

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE
STATE BOARD OF NURSING**

LCB File No. R212-99

Effective May 8, 2000

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

AUTHORITY: §§1-14, NRS 632.120.

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

In lieu of a survey of a program of nursing required by NAC 632.706, the board may deem a program of nursing as being surveyed if the program has received accreditation from a nationally recognized association that accredits schools of nursing, as approved by the board, within the 4 years immediately preceding the date the board deems the program as being surveyed.

Sec. 2. NAC 632.063 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.063 “Nursing student” means a person who is:

1. Enrolled in a program of professional nursing or practical nursing at ~~[a]~~ *an accredited* school of nursing ; ~~{accredited by the board;}~~

2. Taking at least three credits of nursing theory or clinical courses related to nursing in an academic semester; and

3. Continuously progressing toward obtaining a certificate or degree in nursing.

Sec. 3. 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 ~~[accreditation] means accreditation,~~ *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 ~~[accreditation] means accreditation~~ *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 ~~[accreditation] means accreditation~~ *approval” means approval* granted by the board to a program of nursing which has not graduated its first class and demonstrated eligibility for full ~~[accreditation.]~~ *approval.*

Sec. 4. NAC 632.615 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.615 A university or college may apply for provisional ~~[accreditation]~~ *approval of a program of nursing offered by the university or college* if:

1. A qualified administrator is at the site and there are sufficient qualified members of the faculty to begin the program;

2. A written proposal for the program, developed in accordance with the standards for nursing education approved by the board, has been submitted to the board; and

3. A visit to the facilities has been conducted by the board.

Sec. 5. NAC 632.620 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.620 1. The board will not grant provisional ~~[accreditation]~~ *approval* to a program of nursing offered by a university or college unless students have been admitted to the program. If

the board does not grant provisional **[accreditation] approval** to the program, the university or college may request a hearing before the board.

2. If the board grants provisional **[accreditation] approval** to a program of nursing offered by a university or college, the administrator of the program shall submit a report concerning the program to the board every 6 months.

3. A self-evaluation report demonstrating compliance with the standards for nursing education approved by the board must be submitted by the administrator of the program to the board within 6 months after graduation of the first class.

4. The board will visit the site of the program after the graduation of the first class of students.

Sec. 6. NAC 632.625 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.625 1. A university or college which has been granted provisional **[accreditation] approval** for a program of nursing and wishes to receive full **[accreditation] approval** for the program must apply for that **[accreditation] approval** within 2 years after the first class is graduated.

2. The board will grant full **[accreditation] approval** to the program of nursing:

(a) If 80 percent or more of the graduates of the program who take the National Council Licensure Examination for the first time pass the examination.

(b) Based on information:

- (1) Included in the application for approval submitted to the board;
- (2) Submitted concerning the pass rate of graduates of the program who take the National Council Licensure Examination for the first time; and
- (3) Obtained by the board from visits to the program.

Sec. 7. NAC 632.630 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.630 1. A program of nursing which does not meet the minimum standards prescribed by the board or by statute must be placed on conditional ~~accreditation.~~ *approval.*

2. If a program of nursing has a pass rate of less than 80 percent for graduates of the program who take the National Council Licensure Examination for the first time, the administrator of the program shall conduct a study to determine the deficiencies of the program and the measures which must be taken to correct those deficiencies. The administrator shall submit a copy of the study to the board within 3 months after the program receives the results of that examination.

3. If a program of nursing has a pass rate of less than 80 percent for graduates of the program who take the National Council Licensure Examination for the first time, for two such examinations within 2 years, the board will place the program on conditional ~~accreditation~~ *approval* and conduct a review of the program at the site of the program.

4. The board will notify the administrator of the program of any deficiencies in the program and establish a plan to correct those deficiencies. The administrator shall submit a report to the board within 6 months after the board establishes the plan. The report must include proof of compliance with the board's plan.

5. If the program complies with the plan, the board will withdraw the conditional ~~accreditation.~~ *approval.* If the program does not comply with the plan, the board will remove the program from the list of ~~accredited programs.~~ *programs approved by the board.*

Sec. 8. NAC 632.635 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.635 1. The board will deny ~~accreditation for~~ *the approval of* a program of nursing if it determines that the program fails to comply with the standards for nursing education approved by the board or the requirements of the law.

2. The board may withdraw the ~~accreditation~~ *approval* of a program of nursing if it determines that the administrator of the program has not provided sufficient evidence of the program's compliance with the standards for nursing education approved by the board and the requirements of the law.

3. The board may reinstate the ~~accreditation~~ *approval* of a program of nursing if the administrator of the program submits proof that the program has complied with the standards of nursing education approved by the board and the requirements of the law.

Sec. 9. NAC 632.680 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.680 1. The requirements for admission to a program of nursing must be clearly stated. The number of students enrolled in the program of nursing must be determined by the number of members of the faculty and the availability of clinical learning experiences.

2. Students who seek admission to a program of nursing by transferring from ~~another accredited~~ *a program of nursing from another accredited school of nursing* or who seek readmission for the completion of a program ~~]~~ must comply with the requirements for admission which are effective at the time of the transfer or readmission.

3. All policies concerning students must be in writing.

4. The administrator of a program of nursing shall establish a policy for the resolution of complaints and disputes concerning students.

Sec. 10. NAC 632.703 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.703 1. A program of nursing which conducts a portion of its program in Nevada shall submit to the board a report, on a form provided by the board, which includes:

(a) Proof of its current accreditation or approval by the state in which the program originates or by any applicable national accreditation body; and

(b) All correspondence received within the preceding year from the accrediting body or bodies.

2. The administrator of the program of nursing shall:

(a) Notify the board in writing of any adverse action taken against the program by the accrediting body or bodies within 30 days after the action is taken; and

(b) Complete and submit an annual school report on forms provided by the board.

3. The board may conduct a complete visit to the program of nursing to determine its eligibility for ~~accreditation~~ *approval* at any time, or may accept all or part of the survey and findings on accreditation from the state in which the program originates.

Sec. 11. NAC 632.706 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.706 1. ~~The~~ *Except as otherwise provided in section 1 of this regulation, the* board will ~~review~~ *survey* each program of nursing, under the direction of the executive director appointed by the board, at least every 4 years.

2. The board, ~~or~~ a member of the board's staff *or an educational consultant working on behalf of the board* will visit the site of the program during the ~~review~~ *survey*. The visits must be scheduled at a time agreed upon by the board and the administrator of the program.

3. The administrator of the program shall submit to the board a self-evaluation report prepared by the administrator and members of the faculty in the form prescribed by the board.

4. The self-evaluation report which is required by ~~the National League for Nursing~~ *a nationally recognized association that accredits schools of nursing* may be submitted in lieu of the report required by subsection 3 if a national accreditation survey of the program is scheduled in the same year as the board's review or was completed in the previous year.

5. The board will prepare a report of the visits to the site of the program and furnish a copy of the report to the administrator of the program. If the administrator objects to the report, he may submit to the board a written statement which sets forth his objections to the report.

Sec. 12. NAC 632.711 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.711 1. If a university or college wishes to terminate a program of nursing, it shall notify the board in writing of the reasons for and the proposed date of the termination of the program.

2. The program must continue to comply with the standards for ~~accreditation~~ *approval* until all the matriculating students are graduated from the program.

3. The university or college shall notify the board if the actual closing date will be different from the proposed closing date.

4. If the university or college closes or terminates its program of nursing, it is responsible for the management and storage of the records of the students who enrolled in that program and shall notify the board of the arrangement made for the management and storage of those records.

Sec. 13. NAC 632.775 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.775 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, instructors for an approved program must be registered nurses who are approved by the board.

2. The board will approve a registered nurse to be an instructor if the nurse:

(a) ~~[(a)]~~ ~~Hold[s] a bachelor of science degree in nursing or submit evidence of teaching experience in a training program for nursing assistants or licensed practical nurses, a program that provides training while on the job or a program of continuing education;~~

~~—(b)]~~ Holds a current active license in good standing to practice nursing in this state;

~~[(e)]~~ (b) Has at least ~~[3]~~ 2 years of experience ~~[taking direct care of patients, with at least 2 years of experience]~~ in *nursing, 1 year of which must be in the* caring for the elderly or the chronically ill;

~~[(d)]~~ (c) Has successfully completed a course designated by the board;

~~[(e)]~~ (d) Complies with the requirements for continuing education prescribed by the board;

and

~~[(f)]~~ (e) Meets any federal and state criteria established for instructors of an approved program.

3. The board will approve a licensed practical nurse to be an instructor if:

(a) The board determines that the circumstances require his appointment; and

(b) The nurse meets the requirements set forth in paragraphs ~~[(b) to (e)]~~ (a) to (d), inclusive, of subsection 2.

4. The board will issue a certificate of approval to teach if the instructor:

(a) Meets the requirements of subsection 2 or 3;

(b) Submits an application to the board; and

(c) Pays the applicable fee to the board.

5. The board will renew a certificate of approval to teach annually if an instructor provides evidence satisfactory to the board that the instructor meets the requirements of this section and has received compensation for teaching at least once in the preceding 2 years.

6. The coordinator of an approved program may select a person who is qualified to carry out the duties set forth in NAC 632.785 to act as an instructor in his area of specialization, even though he is not a registered or licensed practical nurse. The person so selected must:

(a) Have at least 1 year of experience in caring for the elderly or chronically ill, or its equivalent; and

(b) Where applicable, be licensed, registered or certified in good standing in his area of specialization.

FLUSH Such an instructor may not be the primary instructor or supervise the testing of manual skills.

Sec. 14. NAC 632.785 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.785 The coordinator of an approved program shall:

1. Assist with the development of the budget of the program.
2. Assist with the development of procedures for admission to the program.
3. Select and supervise such number of qualified instructors as is necessary to carry out the program.
4. Obtain adequate educational facilities for training, including areas to practice nursing skills.
5. Obtain adequate clinical facilities for training.
6. Provide each trainee with instructional materials during those hours in which they can be put to maximum use.
7. Plan an orientation program for trainees at each clinical facility used for training. The time spent for orientation may not be included in the 75 hours required for training.

8. Ensure that each trainee is clearly identified as a trainee in a manner which is easily recognizable to each patient, member of a patient's family, visitor or member of the medical staff with whom the trainee works.

9. Develop a system of maintaining permanent records which are essential to the operation of the program, including:

(a) The current and final records of each trainee, which may include a list of the duties to be performed and the skills to be learned in the program, with notations of satisfactory or unsatisfactory performance, the date of the performance and the name of the supervising instructor.

(b) The current records of the activities of the program.

(c) The records of each instructor.

FLUSH *Records maintained pursuant to this subsection must be retained by the coordinator of the approved program for at least 4 years after the date on which the record was created.*

10. Develop written policies for admission to, continuance in, and dismissal and withdrawal from the program.

11. ~~[Report to the board the name, address and social security number of each trainee at the beginning of a program.~~

~~—12.— Notify the board of the withdrawal or dismissal of each trainee within 3 working days after the withdrawal or dismissal.~~

~~—13.]~~ Report to the *academic administrator of the* board the name of each trainee who satisfactorily completes the program within 30 days after the completion of the program.

~~[14.]~~ 12. Submit annual reports on forms provided by the board containing information required by the board.

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT
AS A RESULT OF ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO LCB FILE NO. R212-99

Public comment was solicited at the March 23, 2000 regular Board of Nursing meeting, a public workshop held in Las Vegas on February 10, 2000 and a public workshop in Reno on February 11, 2000. The proposed amendment was noticed to the Board's customary posting places, all interested parties on the board's agenda mailing list, 17 county libraries, and the Reno Gazette Journal and the Las Vegas Sun newspapers. There was no opposition expressed and two members of the nursing community requested language changes that the Board of Nursing agreed to change. Written testimony was received by only one nurse and only one nurse testified orally.

The organizations that would be affected are nursing schools in the university and community college settings and were in total, supportive of the statute changes that necessitated these regulation amendments and therefore in support of the regulation amendments. The amendments are primarily word substitution from the use of the term "accreditation" to the use of the term and concept of "approval". There will be a beneficial effect to nursing schools who will be subject to a compliance survey once every four years rather than once every three years. The beneficial effect will be both immediate and long term.

The Board of Nursing does not anticipate an increase in cost for enforcement of the adopted regulation. There is no duplication or overlap with any other local, state, or federal agencies.

The amendment does not establish a new fee or increase an existing fee.

A copy of testimony or summaries may be obtained by contacting the Nevada State Board of Nursing, 1755 East Plumb Lane, Suite 260, Reno, Nevada, 89502, (775) 688-2620.

03/31/00