

## **Nursing Board Policy**

**POLICY NUMBER:** 60-02

**Title:** Nursing Student Extern

**Date Issued:** April 25, 2007

**Date(s) Reviewed:**

**References:** C.R.S. 12-38-123(1)(b)(I)(II)

**Purpose:** Many healthcare institutions employ nursing students to provide enhanced education and experience as they transition through school and into the professional, licensed role of Registered Nurse. The Colorado State Board of Nursing supports these experiences but recognizes that such roles should be clearly identified in order to avoid any misunderstanding by the student, the employer, and the public.

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### **POLICY:**

Nursing students who are pursuing the education of a licensed professional nurse but remain an unlicensed assistive person in their employed position are to be identified, with the title and a name tag identifying the student as a “nursing student extern.”

Nursing student externs must be students in good academic standing, enrolled in a Board of Nursing approved program to prepare candidates for licensure as a licensed professional nurse, and have successfully completed sufficient clinical nursing courses to have obtained competency in performing basic health care tasks. Nursing student externs may not wear school identification.

Nursing student externs are, at all times, under the direct supervision of a licensed Registered Nurse.

The Registered Nurse may not delegate tasks to the nursing student extern which are solely within the scope of practice of the licensed Registered Nurse.

Nursing student externs may perform those tasks that are routine, repetitive and require no nursing judgment.

Prohibited tasks include but are not limited to:

- Administration of intravenous fluids, blood products, performing venopuncture or assuming responsibility for the delivery of intravascular therapy.
- Assuming primary responsibility for patient care.
- Directing or supervising any other healthcare personnel.
- Making independent decisions regarding patient care.
- Administration of medications.