

recommended from a board recognized treatment facility. Admission shall be within 10 days unless approved by RNP or board's professional staff;

d. submit to the board a "Fitness for Employment" release form completed by a board approved addictionologist prior to approval by RNP to return to work;

e. be granted confidentiality and no disciplinary action will be taken against the license.

2. At first relapse/non-compliance for nurses in the program confidentially, the following steps will be taken.

a. Refrain from the practice of nursing until approved by RNP.

b. Complete a relapse evaluation as directed by RNP staff. Must follow all treatment recommendations. Admission shall be within 10 days unless approved by RNP.

c. Sign RNP agreement for length of time to be determined by treatment team.

d. Submit to the board a Fitness for Employment release form completed by a board approved addictionologist prior to approval by RNP to return to work.

3. At second relapse/non-compliance for nurses in the program confidentially, the following steps will be taken:

a. be referred to board's professional staff for disciplinary action against license including automatic indefinite suspension with minimum of six months;

b. be required to take the following steps prior to reinstatement of license:

i. complete and submit to the board a comprehensive inpatient re-evaluation and treatment as recommended by a board approved addictionologist;

ii. sign and adhere to a disciplinary RNP agreement with documented evidence of continuous sobriety for a minimum of six months;

iii. submit to the board a release form completed by a board approved addictionologist at the time reinstatement is requested;

iv. if relapse/non-compliance is reported while under suspension of license, shall be non-compliantly released by RNP and shall not be eligible to re-enter RNP for a minimum of two years;

v. board hearing or consent order will be required prior to reinstatement;

vi. submit fine/costs as imposed.

4. A third relapse/non-compliance will result in an automatic suspension for a minimum of two years and show cause order for revocation.

G. Nurses Leaving the State

1. A participant who moves from Louisiana to another state with an alternative program shall have records transferred to that program.

2. A participant nurse or student nurse who moves to a state where there is no alternative program shall have the nurse's records transferred to the board in the receiving state.

H. Discretionary Authority. The board shall have authority to discipline an impaired individual subject to its jurisdiction and nothing in this Subsection shall limit that authority.

I. Costs of Alternative to Disciplinary Proceedings. The participant agrees to submit payment of \$250 per year as an administrative fee.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 27:728 (May 2001), LR 31:1586 (July 2005), LR 35:1535 (August 2009), LR 36:1244 (June 2010), LR 37:3025 (October 2011).

Chapter 35. Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

§3501. Duties of the Board Directly Related to Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. The authority of the Board of Nursing relating to undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs is contained in R.S. 37:911 et seq., and as amended.

B. R.S. 37:918, duties and powers of the board, states that the board shall:

1. establish and publish minimum curriculum requirements and standards for individuals seeking to be licensed under this Part;

2. approve undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs whose graduates meet the licensing requirements of the board;

3. provide for hearings for undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree programs when approval is denied or withdrawn;

4. establish and publish standards of professional nursing practice and education in accordance with standards nationally accepted by the profession; and

5. adopt and revise rules and regulations necessary to enable the board to implement this Part in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:184 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1023 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 42:876 (June 2016).

§3503. Definitions

Accreditation—an external quality review process used in U.S. education and performed by peers to assure that postsecondary institutions and other education providers meet and maintain minimum standards of quality and integrity regarding academics, administration, structure, function, performance and related services. The goal of accreditation is to ensure that education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality.

1. **Regional Accreditation**—accreditation by an agency recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation and/or the U.S. Department of Education to ensure the quality and integrity of public and private, mainly non-profit, degree-granting, two- and four-year, institutions.

2. **National Nursing (Program) Accreditation**—accreditation by an agency recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation and/or the U.S. Department of Education to ensure the quality and integrity of diploma, associate, baccalaureate, graduate, and residency programs in nursing.

Acknowledge—recognition of receipt of item by the board or board staff that does not require board approval.

Advanced Practice Nursing Role—the advanced practice role for which a graduate nursing education degree program prepares its graduates. The advanced practice role categories for licensure include certified nurse midwives (CNM), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA), clinical nurse specialists (CNS), and nurse practitioners (NP).

Approval—legal recognition indicating the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) has met the legal standards established by the board.

Approved Program—an undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) approved by the board.

Board—the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.

Clinical Facility—an institution, agency or organization whose primary purpose is to provide care or services supportive to the promotion and/or maintenance and/or restoration of health.

Clinical Facility, Major—a clinical facility utilized to provide more than half of the clinical experiences to more than half of the students enrolled in the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s).

Cohort—students in a group admitted simultaneously with the same expected graduation date.

Competency—an expected level of performance that results from an integration of knowledge, skills, abilities, and judgment. Knowledge encompasses the scope of practice, standards of practice, standards of professional performance, content from science and the humanities, practical experience and personal capabilities. Skills include psychomotor, communication, interpersonal, and diagnostic skills. Ability is the capacity to act effectively and requires

listening, integrity, self-knowledge of strengths and weaknesses, positive self-regard, emotional intelligence, and openness to feedback. Judgment includes critical thinking, problem solving, ethical reasoning, and decision-making.

Course—a distinct unit of instruction which has been organized for presentation with a specific time frame. This includes all related learning experiences deemed necessary by the faculty to meet the stated outcomes.

Curriculum—the planned studies and learning activities designed to lead to graduation and eligibility for registered nurse licensure and/or advanced practice registered nurse licensure.

Distance Education—instruction offered by any means where the student and faculty are in separate physical locations. Teaching methods may be synchronous or asynchronous and shall facilitate and evaluate learning in compliance with Board of Nursing approval status/regulations.

Distance Education Technology—the methods and technical support used to teach undergraduate and graduate students who may be physically distant from the faculty.

Faculty—

1. **Chief Nurse Administrator**—the registered nurse with a graduate degree in nursing with the authority and responsibility for the administration of the undergraduate and/or graduate nurse education degree program(s) and implementation of the curriculum. This title is used regardless of the person's official title in the parent institution.

2. **Nurse Faculty**—a doctorate or master's in nursing prepared registered nurse and/or advanced practice registered nurse with academic preparation and experience. Nurse faculty are underwritten contractual agreement with a parent institution for administration, teaching, research, service, or clinical education of students in programs preparing candidates for registered nurse and/or advanced practice registered nurse licensure.

3. **Support Faculty**—an individual with academic preparations and experience in their respective professional discipline that provides services or teaches support courses.

4. **Graduate Assistant**—a registered nurse who serves in a support role at a university while completing graduate or post-graduate education. Graduate assistants are not faculty exceptions.

5. **Preceptor (Undergraduate)**—a baccalaureate prepared registered nurse with one year experience, who is employed in a clinical setting and serves as a role model, resource person, and clinical educator to enhance the learning experiences of a nursing student.

6. **Preceptor (Graduate)**—an advanced practice registered nurse, physician, or dentist, who provides guidance, serves as a role model, resource person, and clinical educator to enhance the learning experiences of an advanced practice nursing student.

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7. *Joint Appointment*—a registered nurse employed by a clinical agency who holds at least the minimum qualifications of a nurse faculty member and who has predetermined responsibilities with both the educational institution and the clinical agency in the same time period. There shall be clearly defined schedules and financial agreements for both the educational program and the clinical agency.

Goals—general aims of the program that are consistent with the institutional and program missions.

Graduation Rate—percentage of a cohort of students who complete their program within 150 percent of the published time for the program.

Major/Substantive Change in Approved Nursing Education Degree Program—a change in the current established approved nursing education degree program. Any one of the following shall be deemed to constitute a major/substantive change:

1. alteration, other than editorial, in program's mission/philosophy and outcomes (refer to §3511);

2. in legal status of the program (refer to §3513);

3. change in status with regulatory, governmental or institutional accreditation (refer to §3513);

4. reduction in resources impacting the sustainability of the undergraduate and/or graduate nurse education degree program(s) (refer to §3519);

5. reduction in faculty size exceeding 25 percent and in faculty exceptions exceeding 20 percent of full-time faculty employed in accordance with §3515;

6. addition or deletion of clinical role/population preparing advance practice registered nurses in an approved graduate nursing education degree program in accordance with §3507;

7. implementation of innovative strategies in undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) with a focus to include, but not limited to student enrollment, retention, and graduation rates; test previous models of nursing education and develop and test new models of nursing education;

8. addition or deletion of more than 10 percent of the semester credit hours from the undergraduate and/or graduate nurse education degree program(s) of studies;

9. in student enrollment, achievement completion rates, graduation rates, pass rates for the National Council licensure examination-registered nurse and certification; and/or

10. addition or deletion of a major clinical facility providing students' clinical experiences (refer to §3529).

Mission Statement—a statement of purpose defining the unique nature and scope of the parent institution or the nursing education degree program.

Nursing Education Degree Program—a program whose purpose is to prepare graduates eligible to apply to write the registered nurse licensing examination and/or certification and licensure as an advanced practice registered nurse.

1. *Associate Degree*—a program leading to an associate degree in nursing conducted by an educational unit that is an integral part of a community college, college or university.

2. *Baccalaureate*—a program leading to a bachelor's degree in nursing conducted by an educational unit that is an integral part of a college or university.

3. *Diploma*—a program leading to a diploma in nursing conducted by an educational unit that is an integral part of a hospital.

4. *Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)*—a graduate nursing education degree program that prepares an individual for certification and licensure in the roles of certified nurse midwives (CNM), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA), clinical nurse specialists (CNS), and nurse practitioners (NP) and awards master's degree, practice doctorate degree or post-master's certificate.

5. *Post-Master's Certificate*—a post-master's or post-doctoral nursing education program of study that awards a certificate of completion in the roles of certified nurse midwives (CNM), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA), clinical nurse specialists (CNS), and nurse practitioners (NP).

6. *Post-Graduate Residency*—a program that provides education and support necessary to develop the judgment, skill and knowledge for a successful transition from an undergraduate or graduate nursing education degree program into an entry level generalist or an advanced practice registered nurse professional role.

7. *Post-Graduate Fellowship*—an opportunity given to a professional registered or advanced practice registered nurse to build upon current practice through extension of knowledge, professional development, and leadership in clinical and research areas of interest.

8. *Practice Doctorate Degree*—a program conducted by an educational unit, department, division, college or school that is an integral part of a college or university, leading to a doctorate degree, which prepares experts in one of three practice arenas: health care, leadership, or teaching. In addition to preparing the experts in direct clinical practice, the program shall confer proficiency in the following areas:

a. leadership;

b. health care systems;

c. evidence-based practice and research utilization;

d. advocacy/policy and clinical teaching with patients, students, families, communities and professional colleagues.

Outcomes—quantitative or qualitative student, faculty or program measures of achievement.

Parent Institution—the organization or agency responsible for the administration and operation of the undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree programs.

Pass Rate (Certification)—the percentage of graduates from a cohort of an advanced practice registered nurse education degree program successfully completing the certification examination on first attempt in a calendar year.

Pass Rate (RN Licensure)—the percentage of students from a cohort taking the National Council licensure examination—registered nurse (NCLEX-RN) and passing the test on the first attempt in a calendar year.

Philosophy—a statement which includes and identifies the beliefs accepted by the faculty and the parent institution related to nursing education.

Preceptorship Experience—an individualized learning experience in which an undergraduate and/or graduate nursing student participates in clinical nursing practice while assigned to a preceptor.

Program Length—the published amount of time to complete the undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree programs in a part-time or full-time enrollment status.

Recommendation—specific statement based upon program assessment as to the suggested course of action put forth by the Board of Nursing that should be implemented for compliance.

Requirement—a specific statement based upon program assessment as to the required course of action put forth by the Board of Nursing that shall be implemented for compliance.

Shall—denotes mandatory compliance in contrast to should or may which reflect possible variation.

Should—a term used to denote a suggested method of meeting a requirement.

Simulation—activities in classroom or clinical settings that mimic the reality of a clinical environment and are designed to demonstrate procedures, decision-making and critical thinking through techniques such as role-playing and the use of devices such as interactive videos or mannequins. A simulation may be very detailed and closely simulate reality, or it can be a grouping of components that are combined to provide some semblance of reality.

Standard—a criterion by which performance is measured.

Student Nurse—an individual who is enrolled in an approved undergraduate or graduate nurse education degree program preparing for licensure as a registered nurse and/or preparing any licensed registered nurse for APRN licensure.

Survey—the collection of information by the board for its review in granting, continuing or denying approval of a nursing education degree program.

Systematic Plan for Evaluation—a written plan for systematic review and evaluation of an undergraduate and/or graduate nurse education degree program(s) used for continuous program improvement; involves the process of determining whether the various parts and the entire program are achieving the mission/philosophy, goals and outcomes.

Under the Guidance of an Approved Preceptor—guidance by a licensed APRN, physician, dentist, or person approved by the board within the same or related practice role, population or specialty.

Year—a period of time consisting of 365 days or 366 in leap year, in a 12-month period.

1. **Calendar Year**—beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:913 and R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:184 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1023 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 17:1208 (December 1991), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2789 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:851 (June 2001), amended LR 42:876 (June 2016).

§3505. Approval of Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. All undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs and clinical experiences in the state of Louisiana preparing persons for licensure, as a registered nurse and/or certification as an advanced practice registered nurse shall be approved by the board. The authority of the board is contained in R.S. 37:911 et seq., as amended.

B. Current status of the school's approval by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing must be reflected on the school's website, printed material and verbal communications with students and community.

C. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Chapter, the board shall collect, in advance, fees for education services as follows:

1. initial program approval and site visit—\$500;
2. program site visit (requested or board mandated)—\$500;
3. out-of-state clinical approval—\$250;
4. school annual report fee—\$100.

D. On-site visits shall be made at the discretion of the board, or upon the request of the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s).

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:185 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1024 (December 1984), repromulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR

24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 26:83 (January 2000), LR 28:1979 (September 2002), LR 42:878 (June 2016).

§3507. Purposes of Approval of Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. To promote the safe practice of nursing by establishing standards for undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree programs preparing individuals seeking licensure as registered nurses and/or advanced practice registered nurses in Louisiana.

B. To grant legal recognition to undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree–programs, which upon survey and evaluation are determined by the board to have met the standards.

C. To assure graduates of undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs meet the educational and legal requirements for admission to licensing examinations and to facilitate their endorsement to other states and countries.

D. To assure continuous evaluation and improvement of undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs preparing candidates for registered nurse and/or advanced practice registered nurse licensure.

E. To assure the public and prospective students that undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs approved by the board meet the standards established by the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:185 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1024 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 42:878 (June 2016).

§3509. Types of Approval of Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. Initial. Initial approval is granted to a new undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree program, which is determined by the board to be eligible to admit students to the nursing education degree program upon application by the parent institution and after survey and board evaluation (refer to §3533).

1. Initial approval shall not be continued for more than two consecutive one year periods following the undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree programs' eligibility to apply for full approval.

B. Full. Full approval is granted to an undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree program that meets all standards established by the board (refer to §3533, §3535).

C. Probation. An undergraduate or graduate nursing education degree program shall be placed on probation when the board has determined that it fails to meet one or more of the established standards.

1. Probation shall not be granted for more than three calendar years in any five calendar year period (refer to §3533).

2. An undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree program on probation for three calendar years in any five calendar year period shall not admit new students and shall initiate a phase-out of the program as outlined in §3531, §3533.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:185 (April 1977), amended LR 8:65 (February 1982), LR 10:1024 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 14:532 (August 1988), repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 42:879 (June 2016).

§3511. Standards and Requirements for Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs: Mission/Philosophy and Goals

A. The undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree program shall have a clear statement of mission/philosophy, consistent with the mission of the parent institution and congruent with current concepts in nursing education.

B. The undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree program shall use an identified set of professional standards congruent with the mission/philosophy and from which the goals are developed. The standards shall be consistent with the Legal Standards of Nursing Practice, LAC 46:XLVII.Chapter 39.

C. Expected competencies of the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree program shall be clearly delineated.

D. Distance education is consistent with the mission and goals of undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree program and the parent institution.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:185 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1024 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1146 (September 1993), repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 26:2789 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:851 (June 2001), amended LR 42:879 (June 2016).

§3513. Administration, Organization, Control of Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. There shall be a governing body which has legal authority to conduct undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s), determine general policy and provide financial support.

B. The undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs shall be in a regionally accredited college or university which offers an undergraduate degree with a major in nursing or a graduate degree with a concentration in

the advanced practice registered nurse role and population as defined in R.S. 37:913(1).

C. The parent institution shall hold active regional accreditation from an accrediting body approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

D. The undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs shall be accredited by a national nursing accrediting body approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

1. An undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree program shall be accredited by a national nursing accrediting body within one year post-full approval.

2. An undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree program not accredited by a national nursing accrediting body within one year post-full approval may petition the board for a one year extension.

3. Following the one year extension, an undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree program failing to achieve national accreditation shall immediately cease admission of students and begin termination of the program (refer to §3531).

4. An undergraduate and graduate nurse education degree program that loses national nursing accreditation shall immediately be placed on probation with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.

E. The parent institution shall have an organizational chart which delineates the lines of responsibility and authority.

F. The undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs shall notify the board in writing, immediately and provide written communication within five business days when there has been a change in the control of the institution, chief nurse administrator of the program, or the accreditation status of the parent institution and/or the nursing education degree program(s).

G. The chief nurse administrator shall have the authority and responsibility to administer the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) in respect to:

1. the instructional program;
2. budget planning and management; and
3. faculty, staff, and students.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:186 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1025 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1147 (September 1993), repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 42:879 (June 2016).

§3515. Faculty and Faculty Organization of Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. **Faculty Body.** There shall be qualified faculty adequate in numbers to provide a safe, effective faculty/student/client ratio as defined in (§3533, §3543, §3545) and to implement the undergraduate and/or graduate nurse education degree program in nursing in relation to its stated mission, goals, and expected program outcomes.

B. Qualifications

1. The chief nurse administrator and each nurse faculty member shall hold an active license to practice as a registered nurse in Louisiana and shall be appointed in compliance with state and federal laws.

2. The chief nurse administrator of a baccalaureate program shall hold a minimum of a graduate degree in nursing, an earned doctorate, and shall have a minimum of three years' experience in the areas of nursing education and three years in clinical practice.

3. The chief nurse administrator of an associate degree or diploma program shall hold a minimum of a graduate degree in nursing and shall have a minimum of three years' experience in the areas of nursing education and three years in clinical practice.

4. The nurse faculty shall hold a graduate degree in nursing as follows.

a. The APRN faculty member shall hold a minimum of a graduate degree in nursing. APRN nursing faculty teaching advanced practice role and population content must be licensed in advanced practice in that advanced practice or related role and population.

b. Other credentialed providers may be utilized to provide content relevant to the advanced practice role and population in support courses.

c. The educational component of the APRN program shall be coordinated by a lead faculty member who is educated and nationally certified in the same role and population area and licensed as an APRN in the state of Louisiana.

5. Nurse faculty shall have a minimum of two years of nursing practice as a registered nurse in a clinical setting prior to their appointment.

6. Nurse faculty shall be sufficient in number to accomplish the mission, goals and program outcomes.

7. Undergraduate nurse faculty shall maintain current knowledge and skills in areas of responsibility and provide documentation of same.

8. APRN faculty must demonstrate competence in clinical practice and teaching, which includes continued national certification or continuing education requirements.

9. Exceptions to the academic qualifications for undergraduate nurse faculty shall be justified and approved

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under board established guidelines. The number of active faculty exceptions shall not exceed 20 percent of the number of full-time nurse faculty employed (not FTE) in the undergraduate nursing education degree program at any given time. Exceptions, if granted by the board shall be:

a. baccalaureate in nursing-prepared individuals who are not enrolled in a graduate program in nursing are limited to a maximum two calendar years after which they must be enrolled in a graduate nursing program; and

b. baccalaureate in nursing-prepared individuals who are enrolled in a graduate program in nursing at the master's and/or doctoral level shall be initially approved for two years in accordance with current board guidelines. Exceptions may be granted to each individual for a maximum of four years.

C. A faculty turn-over rate that exceeds 25 percent of the full-time nurse faculty employed (not FTE) at any given time by each undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall be reported to the board in writing within five business days and justified in the annual school report.

D. Nurse faculty shall function under the same policies established for other faculty in the parent institution.

E. Policies for nurse faculty shall include but not be limited to:

1. qualifications for the position; and
2. contract or letter of appointment to delineate terms of appointment, functions and responsibilities of the position.

F. A written plan for performance evaluation of faculty shall be established and utilized on a continuing basis.

G. A nurse faculty organization shall be established consistent with the parent institution and shall have clearly delineated bylaws/governance documents.

H. Faculty workloads shall allow time for class and laboratory preparation, teaching, program revision, improvement in teaching methods, guidance of students, participation in faculty organizations and committees, research and scholarly endeavors, attendance at professional meetings and participation in continuing education programs.

I. Nurse faculty shall select, teach, guide and evaluate all learning experiences in the classroom, labs, simulation, and clinical facilities.

J. Nurse faculty shall be within the clinical facility during the learning experiences of students unless the students are observing only or engaged in a community-based or a preceptorship experience (refer to §3543 and §3545).

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:186 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1025 (December 1984), LR 12:678

(October 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1147 (September 1993), repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 26:2789 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:851 (June 2001), amended LR 33:1123 (June 2007), LR 36:1245 (June 2010), LR 42:880 (June 2016).

§3517. Student Policies and Services: Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. Admission standards for entry into the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs shall be established and published and shall reflect ongoing involvement by appropriate faculty.

B. Qualified applicants shall be considered for admission without discrimination and in compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

C. Placement and advisement in the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs, by examinations, previous education, or both, shall be consistent with the parent institution.

D. Progression, transfer, termination, dismissal and graduation policies shall be established and published and shall reflect ongoing involvement by the appropriate faculty.

E. Information on the approval and accreditation status of the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs, policies on tuition/fees and financial assistance, health care and counseling services shall be in writing and published on the website.

F. Accurate information about the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs, including current approval and accreditation status, shall be presented in recruitment and related activities.

G. Students shall be provided opportunity for input into the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs.

H. Students' records shall be safeguarded and their confidentiality shall be maintained according to state and federal regulations.

I. Students shall not be eligible to enroll in a clinical nursing course based on evidence of grounds for denial of licensure in accordance with R.S. 37:921, LAC 46:XLVII.3324, 3331 and 3403.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:187 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1025 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1147 (September 1993), LR 23:962 (August 1997), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2790 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:852 (June 2001), amended LR 42:880 (June 2016).

§3519. Facilities, Resources, Services for Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. An identifiable physical facility for nursing shall be provided by the parent institution.

B. Classrooms, conference rooms, multipurpose rooms, learning laboratories and library resources shall be provided.

C. Offices for administrative personnel, faculty and support staff shall be provided.

D. Storage space for safeguarding student and faculty records, for equipment and instructional materials shall be provided to meet the needs of the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs.

E. Nursing library resources shall be comprehensive, current and accessible.

F. Administrative and support services shall be provided to meet the needs of the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs.

G. Clinical facilities shall be available in sufficient numbers and variety to meet the needs of the undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs (refer to §3529).

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:187 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1025 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1147 (September 1993), repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 26:2790 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:852 (June 2001), amended LR 42:881 (June 2016).

§3521. Curriculum: Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. The faculty shall periodically review, evaluate and revise as appropriate the mission/philosophy, and goals of the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s); the goals and program outcomes shall be consistent with the mission of the nursing education degree program and flow from the mission of the institution.

B. The mission/philosophy, goals and program outcomes shall be used by the faculty in planning, implementing and evaluating the total undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s).

C. Graduate and Undergraduate Curriculum Content

1. Undergraduate Curriculum

a. Undergraduate curriculum shall include, but not be limited to, content from the behavioral, biological, mathematical, nursing and physical sciences.

b. Credit hours earned for clinical nursing courses shall be no less than three hours and no more than four hours of clinical contact hours per academic credit hour per semester.

c. Opportunities shall be provided for the application of the nursing process throughout the curriculum and in a variety of settings that includes care across the lifespan and population health.

d. Simulated laboratory experiences may also be utilized as a teaching strategy in classroom and clinical settings to meet outcomes and may be counted as either classroom or clinical hours for the purpose of calculating the hours in the curriculum.

e. Provision shall be made for learning experiences with clients having nursing care needs across the lifespan and stages of the health-illness continuum as appropriate to the role expectations of the graduate.

2. Graduate Curriculum

a. The curriculum shall include, but not be limited to separate courses in advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, advanced assessment and diagnostic reasoning, and management of health care status courses and shall evidence appropriate course sequencing.

b. The APRN role and population shall have supervised experiences in accordance with accreditation, certification, and education requirements and standards.

i. Specialty roles and populations that provide care to multiple age groups and care settings will require additional hours as distributed in a way that represents the populations served.

ii. Dual role and population APRN programs shall include and address content and clinical experiences for both roles and populations. Each role and population shall have documented clinical hours in accordance with certification agency requirements. The population foci of the dual roles and populations will determine the extent to which overlap may occur. Overlapping clinical hours between roles and populations must be documented and addressed as to the preparation for the two areas of practice.

c. Simulated laboratory experiences may also be utilized as a teaching strategy in classroom and clinical settings to meet outcomes and may be counted as either classroom or clinical hours for the purpose of calculating the hours in the curriculum.

d. There shall be provisions for the recognition of prior learning and advanced placement in the curriculum for those individuals who hold a master's or practice doctorate (APRN) in nursing and are seeking to qualify for recognition in a different APRN role and population. Post-graduate nursing students must complete the requirements of a master's or practice doctorate (APRN) program through a formal graduate level certificate or master's or practice doctorate level APRN role and population in the desired functional role. Post-graduate students must master the same outcome criteria as master's or practice doctorate level students. Post-graduate APRN students shall have supervised experiences in the role and population in accordance with accreditation, certification, and education requirements and standards.

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D. Undergraduate and graduate distant nursing education degree programs leading to licensure must meet the standards and requirements of Louisiana undergraduate and graduate education degree programs contained in LAC 46:XLVII.Chapter 35.

E. Undergraduate and graduate distance nursing education degree programs leading to licensure and utilizing Louisiana agencies must be approved by the board at a regularly scheduled meeting (refer to §3539).

F. Undergraduate and graduate student learning outcomes of the course and content shall reflect society's concern with the bioethical and legal parameters of health care and professional practice.

G. The undergraduate and graduate nursing courses shall provide for classroom and clinical laboratory instruction that shall be under the supervision of a faculty member of the nursing program.

1. The faculty to student ratio per clinical experience shall not exceed 1 to 10 (1:10) per clinical day for undergraduate clinical instruction unless the students are engaged in a board-approved preceptorship experience, which permits a maximum of 1 to 15 (1:15) faculty to undergraduate student ratio and 1 to 9 (1:9) faculty to APRN student ratio per clinical day.

H. Provision shall be made for the development of other knowledge and skills as deemed necessary by the faculty and as appropriate to the role expectations of the graduate.

I. The undergraduate and graduate curriculum shall be arranged to provide opportunities for upward career mobility for students who have completed other nursing programs and have met appropriate requirements for licensure as follows.

1. Mechanisms for the recognition of prior learning and advanced placement in the undergraduate and graduate curriculum shall be in place.

2. Any formalized agreements between programs to facilitate the transfer of credit between undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs shall be identified and described.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:188 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1026 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1148 (September 1993), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2790 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:852 (June 2001), amended LR 42:881 (June 2016).

§3523. Major/Substantive Changes: Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs (Formerly §§3525 and 3537)

A. Undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall notify the board of major/substantive changes (refer to §3503).

B. The undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall submit to the board two paper copies and one electronic copy of the following:

1. alteration, other than editorial, in undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) mission/philosophy and outcomes as follows:

a. letter of intent with timeline for proposed change;

b. rationale for proposed change;

c. evidence of approval by institution and/or accreditation agencies;

d. concise presentation of current mission/philosophy, and outcomes to proposed change;

e. planned method for evaluation for proposed change;

f. discussion of potential impact of proposed change on current students;

g. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

h. copy of action by accreditation agencies;

2. change in legal status of the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) as follows:

a. letter of notification with timeline for change;

b. discussion of potential impact of change of legal status on program and students;

c. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

d. copy of action by accreditation agencies;

3. change in status with regulatory, governmental or institutional accreditation on the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) as follows:

a. letter of notification with timeline for change in regulation, government or institutional accreditation;

b. discussion of potential impact of change in regulation, governmental or institution accreditation on program and current students;

c. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

d. copy, if action by accreditation agencies;

4. reduction in resources impacting the sustainability of the undergraduate and/or graduate program(s) as follows:

a. letter of notification and identification of resources reduced;

b. discussion of potential impact of reduction of resources on sustainability of program and current students;

c. action plan to address impact of reduction in resources impacting sustainability of the program;

d. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

e. copy of action by accreditation agencies;

5. reduction in faculty size exceeding 25 percent and in faculty exceptions exceeding 20 percent of full-time faculty employed as follows:

a. letter of notification of faculty turnover greater than 25 percent or faculty exceptions greater than 20 percent of full time faculty;

b. of contributing factors for excessive turn over and requirement for exceptions to faculty qualification;

c. discussion of potential impact on program and current students;

d. plan for improvement;

e. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

f. copy of action by accreditation agencies;

6. addition or deletion of clinical role/population preparing APRNs in an approved graduate nursing education degree program as follows:

a. addition of clinical role/population preparing APRNs in an approved graduate nursing education degree program as follows:

i. letter of request for approval of addition of APRN role/population;

ii. copy of the mission/philosophy, goals and outcomes;

iii. curriculum course sequencing, lists all courses required within the program of study;

iv. course syllabus for the course/clinical experience(s) to be offered, which specifies the related outcomes of the offering;

v. current electronic copy of school catalog;

vi. evidence of meetings or communications with chief nurse administrators of approved Louisiana graduate nurse education degree programs;

vii. timeline for implementation of a clinical role/population preparing APRN's;

viii. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

ix. copy of action by accreditation agencies;

b. deletion of clinical role/population preparing APRNs in an approved graduate nursing education degree program as follows:

i. a letter of intent for deletion of APRN role/population;

ii. rationale for deletion of APRN role/population;

iii. timeline for phase out of APRN role/population;

iv. method of notification of student;

v. discussion of potential impact on nursing education degree program and current students;

vi. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

vii. copy of action by accreditation agencies;

7. implementation of innovative strategies in undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) with a focus to include but not limited to student enrollment, retention, and graduation rates; test previous models of nursing education and develop and test new models of nursing education as follows:

a. pilot study of innovative strategy as follows:

i. letter of request to pilot innovative strategy;

ii. rationale for planned innovative strategy;

iii. outline of plan for innovative strategies to include timeframe, goals, expected outcomes and method of evaluation;

iv. discussion of potential impact on program and current students;

v. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

vi. copy of action by accreditation agencies;

b. post-completion of pilot as follows:

i. evaluation report of pilot;

ii. request for full implementation to include timeline and impact on program and current students; or

iii. notification of intent to not initiate and rationale;

8. addition or deletion of more than 10 percent of the semester credit hours from the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) of studies as follows:

a. letter of intent for proposed change in credit hours;

b. rationale proposed change in credit hours;

c. mission/philosophy, program goals and student learning outcomes;

d. course outcomes and course outlines;

e. concise presentation of current and proposed curriculum;

f. time table for implementation of the change in curriculum;

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g. explanation of the anticipated effect on currently enrolled students; to include a phase out plan and transition to new curriculum;

h. planned method for evaluating the results of the change;

i. method of notification of current students affected by the changes;

j. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

k. copy of action by accreditation agencies;

9. change in student enrollment, achievement, completion rates, graduation rates, pass rates for NCLEX-RN and certification as follows:

a. letter of notification of changes in student enrollment, achievement, completion rates, graduation rates, pass rates for NCLEX-RN and certification;

b. evaluation of contributing factors;

c. action plan for improvement to include timeline;

d. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

e. copy of action by accreditation agencies; and

10. addition or deletion of a major clinical facility providing students' clinical experiences in undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) as follows:

a. letter of notification to include impact on the program;

b. action plan for additional clinical placement;

c. copy of reports submitted to the accreditation agencies; and

d. copy of action by accreditation agencies.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:188 (April 1977), LR 10:1026 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 15:1081 (December 1989), LR 19:1148 (September 1993), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2790 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:852 (June 2001), amended LR 42:882 (June 2016).

§3525. Continuous Quality Improvement: Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs (Formerly §3523)

A. The undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) has a systematic plan for continuous program improvement and assessment and documents the use of (evidence) in decision making for program development, improvement, and revision which includes the following but not be limited to:

1. mission/philosophy, program outcomes of the curriculum;

2. teaching/learning experiences;

3. expected competencies of the graduate;

4. student(s) evaluations of courses;

5. faculty evaluations of students;

6. performance of graduates on the National Council licensure examinations (NCLEX-RN) and/or appropriate graduate certifications;

7. follow-up studies of the graduate surveys;

8. employer satisfaction of the graduates; and

9. evaluation of faculty performance.

B. The continuous program improvement plan shall document that the curriculum prepares graduates to meet the standards for practice and licensure as a registered nurse and advanced practice registered nurse.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:188 (April 1977), LR 10:1026 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 15:1081 (December 1989), LR 19:1148 (September 1993), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2790 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:852 (June 2001), LR 42:884 (June 2016).

§3527. Records and Reports: Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. The undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs and the parent institution shall develop and implement a systematic plan for maintaining student records in accordance with the retention policy of the institution.

1. Student Records

a. Each student's records include an application, terminal clinical evaluations from each course, and graduation forms, which are kept on file for a minimum of one year after graduation or three years after termination from the program if the student does not graduate.

b. The application and final transcript are kept on file permanently.

c. Graduate clinical transcripts shall be maintained permanently.

2. Faculty Records. Faculty records shall be on file in the nursing education degree program and/or in the parent institution and shall be in compliance with existing federal, state and institutional requirements.

3. Other records shall be kept on file and shall include:

a. a current program bulletin;

b. current budget and fiscal reports;

c. current contracts with clinical affiliations;

- d. minutes from nurse faculty committee meetings;
- e. graduates' performance on NCLEX-RN;
- f. follow-up studies of the graduates; and
- g. program self-evaluation studies.

B. The nursing education degree program submits to the board the following reports:

- 1. annual report on the form provided by the board;
- 2. interim reports on the form provided by the board;
- 3. self-study report as provided to the accrediting body; and
- 4. other reports as deemed necessary by the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 10:1026 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1148 (September 1993), repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 42:884 (June 2016).

**§3529. Selection and Use of Clinical Facilities:
Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing
Education Degree Programs**

A. Hospitals used for clinical experiences shall be licensed by the state of Louisiana and certified by the appropriately designated agency for Medicare/Medicaid. In addition, hospitals and other health care agencies should be accredited or approved by a recognized accrediting or approving agency as appropriate.

B. Board approval shall be secured using the clinical facility survey form at a minimum four weeks prior to the time an agency is utilized for student clinical experience.

C. Faculty shall plan for the student's learning experiences in cooperation with agency personnel.

D. Formal agreements between the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) and the agency shall be in writing, shall state rights and responsibilities of each party to include liability insurance coverage, shall contain a termination clause and shall be reviewed according to institution policy.

E. The facility shall have:

- 1. a written mission which gives direction to nursing care;
- 2. registered nurses to insure the safe care of patients and to serve as role models for students;
- 3. a sufficient number of patients/clients to provide learning experiences to meet the objectives of courses' student learning outcomes;
- 4. an environment in which the student is recognized as a learner;
- 5. established standards for nursing care congruent with the board's legal standards for nursing care;

- 6. criteria for making patient assignments;
- 7. complete and current policy and procedure manuals available;
- 8. available evidence of nursing quality improvement programs;

9. clearly defined written personnel policies, including job descriptions for all categories of nursing personnel;

10. a planned orientation program for faculty and students;

11. means of communication between faculty and agency administrative personnel and between faculty of all undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs that use the agency;

12. evidence that the agency's personnel understand their relationship between faculty and students and that the responsibility for coordination is specifically identified; and

13. designated areas on, or in close proximity to clinical learning sites for faculty/student interactions.

F. The chief nurse administrator shall notify the board in writing when a clinical agency being used for students' clinical practice loses accreditation or approval status; loss of accreditation/approval shall mandate that students will not utilize the clinical agency for clinical experiences.

G. Advanced practice registered nursing students shall perform advanced practice nursing functions under the guidance of a qualified instructor or preceptor (as defined in LAC 46:XLVII.4505) as part of their program of study.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:189 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1026 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing LR 15:1080 (December 1989), LR 16:133 (February 1990), LR 19:1149 (September 1993), repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 26:2791 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:852 (June 2001), amended LR 32:1240 (July 2006), LR 42:884 (June 2016).

**§3531. Procedure for Terminating Undergraduate and
Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs**

A. Voluntary Termination

1. The board shall be notified when a decision has been made to close an undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s).

2. The undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall provide a written plan of termination to include evidence that all of the board's standards shall be maintained until all students have transferred to another program or have graduated. A plan to phase out the existing nursing program shall include:

- a. a dateline for final admission of students to the existing program;

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b. a plan for the normal progression of students in the existing program;

c. a contingency plan for students who cannot follow the normal progression sequence in the existing program (i.e., failures, illness, etc.); and

d. the projected date of graduation for the final class of the existing program.

3. All students shall have assistance with transfers to the new nursing program or to another program of choice. A list of the names of these students shall be submitted to the board.

4. The board shall be notified of the arrangements for safe storage of the permanent records of the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) and its students' records.

5. The following records shall be retained:

- a. student's application to the program;
- b. student's financial academic transcripts;
- c. graduate clinical transcript;
- d. each curriculum plan offered; and

e. a list of each graduating class and date of graduation.

B. Involuntary Termination

1. Involuntary termination occurs when the board has determined that the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) has not met one or more standards and the program shall be required to initiate termination.

2. The undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall provide a written plan of termination to include evidence that all of the board's standards shall be maintained until all students have transferred to another program or have graduated. A plan to phase out the existing nursing program shall include:

a. documentation of final admission date of students in the existing program;

b. a plan for the progression of students during phase out of the existing program;

c. a contingency plan for students who cannot follow the normal progression sequence in the existing program (i.e., failures, illness, etc.); and

d. the projected date of graduation for the final class of the existing program.

3. All students shall have assistance with transfers to the new nursing program or to another program of choice. A list of the names of these students shall be submitted to the board.

4. The board shall be notified of the arrangements for safe storage of the permanent records of the undergraduate

and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) and its students' records.

5. The following records shall be retained:

- a. student's application to the program;
- b. student's final academic transcripts;
- c. graduate clinical transcript;
- d. each curriculum plan offered; and

e. a list of each graduating class and date of graduation.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:190 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1027 (December 1984), repromulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 42:885 (June 2016).

§3533. Procedure for Establishing a New Undergraduate or Graduate Education Degree Program

A. Step I: Letter of Intent and Feasibility Study

1. A written notice of intent to establish a new undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) stating the purpose and type of program must be submitted to the board in two paper copies and one electronic copy as follows:

a. notice of intent shall include:

i. documented evidence of approval from the parent institution and the appropriate governing board to award the appropriate degree and a copy of the current bulletin or catalog;

ii. documentation of approval from Board of Regents for state and proprietary schools; and

iii. documentation of regional accreditation;

b. report of a feasibility study documenting a need for the program. The study shall include evidence of:

i. nurse manpower studies which validate need for the program as it relates to total state resources and nursing education in the state;

ii. documentation of communication with Louisiana nursing education degree programs on a form provided by the board regarding the potential impact on other undergraduate nursing education degree programs within a geographical area of 100 miles or the impact on other graduate nursing programs within the state;

iii. availability of qualified nurse faculty and support faculty;

iv. adequate academic and clinical facilities to meet the needs of the program;

v. adequate financial resources for planning, implementing and continuing the program;

- vi. commitment of administration to support the program;
- vii. community support;
- viii. a proposed time schedule for initiating and expanding the program; and
- ix. an available pool of potential students.

2. Representative of the parent institution shall meet with the board at a regularly scheduled board meeting to review the notice of intent, the report of the feasibility study and any other information submitted. Based on its review the board shall give written notification to the parent institution that:

- a. supplementary information is needed; or
- b. the notice of intent and feasibility study to establish a new program is accepted and the parent institution may continue with the plan to establish the program; however, public announcements and preadmission of students shall not occur prior to the receipt of initial board approval after step II; or
- c. the letter of intent is not accepted, the reasons thereof, and all planning must cease.

B. Step II: Initial Approval of the Undergraduate and/or Graduate Nursing Education Degree Program(s)

1. If step I is accepted and if the parent institution is allowed by the board to proceed with the development of the program, a qualified chief nurse administrator shall be employed a minimum of 12 months prior to the admission of the first class of students.

2. The chief nurse administrator shall have the authority and responsibility to develop:

- a. an organizational structure for the program;
- b. an organizational chart;
- c. bylaws;
- d. administrative policies and procedures;
- e. policies for screening and recommending candidates for faculty appointments and for retention and promotion of faculty (see §3515);
- f. a budget;
- g. a plan for the use of clinical and cooperating agencies and clinical preceptors;
- h. a sample contractual/affiliation agreement with clinical and cooperating agencies and clinical preceptors; and
- i. a plan for the use of academic facilities and resources.

3. The chief nurse administrator shall have previous teaching experience in a registered nursing education degree program.

4. The chief nurse administrator shall appoint a sufficient number of full-time nurse faculty with a minimum of two years clinical nursing practice at least six months prior to admission of students.

5. Nursing faculty with previous teaching experience in a nursing education degree program of the same academic level as the proposed program and experience in curriculum design are preferred.

6. The nurse faculty shall develop the proposed program and plan for its implementation. They shall write:

- a. mission/philosophy, goals; program and student learning outcomes;
- b. a curriculum plan;
- c. course outcomes;
- d. course outlines;
- e. evaluation plan and methods;
- f. admission, progression and graduation criteria;
- g. policies for protecting students' rights, their safety and welfare, and for academic guidance and advising; and
- h. plan for utilization of clinical facilities, cooperating agencies and clinical preceptors.

7. Upon completion of this phase of the development of the proposed undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s), the chief nurse administrator shall request that the board staff conduct initial site visit.

8. Report on site visit will be presented to the board by board staff representative at a regularly scheduled board meeting for initial approval. Based on its review, the board shall give written notification to the parent institution that:

- a. supplementary information is needed; or
- b. initial approval is granted; or
- c. initial approval is denied.

9. After initial approval is granted, public announcements may be issued and students may be admitted to the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s).

10. Initial approval shall not be continued for more than two consecutive one-year periods following the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s)' eligibility to apply for full approval.

11. An undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) remaining ineligible for full approval after two consecutive one-year periods following the nursing program's eligibility to apply for full approval, shall not admit new students and shall initiate a phase-out of the program in accordance with §3531.

C. Step III: Full Approval of Undergraduate and/or Graduate Nursing Education Degree Program(s)

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1. Full approval shall be requested after members of the first class of graduates write and receive the results of the first licensing or certification examination. Additionally, an on-site visit is required and upon presentation of evidence that standards of the board have been met, full approval may be granted to the program. Undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall achieve national nursing accreditation within one year of being granted full approval.

a. A program not accredited by a national nursing accrediting body within one year post-full approval may petition the board for a one-year extension.

b. Following the one-year extension, a program failing to achieve national accreditation shall immediately cease admission of students and begin termination.

c. A program that loses national nursing accreditation shall immediately be placed on probation.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 3:190 (April 1977), amended LR 10:1027 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 14:532 (August 1988), repromulgated LR 24:1293 (July 1998), amended LR 26:2791 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:853 (June 2001), amended LR 38:2549 (October 2012), LR 42:885 (June 2016).

§3535. Procedure of Continuing Full Approval: Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs

A. Undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) must present evidence of compliance with all standards and requirements contained in LAC 46:XLVII.Chapter 35.

B. The undergraduate nursing education degree program shall have a pass rate of 80 percent or greater achieved by the candidates taking the licensure examination for the first time in any one January to December calendar year, or the program shall be placed on probation.

C. Undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) holding full approval for a minimum of five consecutive calendar years and full national accreditation recognized by the board shall inform board of impending accreditation site visit six months prior to visit.

1. The board shall agree to accept national accreditation reports and not perform site visits unless there is a complaint, a sanction, or evidence that the institution is in violation of standards.

2. The board shall perform site visits if there is a complaint, a sanction, or evidence that the institution is in violation of standards. The undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) may request to have on-site visits coordinated with national accreditation visits. Following receipt of the official request by the program, the date of initiation of this process for the program shall be determined by the board.

a. An on-site visit shall be conducted by an authorized staff representative of the board during or within six months following the national accreditation visit.

b. To meet the self-study requirements, the national self-study report and the addendum required by the board shall be submitted to the board at least 21 days prior to the scheduled on-site visit regardless of board participation.

c. A copy of any national accreditation correspondence concerning accreditation and interim reports shall be forwarded to the board within two weeks of receipt.

D. A written report of the on-site visit is sent to the administrative officer of the parent institution, to the chief nurse administrator, and to all board members.

E. The chief nurse administrator may submit a response to the board staff regarding the report of the on-site visit and also be present when the board reviews and acts upon the report.

F. Action relevant to the approval status of the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) is taken by the board after an evaluation of:

1. the on-site survey self-study documents; or
2. the program's annual report; or
3. evidence that indicates the program fails to meet the standards and requirements.

G. The board shall provide for an evaluation and hearing to determine if a program has met or has failed to meet the standards and requirements by executing the following actions:

1. giving written notice that the standards have been met and continues full approval or restores approval; or
2. giving written notice of specified deficiency(ies) and placing the program on probation.

H. An undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) has the right at any time to present evidence to the board that the deficiency(ies) has/have been corrected and may petition the board to restore full approval to the program.

I. No later than 12 months from the date the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) was placed on probation, the program shall submit a written report to the board with evidence that the standard(s) has/have been met, and may petition the board to restore full approval.

J. If a deficiency(ies) cannot be corrected in 12 months, the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall file a plan for meeting the standard(s) and may petition the board to continue the probationary status.

K. Probationary status is not granted to an undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) for more than three calendar year periods in any five calendar year period.

L. At any time during the probationary period, the board may determine that the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) must cease admission of students and begin involuntary termination.

M. Failure to meet standards after graduation of all enrolled students will result in involuntary termination of the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) (refer to §3531).

N. The right to appeal the board's decision is afforded any undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) in accordance with R.S. 37:918 and the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:965, appeals.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 10:1027 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1149 (September 1993), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 42:887 (June 2016).

§3537. Procedure for Restructuring an Existing Undergraduate or Graduate Nursing Education Degree Program into/within Higher Education (Formerly §3534)

A. Phasing-out an Existing Nursing Program (refer to §3531)

1. Notification of intent for restructuring an existing undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s). A letter of intent shall be submitted to the board to phase out an existing undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program and phase in a new nursing program not less than one year prior to the planned implementation date. Two copies of the letter are to be submitted.

2. Termination of an Existing Undergraduate and/or Graduate Nursing Education Degree Program(s)

a. A plan shall be submitted to the board to phase out the existing undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) to include:

i. a dateline for final admission of students to the existing program;

ii. a plan for the normal progression of students in the existing program;

iii. a contingency plan for students who cannot follow the normal progression sequence in the existing program (i.e., failures, illness, etc.); and

iv. the projected date of graduation for the final class of the existing program.

b. All board's standards shall be maintained by the existing undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) until all students have transferred to another program or graduated.

c. All students shall have assistance with transfers to the new nursing programs or to another program of

choice. A list of the names of these students shall be submitted to the board.

d. The undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) and the parent institution shall develop and implement a systematic plan for maintaining student records in accordance with retention policy of the institution.

e. The following records of the existing undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall be retained:

i. students' applications to the program (when applicable);

ii. students' final academic transcripts;

iii. graduate clinical transcripts;

iv. all curricula plans offered, including catalog course descriptions; and

v. rosters of all graduation classes and dates of graduations.

f. The board shall be notified of the arrangements for the administrative control and safe storage of the permanent program and student records.

B. Phasing-in a new nursing program (refer to §3533).

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 16:690 (August 1990), amended LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2791 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:853 (June 2001), amended LR 42:888 (June 2016).

§3539. Procedure for Approval for Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs whose Administrative Control is Located in Another State Offering Programs, Courses, and/or Clinical Experience in Louisiana (Formerly §3536)

A. Program of Studies. To receive approval by the board for a total undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) of study by undergraduate and graduate nursing education degree programs with physical presence in Louisiana, but whose administrative control is located in another state, the following criteria shall be met.

1. New programs must follow the procedure to establish new programs as specified in §3533.

2. Programs must present evidence of compliance with all standards and requirements contained in LAC 46:XLVII.Chapter 35. Upon full approval, the program will be reviewed under the requirements for continued approval, as specified in §3535.

B. Course/Clinical Offerings. Out-of-state undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) offering courses/clinical experiences in Louisiana are expected to maintain the standards required of Louisiana-based programs. The board reserves the right to withdraw

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the approval of such offerings if adherence to these standards is not maintained. To receive approval by the Board of Nursing for course/clinical offerings in Louisiana by nursing programs whose administrative control is located in another state, the following criteria shall be met.

1. Approval/Accreditation Requirements. The following evidence of approval/accreditation of the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall be submitted to the board as stipulated.

a. The nursing program sponsoring the offering shall hold current approval by the Board of Nursing and/or other appropriate approval bodies in the state in which the parent institution is located.

b. Regional accreditation shall be held by the parent institution.

c. National nursing accreditation recognized by the board is required.

d. The nursing program sponsoring the course/clinical offering must provide the Board of Nursing with the following materials for review at least six months prior to the scheduled initiation of the offering:

i. a letter of request for approval to provide the course/clinical offering, which indicates the time-frame during which the offering will be conducted and the clinical agency(ies)/the clinical unit(s) will be utilized;

ii. a copy of the mission/philosophy, goals and outcomes;

iii. a curriculum course sequencing, which lists all courses by semester/quarter required within the program of study;

iv. a course syllabus for the course/clinical experience(s) to be offered, which specifies the related outcomes of the offering; and

v. a current electronic copy of school catalog.

e. Request for preceptorship learning experiences shall include evidence of compliance with §3543.

2. Coordination with other undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) as follows:

a. evidence of meetings or communications with representatives of the clinical agency and the out-of-state nursing program;

b. evidence of meetings or communications with program heads of approved Louisiana undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s);

c. meetings or communications of respective representatives from undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) and clinical agency shall occur minimally on an annual basis, or on a semester basis as deemed necessary by any involved party; and

d. a "clinical facility survey" form shall be submitted by the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s).

3. Students

a. All students shall be in good academic standing in the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s).

b. Students shall not be eligible to enroll in a clinical nursing course based on evidence of grounds for denial of licensure in accordance with R.S. 37:921 and LAC 46:XLVII.3331 and 3403.

c. Undergraduate performance on the licensure examination (NCLEX-RN) shall be maintained at an 80 percent or higher pass rate for each January through December calendar year. Upon initial request for approval, NCLEX-RN performance by undergraduates for the past two calendar years shall be submitted to the board.

d. Graduate performance on certification examination for the past two calendar years shall be submitted to the board for each role and population requesting approval.

4. Faculty

a. A "faculty qualification" form provided by the board shall be submitted for each faculty member providing instruction within the state of Louisiana.

b. Each faculty member shall hold a current license to practice as a registered nurse and/or advanced practice registered nurse in Louisiana.

c. Each faculty member shall hold a graduate degree in nursing and a minimum of two years of nursing practice in a clinical setting.

d. Clinical faculty shall be present for student supervision while students are assigned to clinical areas unless the students are engaged in a board-approved preceptorship experience.

e. Clinical faculty for undergraduate and graduate precepted clinical experiences are expected to confer with the preceptor and student at least weekly and visit the site at least once in a semester/quarter.

f. The faculty to student ratio per clinical experience shall not exceed 1 to 10 (1:10) per clinical day for undergraduate clinical instruction unless the students are engaged in a board-approved preceptorship experience which permits a maximum of 1 to 15 (1:15) faculty to undergraduate student ratio per clinical day and 1 to 9 (1:9) faculty to APRN student ratio per clinical day.

5. Approval

a. Course/clinical offerings by out-of-state nursing programs may be approved for a period of three years, at which time program representatives may petition for renewal of approval for each additional three-year period.

b. Request for out-of-state clinical re-approval form, which provides updated and current data relevant to the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) program, shall be submitted as a component of the petition for renewal as specified in §3539.B.1-5.

c. Failure to comply with the requirements established by the board shall result in the immediate withdrawal of the board's approval of course/clinical offerings.

6. Post-Approval

a. A copy of the executed contractual agreement between the academic institution and the clinical facility/agency shall be maintained by the institution.

b. Undergraduate student approval application shall be submitted 60 days prior to the date of enrollment in the clinical nursing course.

c. Graduate student clinical experience spreadsheet provided by the board shall be submitted within two weeks of initiation of experience.

d. Faculty qualification forms must be submitted to the board within two weeks of hire.

e. The undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall keep the board informed of any changes to approval and accreditation status.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1145 (September 1993), amended LR 23:962 (August 1997), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2791 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:853 (June 2001), amended LR 42:888 (June 2016).

§3541. Procedure for Submitting Required Reports and Compliance Forms by Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs (Formerly §3539)

A. Annual Report. The undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall submit two paper copies and one electronic copy of an annual report, on a form provided by the board, on the designated date, accompanied by one electronic copy of the current school catalog.

B. Compliance Forms

1. Undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) shall submit a faculty qualification form within two weeks of the time each new faculty member is employed.

2. Undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) requesting approval of new clinical facilities needed for students' clinical practice areas shall submit a clinical facility survey form and shall be secured in accord with §3529 prior to the time students are assigned to the new facility.

3. Any undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) required to submit a regional or a national nursing accreditation interim report shall submit a copy of the report to the board.

C. Self-Study

1. A self-study shall be submitted to the board 21 days prior to the scheduled on-site visit of the undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s).

2. The national accreditation self-study report and the addendum required by the board may be submitted to meet the self-study requirements of the board (refer to §3535).

D. Students

1. The undergraduate student approval application shall be submitted 60 days prior to the date of enrollment in the first clinical nursing course (refer to §3324).

2. The graduate student clinical experience spreadsheet provided by the board shall be submitted within two weeks of initiation of experience.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 10:1028 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 19:1150 (September 1993), LR 21:803 (August 1995), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2791 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:853 (June 2001), amended LR 42:889 (June 2016).

§3543. Preceptorship Learning Experiences (Formerly §3541)

A. Nurse faculty shall retain the responsibility for selecting and guiding all undergraduate and/or graduate student learning experiences and the evaluation of student performances with input from preceptors.

B. Preceptors shall be selected according to written criteria jointly developed by faculty and nursing administration in the clinical facility, and in accordance with guidelines established by the board.

C. A faculty member shall be available to preceptors while students are involved in a preceptorship experience.

D. The faculty member shall confer with each preceptor and student at least weekly during the precepted experience.

E. Preceptor Learning Experiences

1. Undergraduate

a. Preceptor experiences for undergraduate students shall only occur during the last two academic semesters of a baccalaureate degree program and during one of the last two semesters of a diploma or associate degree program.

b. The total preceptorship experience for undergraduate students shall be limited to a maximum of 25 percent of the total clinical weeks in the program of study.

2. Graduate

a. The APRN role and population shall have supervised experiences in accordance with accreditation, certification, and education requirements and standards.

b. Faculty are responsible for all advanced practice registered nurse students in the clinical area whether supervision is direct or indirect.

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i. Direct supervision occurs when advanced practice registered nurse program faculty function as on-site clinical preceptors.

ii. Indirect supervision has three components:

(a) to supplement the clinical preceptor's teaching;

(b) to act as a liaison to a community agency; and

(c) to evaluate the student's progress.

F. Preceptor Ratios

1. Undergraduate

a. The undergraduate nursing education degree program shall maintain a ratio of not more than 1 faculty to 15 undergraduate students (1:15) for the preceptorship experience.

b. There shall be one preceptor for each student.

2. Graduate

a. The graduate nursing education degree program shall maintain a ratio of not more than 1 faculty to 9 APRN students (1:9) for the preceptorship experience.

b. A preceptor shall not supervise more than two graduate APRN students during any given clinical experience.

G. Preceptor Qualifications

1. All preceptors must have an active unencumbered RN and/or APRN Louisiana license.

2. Undergraduate

a. The preceptor shall have at least a minimum of one year as a RN in the clinical area in which the preceptorship experience occurs.

b. Preceptors shall hold a minimum of a baccalaureate degree in nursing.

c. An individual RN, who does not possess a BSN, may be utilized as a preceptor provided that the RN has had no less than three years' experience as an RN with a minimum of one year in the clinical area in which the experience occurs and has the requisite skills to guide the student to meet the desired course outcomes for the specific clinical experiences.

3. Graduate

a. The majority of clinical experiences shall be under a preceptor with an active unencumbered APRN license and certification in the population focused area of practice of primary and/or acute care as appropriate.

b. A mix of clinicians may be used to provide direct clinical teaching to students appropriate to the range of clinical experiences required to meet the program outcomes and enhance their inter-professional experiences.

c. The majority of the clinical experiences must occur with preceptors from the same population focused area in primary and/or acute care as appropriate.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 10:1028 (December 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 17:1207 (December 1991), LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2791 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:853 (June 2001), amended LR 42:890 (June 2016).

§3545. Undergraduate Community-Based Learning Experiences (Formerly §3542)

A. "Community-based experiences" involve the community as a whole, exclusive of acute care facilities, with nursing care of individuals, families, and groups being provided within the context of promoting and preserving the health of the community.

B. Non-health-care related agencies utilized for community-based learning experiences for students must have an identifiable sponsoring agency with a clearly defined purpose(s).

C. Nurse faculty shall retain the responsibility for the selection and guidance of student community-based learning experiences and for the evaluation of student performance.

D. Community-Based Agency Experience Supervision

1. Direct Faculty Supervision

a. The undergraduate nursing education degree program shall maintain a ratio of not more than 1 faculty member to 10 students (1:10).

b. Students may participate in invasive or complex nursing activities in a community setting with the direct supervision of a faculty member.

2. Preceptorship

a. The undergraduate nursing education degree program shall maintain a ratio of not more than 1 faculty member to 15 students (1:15) for the preceptorship experience.

b. A preceptor shall not be allowed to supervise more than three students at one time in any given community clinical site.

c. Students may participate in invasive or complex nursing activities in a community setting with the direct supervision of an approved RN preceptor.

d. A faculty member shall be available for preceptors while students are involved in a preceptorship experience. The faculty member shall confer with each preceptor and student(s) at least weekly during said learning experience.

e. Preceptors shall be selected according to written criteria jointly developed by faculty and nursing

administration in the clinical facility, and in accordance with guidelines established by the board.

3. Community Agency Supervision

a. There shall be qualified faculty available to provide a safe, effective faculty/student/client ratio not to exceed 1 faculty member to 15 students (1:15).

b. Students, under the overall direction of a faculty member, may participate in noninvasive or noncomplex nursing activities in structured community nursing settings where RN's are present (e.g., out-patient clinics). Students shall have the skills appropriate to the experiences planned.

c. Students, under the verbal direction of a faculty member, may participate in basic care activities, such as, assessment of vital signs and collection of data. They also may assist with activities of daily living in community settings where a registered nurse is not present. Students shall have the skills appropriate to the experiences planned.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 21:803 (August 1995), amended LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR 26:2791 (December 2000), repromulgated LR 27:853 (June 2001), amended LR 42:890 (June 2016).

§3547. Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Education Degree Programs not Leading to Additional Licensure or APRN Certification

A. Undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree programs not leading to licensure and/or an additional APRN certification do not require approval by the board.

B. Non-licensure undergraduate and/or graduate nursing education degree program(s) offering courses/clinical experiences in Louisiana are expected to maintain the following standards required of approved programs:

1. approval of program from parent institution;
2. national nursing accreditation;
3. approval from Louisiana Board of Regents;
4. faculty and preceptors supervising post-licensure students in Louisiana clinical agencies must have active unencumbered Louisiana licensure;
5. post-licensure students in Louisiana clinical agencies must have active, unencumbered Louisiana registered nurse licensure; and
6. adherence to Louisiana nursing education articulation model is required.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 42:891 (June 2016).

Chapter 36. Disclosure of Financial Interests and Prohibited Payments

§3601. Scope

A. The rules of this Chapter interpret, implement and provide for the enforcement of R.S. 37:1744 and R.S. 37:1745, requiring disclosure of a registered nurse's and registered nurse applicant's financial interest in another health care provider to whom or to which the nurse refers a patient, and prohibiting certain payments in return for referring or soliciting patients.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1744, R.S. 37:1745, and R.S. 37:918.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 21:269 (March 1995), amended LR 24:1293 (July 1998).

§3603. Definitions and Construction

A. Definitions. For the purpose of this Chapter, the following terms are defined as follows.

Board—Louisiana State Board of Nursing.

Financial Interest—a significant ownership or investment interest established through debt, equity or other means and held, directly or indirectly, by a registered nurse or a member of a registered nurse's immediate family, or any form of direct or indirect remuneration for referral.

Health Care Item—any substance, product, device, equipment, supplies or other tangible good or article which is or may be used or useful in the provision of health care.

Health Care Provider—any person, partnership, corporation or any other organization licensed by the state to provide preventive, diagnostic, or therapeutic health care services or items.

Health Care Services—any act or treatment performed or furnished by a health care provider to or on behalf of a patient.

Immediate Family—as respects a registered nurse, the registered nurse's spouse, children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents and siblings.

Payment—transfer or provision of money, goods, services, or anything of economic value, including gifts, gratuities, favors, entertainment or loans.

Person—includes a natural person or a partnership, corporation, organization, association, facility, institution, or any governmental subdivision, department, board, commission, or other entity.

Referral—the act of ordering, directing, recommending or suggesting as given by a health care provider to a patient, directly or indirectly, which is likely to determine, control or influence the patient's choice of another health care provider for the provision of health care services or items.

Registered Nurse—an individual licensed as a registered nurse in Louisiana, or an individual licensed as a registered nurse in another state and holding a 90-day permit to practice nursing in Louisiana in accordance with R.S. 37:920.