program, scaled relative to an approved program;
 6. Acoustics, lighting, ventilation, plumbing, heating and cooling, seating arrangements, location, storage, and supplies to simulate patient care equivalent to those provided by approved programs of equivalent size and scope, or in the case of no equivalent program, scaled relative to an approved program;
 7. Secretarial and clerical support personnel to assist the administrator and faculty;
 8. Access to a collection of educational materials and resources that are current and equivalent to materials and resources provided by an approved program of equivalent size or scope, or, in case of no equivalent program, scaled relative to an approved program.

- B.** A nursing program shall maintain current and accurate records of the following:
 1. Student records, including admission materials, courses taken, grades received, scores in any standardized tests taken, and health and performance records;
 2. Faculty records, including Arizona professional nursing license number, evidence of fulfilling the requirements in R4-19-204, and performance evaluations or faculty employed by the parent institution for one or more years;
 3. Minutes of faculty and committee meetings;
 4. Administrative records and reports from accrediting agencies; and
 5. The statement of mission and goals, current curriculum, and course outlines.

Historical Note

Former Section I, Part II; Former Section R4-19-12 repealed, new Section R4-19-12 adopted effective February 20, 1980 (Supp. 80-1). Former Section R4-19-12 repealed, new Section R4-19-12 adopted effective July 16, 1984 (Supp. 84-4). Former Section R4-19-12 renumbered as Section R4-19-202 (Supp. 86-1). Section repealed; new Section adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-203. Administrator; Qualifications and Duties

- A.** A nursing program shall appoint an administrator who holds a current Arizona registered nurse license in good standing or multi-state privilege to practice in Arizona under A.R.S., Title 32, Chapter 15 and:
 1. For professional nursing programs, a graduate degree with a major in nursing; or
 2. For practical nursing programs, a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing.
- B.** The administrator shall have comparable status with other program administrators in the parent institution and shall report directly to an academic officer of the institution.
- C.** The administrator shall:
 1. Administer the nursing education program;
 2. Facilitate and coordinate activities related to academic policies, personnel policies, curriculum, resources, facilities, services, and program evaluation;
 3. Prepare and administer the budget;
 4. Recommend candidates for faculty appointment, retention, and promotion;
 5. In addition to any other evaluation used by the parent institution, ensure that faculty are evaluated:
 - a. At least every three years,
 - b. By the nurse administrator or a nurse educator designated by the nurse administrator, and
 - c. In the areas of teaching ability and nursing knowledge and skills.
 6. Maintain, enforce, and evaluate written policies and procedures that require all students, faculty, and preceptors who participate in clinical practice settings to be physically and mentally able to provide safe client care; and
 7. Participate in activities that contribute to the governance of the parent institution.
- D.** The administrator of the nursing program shall not teach more than 45 contact hours per academic session.

Historical Note

Former Section I, Part III; Former Section R4-19-13 repealed, new Section R4-19-13 adopted effective February 20, 1980 (Supp. 80-1). Former Section R4-19-13 repealed, new Section R4-19-13 adopted effective July 16, 1984 (Supp. 84-4). Former Section R4-19-13 renumbered as Section R4-19-203 (Supp. 86-1). Section repealed; new Section adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-204. Faculty; Personnel Policies; Qualifications and Duties

- A.** A nursing program shall implement personnel policies for didactic and clinical nursing faculty members that conform to those for other faculty members of the parent institution or provide a written explanation of any differences.
- B.** A nursing program shall provide the number of qualified faculty members comparable to that provided by approved programs of equivalent size and program type, or, in the case of no equivalent program, a number scaled relative to an approved program.
- C.** The parent institution of a nursing program shall ensure that the ratio of students to nursing faculty while involved in the care of patients is not more than ten to one.
- D.** The faculty shall supervise all students in clinical areas in accordance with the acuity of the patient population, clinical objectives, demonstrated competencies of the student, geographic placement of the student, and requirements established by the clinical agency.
- E.** The parent institution of a nursing program shall ensure that every professional nursing program faculty member holds a current Arizona registered nurse license in good standing or multi-state privilege to practice in Arizona under A.R.S., Title 32, Chapter 15 and that every faculty member meets one of the following:
 1. If providing didactic instruction:
 - a. At least two years of experience as a professional nurse providing direct patient care; and
 - b. A graduate degree. The majority of the faculty members of a professional nursing program shall hold a graduate degree with a major in nursing. If the graduate degree is not in nursing, the faculty member shall hold a minimum of a baccalaureate degree in nursing; or
 2. If providing clinical instruction, as defined in R4-19-206, only:
 - a. The requirements for didactic faculty, or

- b. A baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing and at least three years of experience as a professional nurse providing direct patient care.
- F. The parent institution of a nursing program shall ensure that each practical nursing program faculty member has:
 - 1. A minimum of a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing,
 - 2. A professional nurse license that is active and in good standing under A.R.S. Title 32, Chapter 15, and
 - 3. At least two years of experience as a professional nurse providing direct patient care.
- G. The nursing faculty, together with the program administrator, shall:
 - 1. Develop, implement, and evaluate the program of learning; and
 - 2. Develop and implement standards for the admission, progression, and graduation of students.

Historical Note

Former Section I, Part IV; Former Section R4-19-14 repealed, new Section R4-19-14 adopted effective February 20, 1980 (Supp. 80-1). Former Section R4-19-14 repealed, new Section R4-19-14 adopted effective July 16, 1984 (Supp. 84-4). Former Section R4-19-14 renumbered as Section R4-19-204 (Supp. 86-1). Section repealed; new Section adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-205. Students; Policies and Admissions

- A. A nursing program shall have written policies available to students and the public regarding admission, readmission, transfer, advanced placement, progression, graduation, withdrawal, and dismissal.
- B. A nursing program shall have written policies available to students that address student rights, responsibilities, grievances, health, and safety.
- C. A nursing program shall provide accurate and complete information to all students and prospective students about the program including, but not limited to:
 - 1. The nature of the program, including course sequence, prerequisites, co-requisites and academic standards;
 - 2. The length of the program;
 - 3. The current cost of the program;
 - 4. The transferability of credits to other public and private educational institutions in Arizona; and
 - 5. Program teaching methods and supporting technology.

Historical Note

Adopted effective February 20, 1980 (Supp. 80-1). Former Section R4-19-15 repealed, new Section R4-19-15 adopted effective July 16, 1984 (Supp. 84-4). Former Section R4-19-15 renumbered as Section R4-19-205 (Supp. 86-1). Section repealed; new Section adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-206. Curriculum

- A. For the purposes of this Section, "clinical instruction" means the guidance and supervision provided by a qualified faculty member or designee while a nursing student is providing patient care.
- B. A nursing program shall develop and implement a curriculum that includes level objectives, course objectives, measurable learning outcomes for each class session, and course content outlines for each course that:
 - 1. Reflect its mission and goals;
 - 2. Are logically consistent between and within courses;
 - 3. Are designed so that a student who completes the program will have the knowledge and skills necessary to function in accordance with the definition and scope of practice specified in A.R.S. § 32-1601(12) and R4-19-401 for a practical nurse or A.R.S. § 32-1601(13) and R4-19-402 for a professional nurse.
- C. A nursing program shall provide for progressive sequencing of classroom and clinical instruction sufficient to meet the goals of the program.
 - 1. A registered nursing (RN) program shall provide clinical instruction that includes, at a minimum, selected and guided experiences that develop a student's ability to apply core principles of nursing in varied settings when caring for:
 - a. Adult and geriatric patients with acute, chronic, and complex, life-threatening, medical and surgical conditions;
 - b. Patients experiencing pregnancy and delivery;
 - c. Neonates, infants, and children;
 - d. Patients with mental, psychological, or psychiatric conditions; and
 - e. Patients with wellness needs.
 - 2. A practical nursing program (PN) shall provide clinical instruction that includes, at minimum, selected and guided experiences that develop an understanding of physiological, psychological, pathological, and basic nursing care needs when caring for:
 - a. Patients with medical and surgical conditions throughout the life span,
 - b. Patients experiencing pregnancy and delivery, and
 - c. Neonates, infants, and children in varied settings.
- D. A nursing program shall maintain at least a 75% NCLEX® passing rate for graduates taking the NCLEX-PN® or NCLEX-RN® for the first time within 12 months of graduation. The Board shall issue a notice of deficiency to any program that has a NCLEX® passing rate less than 75% for two consecutive calendar years.

Historical Note

Adopted effective February 20, 1980 (Supp. 80-1). Former Section R4-19-16 repealed, former Section R4-19-17 renumbered and amended as Section R4-19-16 effective July 16, 1984 (Supp. 84-4). Former Section R4-19-16 renumbered as R4-19-206 (Supp. 86-1). Section repealed; new Section adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-207. Application for Provisional Approval of a Nursing Program

- A.** Before establishing a nursing program, a parent institution shall submit 20 copies of an application for proposal approval to the Board that includes the following information and documentation:
1. Name and address of the parent institution;
 2. Statement of intent to establish a nursing program, including the academic and licensure level of the program; and
 3. Proposal that includes, but is not limited to, the following information:
 - a. Documentation of the present and future need for the program in the state including availability of potential students and need for entry level nurses;
 - b. Potential effect on existing nursing programs in a 50-mile radius of the proposed program;
 - c. Organizational structure of the educational institution documenting the relationship of the nursing program within the institution;
 - d. Accreditation status of the parent institution;
 - e. Purpose, mission, and goals of the nursing program;
 - f. Availability of qualified administrator and faculty;
 - g. Number of budgeted faculty positions;
 - h. Source and description of clinical resources for the program;
 - i. Anticipated student population;
 - j. Documentation of adequate academic facilities and staff to support the nursing program;
 - k. Evidence of financial resources adequate for the planning, implementation, and continuation of the nursing program; and
 - l. Tentative time schedule for planning and initiating the nursing program and the intended date for entry of the first class into the program.
- B.** The Board shall grant proposal approval to any parent institution that demonstrates:
1. The need for a program,
 2. The resources to operate a program,
 3. The availability of students,
 4. The availability and resources to secure a qualified administrator and faculty, and
 5. Satisfaction of the accreditation requirements in R4-19-201(A).
- C.** A parent institution that is denied proposal approval may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order denying the application for proposal approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.
- D.** A parent institution that receives proposal approval may submit 20 copies of an application to the Board for provisional approval that includes the following information and documentation:
1. Name and address of parent institution; and
 2. Plan for compliance with R4-19-201 through R4-19-206, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Name and qualifications of appointed administrator;
 - b. Names and qualifications of nursing faculty for the first semester or session of operation at least 60 days before classes begin;
 - c. Final program implementation plan;
 - d. Curriculum, including course outlines, program objectives, and learning outcomes;
 - e. Descriptions of available and proposed physical facilities with dates of availability; and
 - f. List of available clinical facilities within the geographic area, including facility type, size, number of beds, and type of patients.
- E.** Following an onsite evaluation conducted according to A.R.S. § 41-1009, the Board shall grant provisional approval to a parent institution that meets the requirements of R4-19-201 through R4-19-206 if approval is in the best interest of the public. A parent institution that is denied provisional approval may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order denying the application for provisional approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.
- F.** The provisional approval of a nursing program expires 12 months from the date of the grant of provisional approval if a class of nursing students is not admitted by the nursing program within that time. The Board may rescind the provisional approval of a nursing program for a violation of any provision of this Article according to R4-19-211.
- G.** If a nursing program fails to apply for full approval within two years of graduating its first class of students, the Board shall rescind its provisional approval. A nursing program whose provisional approval is rescinded may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order rescinding the provisional approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.

Historical Note

Adopted effective February 20, 1980 (Supp. 80-1). Former Section R4-19-17 renumbered and amended as Section R4-19-16 effective July 16, 1984 (Supp. 84-4). Former Section R4-19-17 renumbered as R4-19-207 (Supp. 86-1).

New Section adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-208. Application for Full Approval of a Nursing Program

- A. A nursing program seeking full approval shall submit an application that includes the following information and documentation:
 - 1. Name and address of the parent institution,
 - 2. Date the nursing program graduated its first class of students, and
 - 3. Twenty copies of a self-study report that contains evidence the program is in compliance with R4-19-201 through R4-19-206.
- B. Following an onsite evaluation conducted according to A.R.S. § 41-1009, the Board shall grant full approval for a maximum of five years or the accreditation period for nationally accredited programs governed by R4-19-212, to a nursing program that meets the requirements of R4-19-201 through R4-19-206 if approval is in the best interest of the public. A nursing program that is denied full approval may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order denying the application for full approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.
- C. A nursing program shall apply for full approval within a two-year period after graduating its first class or its provisional approval may be rescinded by the Board following notice and an opportunity for hearing.

Historical Note

Adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-209. Nursing Program Change

- A. A nursing program administrator shall receive approval from the Board before implementing any of the following nursing program changes:
 - 1. Changing the mission or goals,
 - 2. Increasing or decreasing the length of the program,
 - 3. Adding or deleting a geographical location of the program,
 - 4. Increasing the student enrollment capacity by more than 20%,
 - 5. Changing the level of educational preparation provided, or
 - 6. Transferring the nursing program from one institution to another.
- B. The administrator shall submit 20 copies of the following materials with the request for nursing program changes:
 - 1. The rationale for the proposed change and the anticipated effect on the program administrator, faculty, students, resources, and facilities;
 - 2. A summary of the differences between the current practice and proposed change;
 - 3. A timetable for implementation of the change; and
 - 4. The methods of evaluation to be used to determine the effect of the change.
- C. The Board shall approve a request for a nursing program change if the program demonstrates that it has the resources to implement the change and the change is consistent with R4-19-201 through R4-19-206. A nursing program that is denied approval of program changes may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order denying the application for full approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.

Historical Note

Adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-210. Renewal of Approval of Board-approved Nursing Programs

- A. An approved nursing program that is not accredited by an approved national nursing accrediting agency shall submit an application packet to the Board at least four months before the expiration of the current approval that includes the following:
 - 1. Name and address of the parent institution,
 - 2. Current regional accreditation status,
 - 3. Copy of the current catalog of the parent institution,
 - 4. Copy of current nursing program policies, and
 - 5. Twenty copies of a self-study report that contains evidence of compliance with R4-19-201 through R4-19-206.
- B. Following an onsite evaluation conducted according to A.R.S. § 41-1009, the Board shall renew program approval for a maximum of five years if the nursing program meets the criteria in R4-19-201 through R4-19-206 and if renewal is in the best interest of the public. The Board shall determine the term of approval that is in the best interest of the public.
- C. If the Board denies renewal of approval, the nursing program may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order denying the application for renewal of approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.

Historical Note

Adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-211. Rescission of Approval

- A. The Board shall, upon determining that a nursing program or a refresher program is not in compliance with R4-19-201 through R4-19-214, provide to the administrator a written notice of deficiencies that establishes a reasonable time, based upon the number and severity of deficiencies, to correct the deficiencies. The time for correction may not exceed 18 months.
 - 1. The administrator shall, within 30 days from the date of service of the notice of deficiencies, file a plan to correct each of the identified deficiencies after consultation with the Board or designated Board representative.
 - 2. The administrator may, within 30 days from the date of service of the notice of deficiencies, submit a written request for a hearing before the Board to appeal the Board's determination of deficiencies. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.
 - 3. If the Board's determination is not appealed or is upheld upon appeal, the Board shall conduct periodic evaluations of the program during the time of correction to determine whether the deficiencies have been corrected.
- B. The Board shall, following a Board-conducted survey and report, rescind the approval of, or restrict admissions to a nursing program or refresher program if the program fails to comply with R4-19-201 through R4-19-214 within the time set by the Board in the notice of deficiencies served upon the program.
 - 1. The Board shall serve the administrator with a written notice of proposed rescission of approval or restriction of admissions that states the grounds for the proposed action. The administrator shall have 30 days to submit a written request for a hearing to show cause why the proposed action should not occur. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.
 - 2. Upon the effective date of a decision to rescind program approval, the nursing program shall immediately cease operation and be removed from the official approved-status listing. A nursing program that has been ordered to cease operations shall assist currently enrolled students to transfer to an approved nursing program.
- C. In addition to the cause in subsection (B), if the Board determines that the effectiveness of instruction to students is impaired, the Board may rescind approval of or restrict admissions to a nursing program for any of the following causes:
 - 1. For a program that was served with a notice of deficiencies within the preceding three years and timely corrected the noticed deficiencies, subsequent noncompliance with the standards in R4-19-201 through R4-19-214; or
 - 2. Failure to comply with orders of or stipulations with the Board within the time determined by the Board.

Historical Note

Adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-212. Nationally Accredited Nursing Programs

- A. An approved nursing program that is accredited by an approved national nursing accrediting agency shall submit to the Board evidence of initial accreditation and shall submit evidence of continuing accreditation after each reaccreditation review.
- B. The administrator shall submit to the Board any report from a national accrediting agency citing deficiencies or recommendations at the time the report is received by the nursing program.
- C. The administrator of a nursing program shall notify the Board within 10 days of any change in accreditation status.
- D. The administrator of a nursing program that loses its accreditation status or allows its accreditation status to lapse shall file an application for renewal of approval under R4-19-210 within 30 days of loss of or lapse in accreditation status.
- E. Unless otherwise notified by the Board following receipt and review of the documents required by subsections (A) and (B), a nursing program continues to have full-approval status. The administrator of a nursing program that has its continuing approval-status rescinded by the Board may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order rescinding continuing full-approval status. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.

Historical Note

Adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-213. Voluntary Termination of a Nursing Program or a Refresher Program

- A. The administrator of a nursing program or a refresher program shall notify the Board within 15 days of a decision to voluntarily terminate the program. The administrator shall, at the same time, submit a written plan for terminating the nursing program or refresher program.
- B. The administrator shall ensure that the nursing program or refresher program is maintained, including the nursing faculty, until the last student is transferred or completes the program.
- C. Within 15 days after the termination of a nursing program or refresher program, the administrator shall notify the Board of the permanent location and availability of all program records.

Historical Note

Adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4).

R4-19-214. Approval of a Refresher Program

- A.** An applicant for approval of a refresher program for nurses whose licenses have been inactive or expired for five or more years, nurses under Board order to enroll in a refresher program, or nurses who have not met the requirements of R4-19-312 shall submit a completed application that provides all of the following information and documentation:
1. Applicant's name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, and fax number;
 2. Proposed starting date for the program;
 3. Name and curriculum vitae of all instructors;
 4. Statement describing the facilities, staff, and resources that the applicant will use to conduct the refresher program;
 5. A program and participant evaluation plan that includes student evaluation of the course, instructor, and clinical experience; and
 6. Evidence of a curriculum that meets the requirements of subsection (B).
- B.** A refresher program shall provide:
1. A minimum of 40 hours of didactic instruction and 112 hours of supervised clinical practice for a licensed practical nurse program;
 2. A minimum of 80 hours of didactic instruction and 160 hours of supervised clinical practice for a professional nurse program;
 3. A planned and supervised clinical experience that is consistent with course goals and provides an opportunity for the student to demonstrate safe and competent application of program content. The student may spend up to 24 of the required clinical hours in a supervised lab setting;
 4. Curriculum materials, including:
 - a. An overall program description including goals; and
 - b. Objectives, content, and hours allotted for each area of instruction;
 5. Instruction in current nursing care concepts and skills including:
 - a. Nursing process;
 - b. Pharmacology, medication calculation, and medication administration;
 - c. Communication;
 - d. Critical thinking and clinical decision making;
 - e. Delegation, management, and leadership; and
 - f. Meeting psychosocial and physiological needs of clients.
- C.** A refresher program may adapt the curriculum based on the need to incorporate content applicable to specialty and indirect care areas of nursing practice for students who plan to practice in those areas. The clinical experience for such students may include indirect care, depending on the course goals and objectives. The program shall include concepts and skills needed to deliver safe nursing care in any adapted curriculum.
- D.** The Board shall approve a refresher program that meets the requirements of subsection (A), if approval is in the best interest of the public, for a term of four years. An applicant who is denied refresher program approval may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order denying the application for approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.
- E.** The refresher program sponsor shall apply for renewal of approval in accordance with subsection (A) not later than 90 days before expiration of the current approval. The sponsor of a refresher program that is denied renewal of approval may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order denying the application for renewal of approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.
- F.** The sponsor of an approved refresher program shall provide written notification to the Board within 15 days of a participant's completion of the program of the following:
1. Name of the participant and whether the participant successfully completed or failed the program,
 2. Participant's license, and
 3. Date of participant's completion of the program.

Historical Note

Adopted effective July 19, 1995 (Supp. 95-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 5349, effective November 8, 2001 (Supp. 01-4). Amended by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (05-1).

R4-19-215. Distance Learning Nursing Programs; Out-of-State Nursing Programs

- A.** An out-of-state nursing program that plans to provide both didactic and clinical instruction in Arizona shall comply with the application requirements of R4-19-207 and R4-19-208.
- B.** A nursing program that delivers didactic instruction by distance learning methods shall ensure that the methods of instruction are compatible with the program curriculum plan and enable a student to meet the goals, competencies, and objectives of the educational program and standards of the Board.
1. A distance learning nursing program shall establish a means for assessing individual student outcomes, and program outcomes including, at minimum, student learning outcomes, student retention, student satisfaction, and faculty satisfaction.
 2. For out-of-state nursing programs, the program shall be within the jurisdiction of and regulated by an equivalent nursing regulatory authority in the state from which the program originates, unless also providing clinical experience in Arizona.
 3. Faculty shall be licensed in the state of origination of a distance learning nursing program.

4. A distance learning nursing program shall provide students with supervised clinical and laboratory experiences so that program objectives are met and didactic learning is validated by supervised, land-based clinical and laboratory experiences.
 5. A distance-learning nursing program shall provide students with access to technology, resources, technical support, and the ability to interact with peers, preceptors, and faculty.
- C.** A nursing program, located in another state or territory of the United States, that wishes to provide clinical experiences in Arizona under A.R.S. § 32-1631(3), shall obtain Board approval before offering or conducting a clinical session. To obtain approval, the program shall submit a proposal package that contains:
1. A self study, describing the program's compliance with R4-19-201 through R4-19-206; and
 2. A statement regarding the anticipated effect on clinical placements for students currently enrolled in an Arizona-approved nursing program.
- D.** The Board may require a nursing program approved under this Section to file periodic reports for the purpose of data collection or to determine compliance with the provisions of this Article. A program shall submit a report to the Board within 30 days of the date on a written request from the Board or by the due date stated in the request if the due date is after the normal 30-day period.
- E.** The Board shall approve an application to conduct clinical instruction in Arizona that meets the requirements in A.R.S. Title 32, Chapter 15 and this Chapter, and is in the best interest of the public. An applicant who is denied approval to conduct clinical instruction in Arizona may request a hearing by filing a written request with the Board within 30 days of service of the Board's order denying the application for approval. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10 and 4 A.A.C. 19, Article 6.
- F.** The Board may rescind an approval held by an out-of-state nursing program to conduct clinical instruction in Arizona, in accordance with R4-19-211.
- G.** If the Board finds that a nursing program located and approved in another state or territory of the United States does not meet requirements for nursing programs prescribed in R4-19-201 through R4-19-206, the Board shall provide a notice of deficiency to the program as prescribed in R4-19-211(A), (A)(1) and (A)(2).
1. If the program fails to correct the deficiency before the expiration of the period of correction, the Board shall rescind approval of the program as prescribed in R4-19-211(B)(1).
 2. If the period of rescission, from the date of rescission to the date of reinstatement, is at any time concurrent with an applicant's education from the date of admission to the date of graduation, the Board shall withhold licensure unless the applicant meets all licensure requirements and completes any remedial education prescribed by the Board under R4-19-301(H). The Board shall ensure that the applicant has completed a curriculum that is equivalent to that of an approved nursing program.
 3. If a nursing program provides evidence of compliance with R4-19-201 through R4-19-206 after the rescission of approval, the Board shall review the evidence, determine whether or not the nursing program complies with these standards, and reinstate approval of the program if the program complies with these standards.

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 11 A.A.R. 451, effective March 7, 2005 (Supp. 05-1). Amended by final rulemaking at 13 A.A.R. 1483, effective June 2, 2007 (Supp. 07-2).