64B9-1.001 Abbreviations and Definitions

Unless otherwise defined in a specific rule, the following abbreviations and terms as used throughout these rules shall have the following meaning:

1. "LPN" means a licensed practical nurse.
2. "RN" means a registered nurse.
3. "ARNP" means an advanced registered nurse practitioner certified pursuant to Section 464.012, F.S.
4. "IPN" means the Intervention Project for Nurses, Incorporated.
5. "NCSBN" means the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Incorporated.
6. "NCLEX" means the National Council Licensure Examination.
8. "Direct supervision" means the physical presence within the patient care unit of a registered professional nurse who assumes legal responsibility for the nursing practice of nursing students or graduate nurses or graduate practical nurses being supervised and who provides direction and consultation for the nursing actions of such nursing students.
9. "Biennial" and "Biennium" refer to the twenty-four month licensure cycle. Pursuant to Section 456.004(1), F.S., should the Agency extend or stagger renewals, fees and continuing education hours now based on twenty-four months shall be prorated to the licensure cycle length established.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006, 464.022(4) FS. Law Implemented 464.003, 464.008, 464.022(4) FS. History–New 12-5-93, Formerly 61F 7-1.001, Amended 9-13-94, Formerly 59S-1.001, Amended 1-3-12.

64B9-1.007 Other Board Business; Unexcused Absences

1. For purposes of Section 456.011(3), F.S., “other business involving the Board” includes:
   a. Board Meetings;
   b. Workshops;
   c. Joint Committee Meetings of the Board of Nursing and the Board of Medicine;
   d. Meetings of committees set out in the official minutes of the Board where statutory authority is given by the practice act;
   e. Where a board member has been requested by the Chairman of the Board, the State Surgeon General, or Department staff, to participate in a meeting;
   f. Probable Cause Panel Meetings.

2. For purpose of Section 456.011(3), F.S., “unexcused absence” shall mean the failure of a Board member to attend a regularly scheduled meeting, excluding emergency meetings held pursuant to Rule 28-102.003, Florida Administrative Code, for any reason other than one of the following:
   a. Illness or injury of the Board member;
   b. Illness, injury, or death of a member of the Board member’s family.

Rulemaking Authority 456.011(3) FS. Law Implemented 456.011(3) FS. History–New 4-27-80, Amended 10-8-81, Formerly 21O-6.16, Amended 2-5-87, 4-8-92, Formerly 21O-6.016, 61F7-1.007, 59S-1.007, Amended 2-18-98, 7-27-98.
64B9-1.013 Address of Record and Place of Practice.

(1) Each person holding a license issued pursuant to Chapter 464, F.S., must maintain on file with the Board of Nursing the current address at which any notice required by law may be served by the Board or its agent. Within 60 days of changing this address, whether or not within this state, the licensee shall notify the Board in writing of the new address at which the licensee may be served with notices or other documents.

(2) Each person holding a license issued pursuant to Chapter 464, F.S., must maintain on file with the Board of Nursing the current place of practice. Place of practice is defined as one of the following:

(a) Acute care facility;
(b) Long-term care facility;
(c) Rehabilitation facility;
(d) Clinic;
(e) Physician’s office;
(f) Home health care agency;
(g) Educational institution;
(h) Office of independent nursing practice;
(i) Correctional facility;
(j) Mental health facility;
(k) Occupational health facility;
(l) Managed health care organization or insurance company;
(m) Community health facility;
(n) Other.

Rulemaking Authority 456.035 FS. Law Implemented 456.035 FS. History–New 4-1-90, Amended 8-8-90, Formerly 21O-6.023, 61F7-1.013, 59S-1.013, Amended 4-5-99.
CHAPTER 64B9-2
NURSING PROGRAMS

64B9-2.001 Definitions (Repealed)
64B9-2.002 Certification for Approval (Repealed)
64B9-2.003 Student Employment (Repealed)
64B9-2.004 Educational Objectives (Repealed)
64B9-2.005 Faculty Qualifications (Repealed)
64B9-2.006 Curriculum Guidelines (Repealed)
64B9-2.007 Administrative Procedures (Repealed)
64B9-2.008 Clinical Training (Repealed)
64B9-2.009 Performance of Graduates on the Licensing Examination (Repealed)
64B9-2.010 Variance (Repealed)
64B9-2.011 Approval of Nursing Education Programs (Repealed)
64B9-2.013 Program Changes Requiring Board Approval (Repealed)
64B9-2.014 Closure of Nursing Education Programs and Storage of Records (Repealed)
64B9-2.015 Standards of Nursing Education (Repealed)
64B9-2.016 Forms

64B9-2.001 Definitions.

64B9-2.002 Certification for Approval.

64B9-2.003 Student Employment.

64B9-2.004 Educational Objectives.

64B9-2.005 Faculty Qualifications.
Rulemaking Authority 464.006, 464.019 FS. Law Implemented 464.019 FS. History–New 7-15-80, Amended 11-22-84, Formerly 21O-7.24, Amended 6-8-88, 3-12-91, Formerly 21O-7.024, Amended 9-7-93, Formerly 61F7-2.005, 59S-2.005, Repealed 2-1-10.

64B9-2.006 Curriculum Guidelines.

64B9-2.007 Administrative Procedures.
64B9-2.008 Clinical Training.

64B9-2.009 Performance of Graduates on the Licensing Examination.

64B9-2.010 Variance.

64B9-2.011 Approval of Nursing Education Programs.

64B9-2.013 Program Changes Requiring Board Approval.

64B9-2.014 Closure of Nursing Education Programs and Storage of Records.

64B9-2.015 Standards of Nursing Education.

64B9-2.016 Forms.
The following forms are incorporated herein by reference, and may be obtained from the Board office or on the Board’s website: www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nursing:
(1) Application for Nursing Licensure by Examination, form number DH-MQA 1094, 10/08.
(2) Application for Nursing Licensure by Re-Examination, form number DH-MQA 1120, 10/08.
(3) Application for Nursing Licensure by Endorsement, form number DH-MQA 1095, 10/08.
(4) Application for Dual Registered Nurse (RN) and Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, form number DH-MQA 1124, 12/08.
(6) Dispensing Application for ARNPs, form number DH-MQA 1185, 3/09.
(7) Application for Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), form number DH-MQA 1117, 10/08.
(8) Reciprocity Application for Certified Nursing Assistant, form number DH-MQA 1121, 2/08.
(9) Application for New Nursing Program DH-MQA 1211, 03/10 (rev.)
(10) Annual Report for Programs in Nursing DH-MQA 1096, 05/10.

CHAPTER 64B9-3
REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE

64B9-3.001 Definitions
64B9-3.0015 Application for Licensure (Repealed)
64B9-3.002 Qualifications for Examination
64B9-3.0025 Remedial Courses for Reexamination
64B9-3.003 Practice of Nursing by Applicant for Licensure by Examination
64B9-3.007 Examination Security (Repealed)
64B9-3.008 Licensure by Endorsement
64B9-3.0085 State Requirements Not Substantially Equivaluent (Repealed)
64B9-3.009 Practice of Nursing by Applicants for Licensure by Endorsement
64B9-3.011 Exemption for Licensure in an Emergency
64B9-3.013 Renewal of Licenses
64B9-3.014 Graduates From Foreign or Non-NCSBN Jurisdictions

**64B9-3.001 Definitions.**

(1) Approved Programs – a nursing program conducted in a school, college or university which is approved by the Board pursuant to Section 464.019, F.S., for the education of nurses, and includes integrated clinical and theoretic education.

(2) Approved Program Equivalent – nursing program conducted in a school, college or university outside the State of Florida which has been approved by the Board of Nursing in the jurisdiction in which it is located, if such Board exists, and which demonstrates that it meets the education criteria in Section 464.019, F.S.

(3) Board – as used herein means Florida Board of Nursing.

(4) Department – as used herein means Department of Health.

(5) Direct Supervision – as used herein means the physical presence within the patient care unit of a registered professional nurse who assumes legal responsibility for the nursing practice of the graduate nurse or graduate practical nurse being supervised and who provides direction and consultation for the nursing actions of such graduate or graduate practical nurse.

(6) High School Diploma Equivalent

(a) Passing of the General Education development test,
(b) Graduation from a college or university,
(c) Successful completion of a nursing licensing examination,
(d) Graduation from an approved school of nursing, or
(e) Courses of study recognized by the Board as being equivalent to a high school diploma in this country.

(7) Practical Nursing Education Equivalency – professional nursing courses of study, successfully completed with a grade of “C-” or better, which meet the standards of practical nursing education required in approved practical nursing programs in Florida.

(8) Proof of graduation – a certificate, diploma, degree, official transcript, or other official document which indicates that an applicant has met all educational and institutional requirements.


**64B9-3.0015 Application for Licensure.**


**64B9-3.002 Qualifications for Examination.**

(1) An applicant seeking certification to take the licensure examination shall submit a completed Application for Nursing Licensure by Examination, form number DH-MQA 1094, 08/10, Application for Nursing Licensure by Re-Examination, form number DH-MQA 1120 10/08, or Application for Nursing Licensure by Endorsement, form number DH-MQA 1095, 08/10, hereby incorporated by reference demonstrating that he or she meets the qualifications prescribed by the Nurse Practice Act, Chapter 464,
F.S. These forms are available from the Board office or on the Board’s website: www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nursing. The demonstration shall include:

(a) A high school diploma, or a high school diploma equivalent.

(b) For graduates of an approved nursing program, a notice of graduation or of completion of the requirements for graduation. For graduates of an approved program equivalent, an official transcript or equivalent documentation which identifies all courses completed with a minimum acceptable passing score established by the institution or program at which each course was completed that meet graduation requirements. For graduates of programs in a country other than the United States, the applicant must obtain a report by a credentialing agency that meets the requirements of Rule 64B9-3.014, F.A.C.

(c) For an applicant writing the examination for practical nurses on the basis of practical nursing education equivalency, a completed Practical Nurse Equivalence (PNEQ) Application Letter, form number DH-MQA 1233, 03/10, hereby incorporated by reference or an official certified transcript which sets forth graduation from an approved professional program. The form is available from the Board office or on the Board’s website: www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nursing.

(d) Successful completion of any one of the approved English competency examinations with:
   1. A minimum score of 540 (207 on computerized version) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Examination;
   2. A minimum score of 79% on the Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB);
   3. A minimum MELAB converted score of 79% on the Michigan Examination for the Certificate of Proficiency in English (ECPE Examination);
   4. A minimum score of 725 on Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC);
   5. A minimum score of 6.5 overall with a 7.0 on the spoken portion on the academic version of International English Language Testing System (IELTS);
   6. Completion of a nursing program given in English in another country;
   7. A passing score on a nursing licensing examination which is given in English;
   8. A certificate from the Commission on Graduates from Foreign Nursing Schools or other agency which indicates successful completion of TOEFL, TOEIC, or IELTS;
   10. Completion of a college level course for academic credit in a U.S. institution; or
   (2) If an applicant has been convicted or found guilty of, or has entered a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any offense other than minor traffic violation, the applicant shall submit arrest and certified court records stating the nature of the offense and final disposition of the case so that a determination can be made by the Board whether the offense relates to the practice of nursing or the ability to practice nursing.

   (3) Documents in a foreign language must be accompanied by a certified translation in the English language.

   (4) The applicant shall notify the Board in writing of any change in the information provided on the application which occurs prior to licensure.

   (5) The applicant must submit proof of graduation before the license will be issued.


64B9-3.0025 Remedial Courses for Reexamination.

To meet the requirements of Section 464.008(3), F.S., remedial courses must be approved by the Board, and must meet the following requirements:

(1) The faculty qualifications and clinical training shall comply with the standards in Sections 464.019(1)(a), (c), (d), and (e), F.S.

(2) The curriculum shall comply with the guidelines in Sections 464.019(1)(f) and (g), F.S., and shall include a minimum of 80 hours didactic education and 96 hours clinical experience in a medical-surgical setting.

Rulemaking Authority 464.008(3) FS. Law Implemented 464.008(3) FS. History–New 3-23-00, Amended 10-25-10.
64B9-3.003 Practice of Nursing by Applicant for Licensure by Examination.

(1) No applicant for licensure by examination will be permitted to practice nursing unless:
   (a) The applicant has submitted the required application and fee to the Department, and
   (b) The applicant has been authorized by the Board to practice as a graduate nurse or graduate practical nurse, and has been
       authorized to test by the examination vendor.

(2) Any applicant who is a graduate nurse, or a graduate practical nurse, shall practice nursing only under the direct supervision
    of a registered professional nurse. The Board may require periodic reports from the supervisor or employers of a graduate nurse
    or graduate practical nurse whom the Board finds has violated the provisions of Section 464.018(1), F.S. Such a finding shall be made
    at the time of consideration of the application.

(3) An applicant who fails the first, or any subsequent examination, shall not practice nursing until such time as the applicant
    passes a nursing licensing examination.

(4) An applicant who is eligible to write the professional examination but elects to write the practical examination on the basis
    of practical nursing education equivalency and fails the practical examination shall not be granted Graduate Nurse status when the
    applicant applies to write the professional examination.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006 FS. Law Implemented 464.015(3), (4), 464.022(4) FS. History–New 4-27-80, Amended 3-16-81, 8-2-81, 7-11-83,

64B9-3.007 Examination Security.

Rulemaking Authority 456.017(1)(d) FS. Law Implemented 456.017(1)(d) FS. History–New 10-6-82, Formerly 21O-17.01, 21O-17.001, 61F7-
3.007, 59S-3.007, Amended 4-28-99, Repealed 4-22-12.

64B9-3.008 Licensure by Endorsement.

(1) An applicant for licensure by endorsement must apply to the Department on prescribed forms, including verification of
    licensure forms from the original state or territory in which licensure was obtained and from a state or territory in which the
    applicant holds an active license, and pay the required fee. If the applicant:

   (a) Has been convicted or found guilty of, or has entered a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any offense,
       other than a minor traffic violation, the applicant shall furnish certified court records stating the nature of the offense and the
       disposition of the case so that a determination may be made by the Board whether the conviction related to the practice of nursing or
       the ability to practice nursing.

   (b) Has ever had disciplinary action taken against a license (including relinquishment or denial of licensure) in another state,
       territory, or country, the applicant shall submit to the Board documentation pertaining to such action and its final disposition.

(2) To apply for endorsement pursuant to Section 464.009(1)(a), F.S., an applicant shall be required to show current licensure in
    another state of the United States and the licensure requirements of the original state of licensure at the time of original licensure.
    For the purpose of determining if the requirements in the original state of licensure were substantially equivalent to or more stringent
    than the requirements in Florida at that time, the applicant must demonstrate a passing score on one of the following:

   (a) The NCLEX examination for professional or practical nurses;

   (b) The State Board Test Pool Examination for Professional Nurses given between 1951 and 1981, if the applicant passed with a
       score of 350 in each subject or a total score of 1800;

   (c) The State Board Test Pool Examination for Practical Nurses given between 1952 and 1981, if the applicant passed with a
       score of 350;

   (d) A state licensing examination for professional nurses given prior to 1951 or a state licensing examination for practical nurses
       given prior to 1952;

   (e) Any licensing examination taken as a condition for state licensure by a professional nurse after 1951 or by a practical nurse
       after 1952, if the examination meets the following standards:

       1. The examination was developed using accepted psychometric procedures;
       2. The content and passing score of the examination was substantially equivalent to the examination given in Florida at the time;
       3. The security of the examination was maintained;
       4. At least one of the reliability estimations for the examination is .70 or higher;
5. The examination was revised after each administration to ensure currency of content;
6. For examinations given after 1984, the test plan was based on a job analysis of new nursing graduates.

(3) To apply for endorsement pursuant to Section 464.009(1)(b), F.S., an applicant shall meet all requirements for eligibility to take the licensure examination as provided in Rule 64B9-3.002, F.A.C., and demonstrate a passing score on one of the following:
   (a) The National Council Licensure Examination for registered nurses with a minimum score of 1600, or, after 1988, a report of Pass;
   (b) The National Council Licensure Examination for practical nurses with a minimum score of 350, or, after 1988, a report of Pass;
   (c) A state, regional, or national examination which meets the following minimum requirements:
      1. The examination is developed using accepted psychometric procedures.
      2. The content and passing score of the examination are substantially equivalent to that of the National Council Licensure Examination.
      3. The security of the examination is maintained.
      4. At least one of the reliability estimations for the examination is .70 or higher.
      5. The examination is revised after each administration to insure currency of content.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006, 464.009 FS. Law Implemented 464.006, 464.009 FS. History–New 4-27-80, Amended 7-12-81, 7-11-83, 7-3-84, Formerly 21O-8.26, Amended 3-3-87, 12-8-87, 8-3-89, 11-19-91, Formerly 21O-8.026, Amended 9-7-93, Formerly 61F7-3.008, Amended 1-1-96, Formerly 59S-3.008, Amended 2-18-98, 5-8-01, 9-23-03.

64B9-3.0085 State Requirements Not Substantially Equivalent.

Rulemaking Authority 464.009(2) FS. Law Implemented 464.009(2) FS. History–New 3-11-09, Repealed 8-16-09.

64B9-3.009 Practice of Nursing by Applicants for Licensure by Endorsement.
   (1) An applicant for licensure by endorsement holding a current license in another state may perform nursing services in Florida for sixty (60) days after furnishing the employer the following:
      (a) Evidence of current licensure in another state,
      (b) Verification from the Board that the applicant has submitted proper endorsement form and fee.
   (2) If a license by endorsement has not been issued within the 60-day limit, the applicant shall make a written or verbal request of the Board to continue working. The permit shall be extended for 60 days when verification of licensure from the other state has not been received by the Board within the 60-day period, and otherwise, until acted upon by the Board.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006 FS. Law Implemented 464.009, 464.015(1), (2), (3), (4), 464.022(4), (8) FS. History–New 4-27-80, Amended 7-2-81, Formerly 21O-8.27, Amended 3-3-87, 12-8-87, 6-8-88, 8-2-90, 1-9-91, Formerly 21O-8.027, Amended 9-7-93, Formerly 61F7-3.009, 59S-3.009, Amended 12-30-97, 4-9-98, 1-22-01, 8-15-01.

64B9-3.011 Exemption for Licensure in an Emergency.
The Board construes “case of an emergency” to mean:
   (1) A natural or man-made disaster or accident in which human health or life is in immediate jeopardy.
   (2) A situation in which human life is in immediate jeopardy.
   (3) A formal declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor or appropriate governing body of a county or municipality under the State Emergency Management Act.
   (4) A formal declaration of a State of Emergency by the President of the United States.


64B9-3.013 Renewal of Licenses.
   (1) The licensee shall retain for 4 years certificates of attendance and other records to document the completion of the continuing requirement. The Board will audit at random a number of licensees as is necessary to assure that the continuing education requirements are met.
   (2) Failure to document compliance with the continuing education requirements or the furnishing of false or misleading
information regarding compliance shall be grounds for disciplinary action.


64B9-3.014 Graduates From Foreign or Non-NCSBN Jurisdictions.

(1) Graduates of foreign nursing programs or nursing programs in jurisdictions which are not members of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) must submit an evaluation from a credentialing agency approved by the Board.

(2) Approved credentialing agencies must meet the following criteria:

(a) The credentialing agency must be a member of a national credentialing organization that sets performance standards for the industry, and must adhere to those standards.

(b) The credentialing agency’s standards must be monitored by an external committee of credentialing experts and nursing educators.

(c) The credentialing agency must demonstrate the ability to accurately analyze academic and licensure credentials in terms of U.S. comparability, with course-by-course analysis for nursing academic records.

(d) The credentialing agency must manage the translation of original documents into English.

(e) The credentialing agency will inform the Board of Nursing in the event applicant documents are found to be fraudulent.

(f) The credentialing agency must have been in the business of evaluating nursing education for a minimum of 10 years.

(3) Credentials evaluation report.

(a) The references used in the evaluation must be cited in the credentials report.

(b) The credentials report must state the language of nursing instruction and the language of textbooks for nursing education.

(c) The credentialing agency must use only original source documentation in evaluating nursing education.

(d) The report must state the comparability of the foreign education to U.S. and to Florida Board of Nursing standards.

(e) The report must detail course clock hours for theory and clinical components of nursing education.

(4) In order for the applicant to meet the educational requirements of Section 464.008, F.S., the credentials report and transcripts must include all courses set forth in Section 464.019, F.S., and must demonstrate, at a minimum, the following equivalency to hours of theoretical and clinical instruction:

(a) Registered nursing programs:

1. 70 theory hours and 127 clinical hours in medical nursing;
2. 45 theory hours and 104 clinical hours in surgical nursing;
3. 31 theory hours and 44 clinical hours in obstetrical nursing;
4. 32 theory hours and 43 clinical hours in pediatric nursing; and
5. 34 theory hours and 53 clinical hours in psychiatric/mental health nursing.

(b) Practical nursing programs:

1. 87 theory hours and 115 clinical hours in medical nursing;
2. 76 theory hours and 103 clinical hours in surgical nursing;
3. 34 theory hours and 47 hours in obstetrics nursing; and
4. 27 theory hours and 38 clinical hours in pediatrics nursing.

(c) Registered and practical nursing programs must meet the requirements of Section 464.019(1)(f) and (g), F.S.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006 FS. Law Implemented 456.013(1), 464.008 FS. History–New 4-19-00, Amended 10-22-07, 5-31-09, 3-8-10, 5-8-12.
CHAPTER 64B9-4
CERTIFICATION OF ADVANCED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONERS AND CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALISTS

64B9-4.001 Definitions

(1) Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (“ARNP”) – a Registered Nurse licensed under Section 464.008 or 464.009, F.S. and duly certified by the Board pursuant to Section 464.012, F.S.

(2) Alter – adjusting of dosages pursuant to an established protocol.

(3) Appropriate Specialty Board – a professional or national organization recognized by the Board which certifies or issues credentials to an advanced practice nurse in a specialty area.

(4) Basic Nursing Education – a nursing program preparing a person for initial licensure to practice professional nursing.

(5) Board – unless otherwise clearly indicated, is used in this chapter to mean Florida Board of Nursing.

(6) Category – one of the three statutorily defined types of ARNP certification, which are nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife, and certified registered nurse anesthetist.

(7) Clinical Experience – practice under the supervision of a qualified preceptor in the actual care of a consumer of health services.

(8) Condition – states of being or circumstance that may require remediation. A condition may be construed to include, but is not limited to, a chronic disease, a temporary state of health such as pregnancy, or a symptom complex.

(9) Initiate – to implement that which has been prescribed by a practitioner licensed under Chapters 458, 459, or 466, F.S., where adherence to established protocol is required.

(10) Monitor – periodic assessment of a patient’s condition through follow-up procedures commonly held to be acceptable by the profession. Monitoring may include collection of data and interpretation of lab tests and the formulation of a nursing diagnosis based on a patient’s history, physical findings and lab results.

(11) One Academic Year – shall be construed to mean a program of at least 45 quarter-hour units, 30 semester-hour units, or 32 trimester-hour units or the equivalent thereof. One hour of didactic or 2 hours of clinical instruction shall equal one unit.

(12) Preceptorship/supervised clinical experience – clinical experience and practice under the supervision of a qualified preceptor for a specified length of time in the actual care and management of a consumer of health care services.

(13) Qualified Preceptor – a certified practicing advanced registered nurse practitioner, or a duly licensed medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy, or doctor of dental medicine who is responsible for the supervision, teaching and evaluation in the clinical setting of a student enrolled in a nurse practitioner educational program. If the clinical setting is in Florida, the qualified preceptor must be licensed in this state under Chapter 458, 459, 464, or 466, F.S., and the student must be a Registered Nurse licensed under Chapter 464, F.S.

(14) General Supervision – supervision whereby a practitioner currently licensed under Chapters 458, 459, or 466, F.S., authorizes procedures being carried out but need not be present when such procedures are performed. The ARNP must be able to contact the practitioner when needed for consultation and advice either in person or by communication devices.

(15) Therapy – a treatment regimen or remedy.
**64B9-4.002 Requirements for Certification.**

(1) In accordance with the provisions of Section 464.012, F.S., any person who wishes to be certified as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner shall submit a completed Application for Dual Registered Nurse (RN) and Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, form number DH-MQA 1124, 10/13, hereby incorporated by reference and available at [http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-03638](http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-03638). The form is available from the Board office or on the Board’s website: www.FloridasNursing.gov.

(2) Applicant shall submit proof of national advanced practice certification from an approved nursing specialty board. After July 1, 2006, applications for certification as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner pursuant to Section 464.012(3), F.S., shall submit proof of current national advanced practice certification from an approved nursing specialty board.

(3) Professional or national nursing specialty boards recognized by the Board include, but are not limited to:

(a) Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists, or Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists, or their predecessors.
(b) American College of Nurse Midwives.
(c) American Nurses Association (American Nurses Credentialing Center) Nurse Practitioner level examinations only.
(d) National Certification Corporation for OB/GYN, Neonatal Nursing Specialties (nurse practitioner level examination only).
(e) National Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Associates (Pediatric Nurse Associate/Practitioner level examinations only).
(f) National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses;
(g) American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (nurse practitioner level examination only).
(h) Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation.
(i) American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN Certification Corporation) Adult Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certification (ACNPC).

(4) Nursing specialty boards shall meet the following standards:

(a) Attest to the competency of nurses in a clinical specialty area;
(b) Require a written examination prior to certification;
(c) Require (and required at the time of original certification) completion of a formal program prior to eligibility of examination;
(d) Maintain a program accreditation or review mechanism that adheres to criteria which are substantially equivalent to requirements in Florida;
(e) Identify standards or scope of practice statements as appropriate for the specialty.

(5) Pursuant to Section 456.048, F.S., all ARNP’s shall carry malpractice insurance or demonstrate proof of financial responsibility. Any applicant for certification shall submit proof of compliance with Section 456.048, F.S. or exemption to the Board office within sixty days of certification or be in violation of this rule. All certificateholders shall submit such proof as a condition of biennial renewal or reactivation. Acceptable coverage shall include:

(a) Professional liability coverage of at least $100,000 per claim with a minimum annual aggregate of at least $300,000 from an authorized insurer under Section 624.09, F.S., a surplus lines insurer under Section 626.914(2), F.S., a joint underwriting association under Section 627.351(4), F.S., a self-insurance plan under Section 627.357, F.S., or a risk retention group under Section 627.942(9), F.S.; or

(b) An unexpired irrevocable letter of credit as defined by Chapter 675, F.S., which is in the amount of at least $100,000 per claim with a minimum aggregate availability of at least $300,000 and which is payable to the ARNP as beneficiary.

(c) Any person claiming exemption from the financial responsibility law pursuant to Section 456.048(2), F.S., must timely document such exemption at initial certification, biennial renewal, and reactivation.
64B9-4.0025 Provisional Certification.
(1) Prior to certification by the appropriate professional or national nursing specialty board, applicants for certification as certified registered nurse anesthetists or certified nurse midwives may apply for provisional state certification.
(2) Each applicant for provisional state certification must be a graduate of an appropriate educational program pursuant to Rule 64B9-4.002, F.A.C.
(3) The provisional ARNP certification shall be valid for a period of 12 months.
(4) The provisional ARNP certification will expire if no specialty board certification is submitted within 12 months of the date granting provisional ARNP certification.

64B9-4.003 Program Guidelines.
(1) The nurse practitioner certificate program which prepares the registered nurse for advanced or specialized nursing practice as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner shall meet the following criteria:
   (a) The program shall have as its primary purpose the preparation of nurses for advanced and specialized levels of nursing practice in the expanded nursing role.
   (b) The philosophy, purpose, and objectives of the program shall be clearly defined and available in written form.
   (c) The objectives reflecting the philosophy shall be stated in behavioral terms and describe the competencies of the graduate.
   (d) The program shall reflect the following administrative policies:
       1. Admission criteria shall be clearly stated and available in written form. In Florida, admission criteria shall include that the student holds a current unencumbered Registered Nurse license under Section 464.008 or 464.009, F.S.
       2. Admission requirements, philosophy objectives and criteria shall be available to the student.
       3. Policies for withdrawal, dismissal, and readmission shall be available to the student.
       4. The student shall receive official evidence that indicates successful completion of the program.
       5. The program shall be conducted by one of the following:
          a. An accredited school of nursing that offers a baccalaureate or higher degree in nursing.
          b. An accredited school of medicine.
          c. An institution or health care agency approved by the Board.
   (e) Faculty shall meet the following requirements:
       1. Nursing faculty shall hold current licensure to practice.
       2. Medical faculty shall hold current licensure to practice or current required credentials for teaching.
       3. Faculty shall include currently practicing Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners.
       4. There shall be an adequate number of qualified faculty in the specialty area available to develop and implement the program and achieve the stated objectives.
       5. Preceptors shall participate in teaching, supervising, and evaluating students.
   (f) Curriculum of the Advanced Nursing Program shall reflect the following:
       1. The course content, methods of instruction and learning experiences shall be consistent with the philosophy and objectives of the program.
       2. Outlines and descriptions of all learning experiences shall be available in written form.
       3. The program shall be at least one (1) academic year in length and shall include theory in the biological, behavioral, nursing and medical sciences relevant to the area of advanced practice, in addition to clinical experience with a qualified preceptor.
       4. The program shall include, but not be limited, to the following areas:
          a. Theory and directed clinical experience in comprehensive physical and biopsychosocial assessment.
          b. Interviewing and communication skills.
          c. Eliciting, recording, and maintaining a health history.
          d. Interpretation of laboratory findings.
          e. Pharmacotherapeutics, to include the initiation, selection, and modification of selected medications.
          f. Initiation and modification of selected therapies.
          g. Nutrition, including modifications of diet.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006, 464.012(1)(b) FS. Law Implemented 464.012(1)(b) FS. History–New 2-12-97, Formerly 59S-4.0025, Amended 4-5-00.
(g) The program shall provide a minimum of 500 hours of supervised clinical experience in the performance of the specialized diagnostic procedures that are essential to practice in that specialty area.

(h) Records of the program, philosophy, objectives, administration, faculty, curriculum, students and graduates shall be maintained systematically and be retrievable.

(i) Provision shall be made for periodic program evaluation by the faculty and students.

(2) Graduation from a program leading to a master’s, a post-masters, a doctoral, or post-doctoral degree, which prepares the nurse for advanced or specialized nursing practice as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner shall meet the following criteria:

(a) The program shall prepare nurses as nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists or nurse midwives.

(b) The philosophy, purpose, and objectives of the program shall be clearly defined and available in written form.

(c) The objectives shall be stated in behavioral terms and describe the competencies of the graduate.

(d) The curriculum shall include, but not be limited to, the following practitioner skills:

1. Theory and directed clinical experience in physical and biopsychosocial assessment.
2. Interviewing and communication skills relevant to obtaining and maintaining a health history.
3. Pharmacotherapeutics, including selecting, prescribing, initiating, and modifying medications in the management of health/illness.
4. Selecting, initiating and modifying diets and therapies in the management of health/illness.
5. Performance of specialized diagnostic tests that are essential to the area of advanced practice.
6. Differential diagnosis pertinent to the specialty area.
7. Interpretation of laboratory findings.
8. Management of selected diseased and illnesses.
9. Professional socialization/role realignment.
10. Legal implications of the advanced nursing practice/nurse practitioner role.
11. Health delivery systems, including assessment of community resources and referrals to appropriate professionals or agencies.
12. Providing emergency treatments.
13. A minimum of 500 hours of preceptorship/supervised clinical experience in the performance of the specialized diagnostic procedures that are essential to practice in that specialty area.

(e) Faculty shall include currently practicing ARNP’s.

(f) Records of the program, philosophy, objectives, administration, faculty, curriculum, students and graduates shall be maintained systematically and be retrievable.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006, 464.012 FS. Law Implemented 456.072(1)(f), (2), 464.012, 464.018(1)(b) FS. History–New 8-31-80, Amended 3-16-81, 2-28-82, 6-18-85, Formerly 21O-11.24, 21O-11.024, 61F7-4.003, Amended 5-29-96, 2-12-97, Formerly 59S-4.003, Amended 4-5-00, 3-23-06.

**64B9-4.004 Requirements for Documentation.**

A Registered Nurse applying for initial certification as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner shall submit with a completed application the following:

(1) Documentation acceptable to the Board that the educational program attended meets the program guidelines stipulated in subsection 64B9-4.003(1) or (2), F.A.C.

(2) Proof acceptable to the Board of satisfactory completion of the educational program which shall consist of:

(a) An official Registrar’s copy of the applicant’s transcript shall be sent directly to the Board from the school and shall denote successful completion of the formal post-basic program or awarding of the masters’ degree in a nursing clinical specialty;
(b) A verification form prescribed by the Board submitted by the director of the advanced nursing program indicating successful completion with the official school seal;
(c) Documentation which demonstrates compliance with subsection 64B9-4.003(2), F.A.C.; or
(d) Such other documentary proof which evidences completion.

(3) Documentation of national certification by a national nursing specialty board identified in subsection 64B9-4.002(3), F.A.C., or documentation of certification by a specialty board that meets the requirements set forth in subsection 64B9-4.002(4), F.A.C., by submitting one of the following:
   (a) A notarized true and correct copy of the original or recertification specialty board certificate;
   (b) Such other documentary proof which evidences certification by an appropriate specialty board; or
   (c) Verification from the specialty association of certification.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006, 464.012 FS. Law Implemented 464.012 FS. History–New 8-31-80, Amended 10-6-82, Formerly 21O-11.25, Amended 3-19-87, Formerly 21O-11.025, 61F7-4.004, Amended 5-29-96, 2-12-97, Formerly 59S-4.004, Amended 4-5-00, 11-2-10, 1-3-12.

64B9-4.005 Filing of the Application.


64B9-4.006 Certification in More Than One Category.

(1) An applicant who wishes to be certified in more than one ARNP category shall be required to submit separate application in accordance with Section 464.012(1), F.S., and these rules for each category in which certification is desired.
(2) An applicant who wishes to be certified in a second category must be able to document eligibility for certification in that category. Such eligibility may be determined by meeting at least one of the following criteria:
   (a) Content appropriate to the second category was addressed in the initial ARNP educational program and the applicant has passed a national certification examination in the second category, if required.
   (b) Content appropriate to the second category was addressed in a formal educational program undertaken after completion of initial ARNP education and the applicant has passed a national certification examination in the second category, if required.
(3) An Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Certificate is not transferable from one category to another.


64B9-4.008 Purpose.

An Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner may perform additional acts of medical diagnosis, treatment, and operation in accordance with this rule chapter. Rule 64B9-4.010, F.A.C., sets minimum standards for protocols pursuant to which an ARNP performs medical acts identified and approved by the joint committee pursuant to Section 464.003(3)(c), F.S., or acts set forth in Section 464.012(3) and (4), F.S.

Rulemaking Authority 458.348(2), 464.006 FS. Law Implemented 458.348(2) FS. History–New 4-4-82, Amended 3-13-84, Formerly 21O-16.01, 21O-16.001, 61F7-4.008, 59S-4.008.

64B9-4.009 Functions of the Advanced Registered Nurse.

All categories of Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner may perform functions listed in Section 464.012(3), F.S. The scope of practice for all categories of ARNP’s shall include those functions which the ARNP has been educated to perform including the monitoring and altering of drug therapies, and initiation of appropriate therapies, according to the established protocol and consistent with the practice setting.

**64B9-4.010 Standards for Protocols.**

(1) An Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner shall only perform medical acts of diagnosis, treatment, and operation pursuant to a protocol between the ARNP and a Florida-licensed medical doctor, osteopathic physician, or dentist. The degree and method of supervision, determined by the ARNP and the physician or dentist, shall be specifically identified in the written protocol and shall be appropriate for prudent health care providers under similar circumstances. General supervision by the physician or dentist is required unless these rules set a different level of supervision for a particular act. The number of persons to be supervised shall be limited to insure that an acceptable standard of medical care is rendered in consideration of the following factors:

(a) Risk to patient;
(b) Educational preparation, specialty, and experience of the parties to the protocol;
(c) Complexity and risk of the procedures;
(d) Practice setting; and
(e) Availability of the physician or dentist.

(2) A written protocol signed by all parties, representing the mutual agreement of the physician or dentist and the ARNP, shall include the following, at a minimum:

(a) General Data.
   1. Signatures of individual parties to the protocol;
      a. Name, address, ARNP certificate number;
      b. Name, address, license number, and DEA number of the physician or dentist;
   2. Nature of practice, practice location, including primary and satellite sites; and
   3. Date developed and dates amended with signatures of all parties.

(b) Collaborative Practice Agreement.
   1. A description of the duties of the ARNP.
   2. A description of the duties of the physician or dentist (which shall include consultant and supervisory arrangements in case the physician or dentist is unavailable).
   3. The management areas for which the ARNP is responsible, including
      a. The conditions for which therapies may be initiated,
      b. The treatments that may be initiated by the ARNP, depending on patient condition and judgment of the ARNP,
      c. The drug therapies that the ARNP may prescribe, initiate, monitor, alter, or order.
   4. A provision for annual review by the parties.
   5. Specific conditions and a procedure for identifying conditions that require direct evaluation or specific consultation by the physician or dentist. The parties to the protocol, to insure an acceptable standard of supervision and medical care, will decide the detail and scope needed in the description of conditions and treatments, and in doing so will consider the factors listed in subparagraphs (1)(a) through (e) above.

(3) The original of the protocol and the original of the notice shall be filed with the Department within 30 days of renewal of the practitioner’s license, and a copy of the protocol and a copy of the notice required by Section 458.348(1), F.S., shall be kept at the site of practice of each party to the protocol. Any alterations to the protocol or amendments should be signed by the ARNP and a Florida-licensed medical doctor, osteopathic physician, or dentist and filed with the Department within 30 days of the alteration to be kept in the Department for filing purposes only.

After the termination of the relationship between the ARNP and the supervising professional, each party is responsible for insuring that a copy of the protocol is maintained for future reference for a period of four years.

**Rulemaking Authority 458.348(2), 464.006 FS. Law Implemented 458.348(2), 464.012 FS. History–New 4-4-82, Amended 3-13-84, Formerly 21O-16.02, Amended 5-25-88, Formerly 21O-16.002, 59S-4.010, Amended 11-22-07.**

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**64B9-4.011 Dispensing Practitioners.**

(1) Those ARNP’s whose protocols permit them to dispense medications for a fee as contemplated by Section 465.0276, F.S., must register with the Board of Nursing by submitting a completed Dispensing Application for ARNP’s, form number DH-MQA 1185, 3/09, and hereby incorporated by reference this form into the rule.

(2) The ARNP dispensing practitioner must comply with all state and federal laws and regulations applicable to all dispensing practitioners under Section 465.0276, F.S.
64B9-4.013 Recertification.
(1) Upon initial certification, an ARNP shall be issued a certificate in the appropriate category. At the first and subsequent recertifications thereafter, the licensee shall, upon payment of the renewal fee provided in subsection 64B9-7.001(6), F.A.C., receive a dual RN/ARNP license/certificate.

(2) For each recertification cycle, the ARNP shall submit all of the following to the Board:
   (a) Proof of malpractice insurance or exemption.
   (b) Protocols or exemption.
   (c) Proof of current national certification.

(3) Failure to recertify as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner within the time period prescribed by the Department will result in the certificate being placed on delinquent status.

64B9-4.014 Inactive Status; Reactivation.
Rulemaking Authority 464.006, 464.012, 464.014 FS. Law Implemented 464.0115 FS. History–New 11-22-07, Amended 7-7-08.

64B9-4.015 Approved Certification Bodies for Clinical Nurse Specialists.
The following nationally recognized certifying bodies are approved to meet the licensure requirements of Section 464.0115(1), F.S.:

(1) Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation.
(2) American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN).
(3) American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC).
(4) National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses.
CHAPTER 64B9-5
CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

64B9-5.001 Definitions.
(1) Appropriate Continuing Education. Planned offerings designed to enhance learning and promote the continued development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes consistent with contemporary standards for nursing practice, the individual’s nursing practice.
(2) Approval Number. Number assigned by the Board to designate an approved provider or offering.
(3) Approved. Acceptable to the Board of Nursing.
(4) Contact Hour. One (1) contact hour equals sixty (60) minutes. One half (1/2 or .5) contact hour equals thirty (30) minutes.
(5) Offering. A planned educational experience dealing with a specific content based on the stated learner objectives.
(6) Orientation – Standard Agency Operation. The means by which nurses are introduced to the philosophy, goals, policies, procedures, role expectations, physical facilities and special services in a specific work setting. Orientation does not meet the continuing education requirement for the purpose of these rules.
(7) Participation. Sharing in the learning experience in order to achieve the stated learner objectives.
(8) Provider. The individual or agency conducting the continuing education offering.
(9) Self-directed Study. A prior Board approved self-directed learning experience, originated, implemented, and evaluated by the individual and designed with specific objectives to increase knowledge in a given area.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006 FS. Law Implemented 464.013(3) FS. History–New 9-12-79, Amended 10-6-82, Formerly 21O-13.08, Amended 3-3-87, Formerly 21O-13.008, Amended 9-28-93, Formerly 61F7-5.001, Amended 5-2-95, 1-1-96, Formerly 59S-5.001, Amended 6-9-09.

64B9-5.002 Continuing Education Requirement.
(1) Each licensed nurse shall, upon request, submit proof satisfactory to the Board of participation in appropriate continuing education. During each biennium, one contact hour must be earned for each calendar month of the licensure cycle.
(2) Those persons licensed by examination within a biennium are exempt from the continuing education requirement for that biennium. This exemption shall apply to a person who is licensed by endorsement during a biennium if such person was licensed in the original state of licensure by successful completion of an acceptable licensure examination during that biennium. A licensee who has endorsed into this State during a biennium or whose license was reactivated or reinstated during a biennium shall be required to accrue one (1) contact hour for each calendar month remaining in the biennium after licensure, reactivation, or reinstatement (however, no hours are required if the time remaining in the biennium is six months or less). This exemption or limitation shall only apply if the license is timely renewed at the end of the biennium, and does not apply if the license is suspended, revoked, or is (or becomes) inactive at the end of the biennium.
(3) A registered nurse who also holds a current license as a licensed practical nurse may satisfy the continuing education requirement for renewal of both licenses by completing appropriate continuing education for a registered nurse. A registered nurse who also holds a current ARNP certificate may satisfy the continuing education requirement for both licenses by completing appropriate continuing education for a registered nurse, or may satisfy up to 50% of the continuing education requirement by completing continuing medical education coursework equivalent to the contact hours required by these rules.
(4) A licensee is exempt from continuing education requirements at the time of renewal if the licensee was on active duty with
the Armed Forces within 6 months of the renewal date. However, this exemption will not arise on the basis of the performance of short periods of active duty (such as summer or weekend drills) by a member of the Armed Forces Reserves. Duty in the United States Public Health Service is not considered duty in the Armed Forces.

(5) A nurse who is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces and was caused to be absent from Florida due to the spouse’s duties with the Armed Forces shall be exempt from continuing education requirements. The licensee must show satisfactory proof of the absence and the spouse’s military status.


**64B9-5.003 Standards for Continuing Education.**

(1) Learner Objectives. Objectives shall describe expected learner outcomes in behavioral terms, can be evaluated, are attainable, and are relevant to current nursing practice. Objectives shall determine the content, teaching methodology and plan for evaluation.

(2) Subject Matter. The Content shall be specifically designed to meet the objectives and the stated level and learning needs of the participants. The content shall be planned in logical order and reflect input from experts in the subject matter. Appropriate subject matter for continuing education offering shall reflect the professional educational needs for the learner in order to meet the health care needs of the consumer and consist of content from one or more of the following:

(a) Nursing practice areas and special health care problems.
(b) Biological, physical, behavioral and social sciences.
(c) Legal aspects of health care.
(d) Management/administration of health care personnel and patient care.
(e) Teaching/learning process of health care personnel and patients.
(f) Subjects which are taken at an accredited educational institution as verified by an official transcript, that meet any one of the criteria in paragraphs 64B9-5.003(2)(a)-(e), F.A.C., and are advanced beyond that completed for original licensure may be approved for continuing education under this rule.

(g) Personal development subject matter must include application of content as it relates to improved patient care.

(3) Faculty Qualifications.

(a) The faculty shall provide evidence of academic preparation and/or experience in the subject matter. Evidence concerning faculty qualifications shall be presented to the Board upon request.

(b) When the subject matter of an offering includes nursing practice, a nurse with expertise in the content area must be involved in the planning and instruction.

(c) Nurse faculty other than those exempted in Section 464.022(7), F.S., supervising learning experiences in a clinical area in this State shall be currently licensed in the State of Florida.

(d) When an offering includes clinical nursing practice in Florida, a Florida licensed nurse competent in the practice area shall provide supervision.

(4) Materials and Methods. Evidence satisfactory to the Board shall be presented that:

(a) Learning experiences and teaching methods are appropriate to achieve the objectives.

(b) Time allotted for each activity shall be sufficient for the learner to meet the objectives.

(c) Principles of adult education are utilized in determining teaching strategies and learning activities.

(5) Evaluation. Evidence satisfactory to the Board shall be presented that participants are given an opportunity to evaluate learning experiences, instructional methods, facilities and resources used for the offering. Self-directed learning experiences, including but not limited to home study, computer programs, internet or web-based courses, are required to evaluate learner knowledge at the completion of the learning experience. The evaluation must include a minimum of 10 questions. The learner must achieve a minimum score of 70% on the evaluation to receive the contact hours. The evaluation must be graded by the provider.

(6) Contact Hour Criteria.

(a) All offerings shall be at least 60 minutes in length or one (1) contact hour.

(b) Increments of 30 minutes will be accepted when the offering extends beyond the one (1) contact hour.

(c) Contact hours shall be awarded for clinical as well as classroom education.

(a) Construction of the learning experience shall be developed, implemented and evaluated by the licensee requesting contact hours.

(b) Specific learning needs must be related to nursing practice and shall be identified.

(c) Objectives shall state expected outcomes of the learning experience.

(d) Preceptors must meet qualifications as identified in subsection (3), F.A.C., above.

(e) The proposal shall state an explanation of expected length and plan for documenting contact hours.

(8) Standards for Continuing Education Providers. Providers seeking Board approval shall meet each of the Standards outlined herein:

(a) All educational offerings conducted by the provider shall meet the Standards for Continuing Education Offerings as outlined in these rules.

(b) Providers shall adhere to guidelines as established by the Board.

(c) There shall be a designated person assuming responsibility for continuing education offerings for nurses. If the contact person is not a nurse, provision should be made for insuring nursing input in overall program planning and evaluation.

(d) Target audience will be identified for each offering.

(e) Currency and accuracy of subject matter will be documented by references/bibliography.

(f) Program shall have stated, long term, coordinated plan for providing continuing education offerings based on data related to specific characteristics of its learner population including learner needs and methods of assessing these needs. There shall be a tangible plan for ongoing evaluation of the program content, faculty, learning process and evaluation tools. Evaluation data will be analyzed and the conclusions utilized in program planning, design, and continuity.

(g) Providers shall establish written policies and procedures for implementation of the continuing education program.

(h) Providers shall maintain a system of record-keeping which provides for storage of individual offering information.

(i) Records of individual offerings shall be maintained for four years for inspection by the Board.

(j) Providers shall furnish each participant with an authenticated individual Certificate of Attendance.

(k) Providers shall maintain security of attendance records and certificates.


64B9-5.004 Procedure for Approval of Attendance at Continuing Education Courses.

(1) Procedure Relating to the Nurse.

(a) When the license is audited, each licensed nurse shall submit proof of all contact hours of continuing education claimed for the biennium. Transcripts and/or dated legible grade reports from accredited institutions of higher learning are appropriate documentation of attendance at credit courses.

(b) Offerings presented by other than approved providers need not be submitted to the Board for approval unless the licensee is selected for audit. Contact hours shall be awarded if the information submitted by the licensee documents that the offerings attended are equivalent in quality to offerings presented by approved providers.

(c) All licensees may be awarded contact hours for attendance at offerings that are approved by a state or national organizations empowered to accredit nursing continuing education.

(d) Satisfactory proof of attendance shall be submitted to the Board, when required for audit purposes.

(2) Self-directed Learning.

(a) Prior approval to undertake Self-directed Learning must be requested from the Board.

(b) The number of clock hours claimed shall be based on the time spent completing the activity and shall be subject to review by the Board.

(c) Contact hours will be awarded upon submission of documentation evidencing adherence to the Standards for Self-directed Learning.

(d) Copy of contract for preceptor will be submitted with application.

(3) The licensee shall retain records of the following information from offerings not presented by approved providers for four years in case of audit: title, provider, description, dates, contact-hours, objectives, teaching methods, evaluation method, faculty qualifications, explanation of why appropriate for learner’s continuing education. There shall be no guaranteed retroactive approval
for courses under this section which were not preapproved but they may be considered under extreme hardship or exceptional circumstances.


64B9-5.005 Procedure Relating to the Provider.
Provider seeking approval shall:
(1) Make application on forms provided by the Board and allow a minimum of ninety (90) days prior to the date the offering begins to allow for processing.
(2) Submit a minimum of three (3) offerings which evidence adherence of the Standards for Continuing Education as set forth in these rules.
(3) Present evidence, satisfactory to the Board, if requested, that all offerings meet the Standards for Continuing Education as set forth in these rules.
(4) Notify the Board of change of contact person and any significant alterations or changes which may affect the maintenance of standards within 30 days.
(5) Determine whether or not partial credit is appropriate for participants failing to complete the total number of hours for which a specific offering is planned and approved. Determine criteria for “successful completion” of course and make this information available to participants prior to offering.
(6) Provider approval may be granted for a period of time established by the Board, not to exceed sixty (60) months.
(7) Provider approval shall be subject to periodic review and may be withdrawn if the Board determines that adherence to the Standards outlined herein is not maintained, or if information submitted to the Board by the provider is found to be a material misrepresentation of fact.
(8) The Board may approve, under special circumstances, other selected single offerings.
(9) The Board may utilize a representative, expert groups, or individuals as appropriate in implementing these rules.


64B9-5.006 Procedure Relating to the Faculty/Authors.
(1) Each licensed nurse who is presenting a continuing education course as either the lecturer of the offering or as author of the course materials may earn a maximum 12 contact hours of continuing education credit per biennium. Each licensed nurse who is either participating as a lecturer of a continuing education course or an author of a continuing education program may receive credit for the portion of the offering he/she presented or authored to the total hours awarded for the offering.
(2) Continuing education credit may be awarded to a lecturer or author for the initial presentation of each program only; repeat presentations of the same continuing education course shall not be granted credit.
(3) In order for a continuing education credit to be awarded to each licensed nurse participating as either faculty or author, the format of the continuing education program must conform with all applicable sections of this rule chapter regarding learner objectives, subject matter of the program, and teaching methods.
(4) Continuing education credit shall be given for publications of continuing education offerings. Continuing education credit for publications and presentations of scholarly research shall be considered on an individual basis by the Board. In order to obtain credit, licensees must meet all standards for self-directed learning in subsections 64B9-5.003(7) and 64B9-5.004(2), F.A.C.
(5) The number of contact hours to be awarded to each licensed nurse who participates in a continuing education program as either a lecturer or author is based on the 60 minute contact hour employed within this rule chapter.


64B9-5.007 Continuing Education for Expert Witnesses and Probable Cause Panel Members.
(1) Each licensed nurse who serves as a volunteer expert witness in providing written expert witness opinions citing references of current, prevailing practice and relevant standards of practice for cases being reviewed pursuant to Chapter 464, F.S., shall receive
2.5 hours of continuing education credit per case for performing a literature survey of at least two articles in conjunction with the review of cases for the Agency, probable cause panel, or Board.

(2) Each former board member who serves on a probable cause panel at least twice in a biennium shall receive 8 hours of continuing education credit.

Rulemaking Authority 464.006, 464.013(3) FS. Law Implemented 464.013(3) FS. History–New 9-28-93, Formerly 61F7-5.007, 59S-5.007, Amended 9-10-07.

64B9-5.009 Continuing Education on HIV/AIDS.


64B9-5.010 Continuing Education of Domestic Violence.


64B9-5.011 Continuing Education on Prevention of Medical Errors.

(1) All licensees must complete a two hour course on prevention of medical errors, which meets the criteria of Section 456.013, F.S., as part of the total hours of continuing education required for initial licensure and biennial renewal.

(2) To receive Board approval, each course on prevention of medical errors shall consist of a minimum of at least two (2) hours of classroom or an equivalent home study program and shall include at a minimum the following subject areas:

(a) Factors that impact the occurrence of medical errors,
(b) Recognizing error-prone situations,
(c) Processes to improve patient outcomes,
(d) Responsibilities for reporting,
(e) Safety needs of special populations,
(f) Public education.

Rulemaking Authority 456.013(7) FS. Law Implemented 456.013(7) FS. History–New 5-2-02.

64B9-5.012 Continuing Education on End of Life.

Rulemaking Authority 456.031(1)(c), 456.033(3) FS. Law Implemented 456.031(1)(c), 456.033(3) FS. History–New 1-28-02, Repealed 4-22-12.

64B9-5.013 Continuing Education on Laws and Rules.

Beginning with the biennium ending in 2015, each licensee shall complete a two hour course on the laws and rules that govern the practice of nursing in Florida. To receive Board approval, each course must include content on Chapters 456 and 464 of the Florida Statutes and the rules in Title 64B9 of the Florida Administrative Code.