

Arizona State Board of Nursing Substantive Policy Statement

Challenging the Nursing Assistant Certification Examination

November 19, 2009

This Substantive Policy Statement is advisory only. A Substantive Policy Statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on the regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedures Act. If you believe that this Substantive Policy Statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties you may petition the agency under Arizona Revised Statutes Section 41-1033 for a review of the statement. (ARS § 41-1091)

R4-19-806 (B) Nursing Assistant Certification by Examination

- B.** An applicant for certification as a nursing assistant shall submit a passing score on a Board-approved nursing assistant examination and provide one of the following criteria:
1. Proof that the applicant has completed a Board-approved nursing assistant training program;
 2. Proof that the applicant has completed a nursing assistant training program approved in another state or territory of the United States consisting of at least 120 hours;
 3. Proof that the applicant has completed a nursing assistant program approved in another state or territory of the United States of at least 75 hours of instruction and proof of working as a nursing assistant for an additional number of hours that together with the hours of instruction, equal at least 120 hours; or
 4. Proof that the applicant either holds a valid nursing license in the U.S. or territories, has graduated from an approved nursing program, or otherwise meets educational requirements for a registered or practical nursing license in Arizona.

Purpose: To provide guidelines consistent with state and federal law and to establish criteria for challenging the nursing assistant certification examination.

Policy:

The following waivers apply for applicants that have not completed a Board approved nursing assistant training program:

1. Nursing students who, within the past 2 years, have successfully completed a nursing course as part of an approved RN/LPN program including:
 - didactic content relating to Long Term Care clients
 - 40 hours of patient care in a LTC or comparable facility
 - documentation of meeting requirements from the course instructor or nursing program director/designee
2. Graduates of foreign nursing programs, as evidenced by a copy of their diploma or foreign license.
3. Applicants who have completed at least 100 hours of military health care training, as evidenced by military records, and have worked in health care within the past 2 years.