

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE  
STATE BOARD OF NURSING**

**LCB File No. R130-26**

July 7, 2026

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1, 2 and 4, NRS 632.120, 632.430 and 632.440; § 3, NRS 632.120, 632.430, 632.440 and 632.4705.

A REGULATION relating to nursing; authorizing a clinical nursing course offered by a program of nursing to utilize certain realistic and interactive simulations for not more than 50 percent of the course curriculum; requiring a program of nursing that utilizes such simulations to integrate into the program certain standards of best practice for simulation; authorizing a program of nursing to award hours of clinical experience for participation in such simulations; revising the number of members of the faculty of a program of nursing who are required to be full-time employees; revising provisions relating to the use of standardized examinations as part of a program of nursing; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law authorizes the State Board of Nursing to adopt regulations necessary to enable it to administer the provisions of law governing the practice of nursing, including by prescribing standards and curricula for certain schools and courses of nursing. (NRS 632.120, 632.430, 632.440) **Section 1** of this regulation: (1) authorizes a clinical nursing course offered by a program of nursing to utilize high-fidelity simulations for not more than 50 percent of the course curriculum; and (2) requires a program of nursing that utilizes high-fidelity simulations as part of a clinical nursing course to integrate into the program certain standards of best practice for simulation. **Section 1** defines the term “high-fidelity simulation” to mean a highly interactive and realistic clinical experience or activity which simulates an event or situation that a student is likely to encounter in the workplace. **Section 1** also authorizes a program of nursing to award hours of clinical experience for participation in a high-fidelity simulation. **Section 2** of this regulation makes a conforming change to indicate the proper placement of **section 1** in the Nevada Administrative Code.

Existing law requires an approved school of practical or professional nursing to determine the appropriate ratio of faculty members to students, provided that such a ratio does not exceed 1 member of the faculty for every 12 students. (NRS 632.4705). Existing regulations provide that, in courses relating to the care of patients, there must be at least 1 member of the faculty for every 12 students. (NAC 632.675) **Section 3** of this regulation eliminates that ratio of faculty members to students which is duplicative of existing law. **Section 3** also reduces the

number of members of the faculty of a program of nursing who are required to be full-time employees from a majority of members of the faculty to at least 35 percent of the members of the faculty.

Existing regulations prohibit a program of nursing from using a standardized examination for determining the successful completion of the program. (NAC 632.685) **Section 4** of this regulation defines the term “standardized examination” for the purposes of those provisions to mean a uniform, psychometrically-validated assessment which is administered to a student to measure knowledge and ensure competency. **Section 4** authorizes a program of nursing to use a standardized examination as part of the program, but: (1) maintains the existing prohibition on using a standardized examination to determine the successful completion of the program; and (2) additionally prohibits using a standardized examination as a high-stakes test. **Section 4** defines the term “high-stakes test” to mean the use of a single written, electronic or demonstrative test or examination to determine an important outcome, including whether a student earns a passing grade in a course or graduates from a program.

**Section 1.** Chapter 632 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

*1. Each clinical nursing course offered by a program of nursing may utilize high-fidelity simulations for not more than 50 percent of the course curriculum.*

*2. A program of nursing that utilizes high-fidelity simulations as part of a clinical nursing course shall integrate into the program standards of best practice for simulation which are approved by the Board, the International Nursing Association for Clinical and Simulation Learning or the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.*

*3. A program of nursing may award hours of clinical experience for participation in a high-fidelity simulation as part of a clinical nursing course at the rate of 1 hour of high-fidelity simulation being equal:*

*(a) To 1 hour of traditional face-to-face clinical experience; or*

*(b) If the program of nursing has obtained accreditation for the high-fidelity simulation or is in the process of obtaining such accreditation, to 2 hours of traditional face-to-face clinical experience.*

*4. As used in this section, “high-fidelity simulation” means a highly interactive and realistic clinical experience or activity which simulates an event or situation that a student is likely to encounter in the workplace. Such a simulation may include, without limitation, physical, psychological or environmental elements and may be used for the purposes of practice learning, evaluation and testing or to gain understanding of a system or the actions of a person.*

**Sec. 2.** NAC 632.600 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.600 As used in NAC 632.600 to 632.711, inclusive, *and section 1 of this regulation*, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “Conditional approval” means approval, with conditions or restrictions, granted by the Board to a program of nursing which does not meet the standards for curriculum established by the Board.

2. “Full approval” means approval granted by the Board to a program of nursing if it meets the standards established by the Board and the requirements of law.

3. “Provisional approval” means approval granted by the Board to a program of nursing which has not graduated its first class and demonstrated eligibility for full approval.

4. “Teach out” means a process by which a program of nursing may fulfill educational and contractual obligations to currently enrolled students before closing as the result of the Board’s denial or withdrawal of full approval for the program pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 of NAC 632.635.

**Sec. 3.** NAC 632.675 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.675 1. A program of nursing must have a competent and stable faculty. ~~{The majority}~~ *At least 35 percent* of the members of the faculty must be full-time employees.

2. Of the faculty who are hired after August 13, 2004:

(a) At least 75 percent of the members must hold at least a master's degree with a major in nursing and have completed training which is related to the area of teaching of the member; and

(b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the remainder of such members, if any, must hold at least:

(1) A master's or doctoral degree with a major in nursing;

(2) A bachelor's degree with a major in nursing and a master's or doctoral degree in a field related to nursing; or

(3) A graduate degree from an accredited school of nursing.

3. The Executive Director of the Board may, for good cause shown, waive the requirements of paragraph (b) of subsection 2.

4. The members of the faculty shall develop and evaluate the curriculum and the educational practices of the program.

5. ~~In courses relating to the care of patients, there must be at least 1 member of the faculty for every 12 students.~~

~~6.1~~ A program of nursing that uses the personnel of a clinical facility as preceptors to instruct the clinical experience of students must require:

(a) Each preceptor to have clinical expertise and to have demonstrated competence in the specialty of the students whom he or she will instruct;

(b) Each preceptor to be approved by the faculty of the program of nursing;

(c) The faculty of the program of nursing to provide to each preceptor an orientation concerning the roles and responsibilities of students, members of the faculty and preceptors; and

(d) The faculty of the program of nursing to develop written objectives and provide a copy of those objectives to each preceptor,

↳ before the preceptor begins his or her instruction of the students.

~~17.1~~ 6. In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection ~~16.1~~ 5, a program of nursing that uses the personnel of a clinical facility as preceptors to instruct the clinical experience of students:

(a) Must ensure that each preceptor is assigned to instruct not more than two students at the same time;

(b) Must designate a member of the faculty to serve as a liaison between the preceptor and each student who participates in the clinical experience;

(c) Must require that each preceptor be present in the clinical facility and available to the students at all times when the students provide nursing services to patients; and

(d) May use a preceptor to reinforce basic nursing skills or to teach nursing skills which build on the basic nursing skills that the students have acquired.

~~18.1~~ 7. There must be at least one qualified administrator for each department or division of the program.

~~19.1~~ 8. If a university or college offers a program of nursing for more than one level of preparation, there must be one person who is responsible for each such level.

**Sec. 4.** NAC 632.685 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.685 1. The curriculum of a program of nursing must:

(a) Reflect the philosophy and objectives of the program;

(b) Be based on a rationale that ensures sufficient preparation for the safe and effective practice of nursing; and

(c) Contain theory and clinical experiences that are integrated throughout the program of nursing.

2. Credits for courses must be awarded appropriately.

3. ~~1A~~ *Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a* program of nursing ~~must not~~ *may* use a standardized examination ~~for determining the successful completion of~~ *as part of* the program. *A program of nursing must not:*

*(a) Use a standardized examination to determine the successful completion of the program; or*

*(b) Use a standardized examination as a high-stakes test.*

4. *As used in this section:*

*(a) “High-stakes test” means the use of a single written, electronic or demonstrative test or examination to determine an important outcome, including, without limitation, whether a student earns a passing grade in a course or graduates from a program.*

*(b) “Standardized examination” means a test that is a uniform, psychometrically-validated assessment which is administered to a student to measure knowledge and ensure competency.*