

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES

Division of Registrations

3 CCR 716-1

CHAPTER XIV

RULES AND REGULATIONS TO REGISTER PROFESSIONAL NURSES QUALIFIED TO ENGAGE IN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PURPOSE

The rules contained in this Chapter are adopted pursuant to authority granted the Board of Nursing by C.R.S. §§12-38-108(1)(j) and 12-38-111.5. These rules are adopted to implement the Board's authority to register professional nurses qualified to engage in Advanced Practice Nursing and are further adopted to set forth the requirements and procedures for being so registered.

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Deleted: The abbreviation of "Advanced Practice Nurse", "A.P.N.", may be used as an ¶ umbrella term. Areas of specialty are identified as "Certified Nurse Midwife" which is abbreviated as "C.N.M."; "Clinical Nurse Specialist" which is abbreviated as "C.N.S."; "Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist" which is abbreviated as "C.R.N.A."; and "Nurse Practitioner" which is abbreviated as "N.P.".

Deleted: 1.2. Nationally accredited education program ¶ defined as the entire program ¶ which prepares a Registered Nurse for advanced practice. Pursuant to C.R.S. 12-38-111.5(4)(c), on or after July 1, 2008, the requirements for inclusion in the advanced practice registry shall include the successful completion of a graduate degree in the appropriate specialty.¶

¶ 1.3. National certification examination means an examination administered by ¶ a nationally recognized accrediting agency.

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 Accrediting Body: Any organization that establishes and maintains standards for professional nursing programs and recognizes those programs that meet these standard and is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) and/or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), including the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), Nation League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs (COA), Division of Accreditation of the American College of Nurse Midwives, and the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health Council on Accreditation.
- 1.2 Advanced Practice Nurse (APN): A master's prepared nurse holding a graduate degree in nursing who has completed a graduate or post-graduate program of study in an advanced practice Role and/or Specialty, from an accredited nursing program and has been recognized for inclusion on the Advanced Practice Registry by the Board.
- 1.3 Advanced Practice Nursing: The expanded scope of nursing practice in an advanced Role and Specialty approved by the Board.
- 1.4 Advanced Practice Registry: The Board's registry of those professional nurses who apply for, and meet the criteria for inclusion as established in accordance with C.R.S. 12-38-111.5 and these Chapter XIV Rules.
- 1.5 Applicant: A professional nurse seeking inclusion on the Advanced Practice Registry as an Advanced Practice Nurse.
- 1.6 Board: The Colorado State Board of Nursing.
- 1.7 Certifying Body: A non-governmental agency that validates by examination, based on pre-determined standards, an individual nurse's qualifications and knowledge for practice in a defined functional or clinical area of nursing.

- 1.8 Client: A person receiving nursing care.
- 1.9 Role: The advanced practice area or position for which the professional nurse has been prepared; Nurse Practitioner (NP) Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) and Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS).
- 1.10 Specialty: A broad, population-based focus of study encompassing the common problems of that group of patients and the likely co-morbidities, interventions and response to those problems. Examples include, but are not limited to: Neonatal, Pediatric, Women's Health, Adult, Family, Mental Health, Anesthesia, Midwifery, etc. A specialty area is not defined as a specific disease/health problem or specific intervention.
- 1.11 Unencumbered: No current disciplinary action exists against an Applicant's professional nurse license, privilege, or authority to practice.

Deleted: II. EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES' ¶
REGISTRATION ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1995 UNTIL JULY 1, 2008.¶

¶
 2.1 . An applicant to be registered as a Certified Nurse Midwife must meet the ¶ standards for education and certification established by the American College of Nurse- Midwives (ACNM) or its designee. Documentation required shall be ACNM confirmation of certification.¶

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 2.2 . An applicant to be registered as a Clinical Nurse Specialist must either¶
 (1) complete a nationally accredited educational program which confers a graduate degree in a clinical nursing specialty or
 (2) pass a national advanced practice certification examination. Documentation required shall be a transcript of the conferred degree or verification of national advanced practice certification.¶

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 2.3 . An applicant to be registered as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist must ¶ complete a program accredited by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists' (AANA) Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia ... [1]

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 3.1 . Possession of an active, current Colorado license as a Professional Nurse,¶ without current disciplinary sanctions.¶

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 3.2 . Submission of application on Board approved form(s).¶

... [2]

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR INCLUSION ON THE ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTRY

- 2.1 Educational Requirements: The successful completion of a graduate or post-graduate nursing degree in the Role and Specialty for which the Applicant seeks inclusion on the Advanced Practice Registry. Verification of educational requirements shall be evidenced by receipt of a sealed, official transcript from a graduate or post-graduated Advanced Practice Nurse program accredited by a nursing Accrediting Body. The transcript shall verify date of graduation, credential conferred, and Role and Specialty focus of the program.
- 2.2 Certification requirements for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA): Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA) must pass the national certification examination as administered by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) Council on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists. Documentation required shall be AANA verification of current certification or recertification.
- 2.3 Certification Requirements for Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM): Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) standards for education and certification established by the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) or its designee; American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB). Documentation required shall be verification of current AMCB certification.
- 2.4 Applicants must possess an active, Unencumbered Colorado or multi-state compact professional nurse license.
- 2.5 For each Role and Specialty the Applicant seeks inclusion on the Advanced Practice Registry the Applicant shall be required to:
 - A. Submit an Advanced Practice Registry application on the current Board approved form;
 - B. Provide a sealed, official transcript from the graduate or post graduate Advanced Practice Nurse program; and
 - C. Pay the current application fee.
- 2.6 CRNA and CNM Applicants must request verification of current certification, as outlined in section 2.2 and 2.3, be sent to the Board directly from the AANA or AMCB.

3. SCOPE OF ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

- 3.1 Advanced Practice Nurses are expected to practice within the standards established by the appropriate nursing organization and have a safe mechanism for consultation or collaboration with a physician, or when appropriate, referral to a physician.
- 3.2 The scope of Advanced Practice Nursing is based on:
 - A. The professional nurse scope of practice, within the Advanced Practice Nurse's Role;
 - B. Graduate or post-graduate nursing education in the Role and Specialty for which the Advanced Practice Nurse has been recognized by the Board for inclusion on the Advanced Practice Registry.
- 3.3 The scope of Advanced Practice Nursing includes, but is not limited to: performing acts of advanced assessment, diagnosing, treating, prescribing, selecting, administering, and dispensing diagnostic and therapeutic measures.
- 3.4 Prescribing medication is not within the scope of practice of Advanced Practice Nurses unless the Advanced Practice Nurse has applied for, and been granted Prescriptive Authority by the Board.
- 3.5 Each Advanced Practice Nurse is accountable to their Clients and the Board for:
 - A. Complying with the requirements of the Colorado Nurse Practice Act, Board rules, and Board policies;
 - B. For the quality of advanced nursing care rendered;
 - C. For recognizing limits of knowledge and experience;
 - D. For planning for the management of situations beyond the Advanced practice Nurse's expertise; and
 - E. For consulting with, or referring Clients to other health care providers as appropriate.

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4.1 . The Program Administrator of the Board has delegated authority to register and to renew qualified applicants during the period between board meetings.

4.2 . Renewal of registration.

a. All registrations shall be renewed at the time the holder renews the registered nurse license. All advanced practice registrations are invalid if not renewed on that date.

b. Renewals postmarked after the expiration date of the Registered Nurse license may be assessed a penalty fee.

c. A canceled check or a receipt from the Board shall be considered proof of renewal until the renewed registration is received.

4.3 . An applicant who does not complete the registration process within one year of the date of application shall complete the application process again including payment of the application fee and all document submission.

4. WITHDRAWAL OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTRATION

- 4.1 An Advanced Practice Nurse may request to voluntarily withdraw their registration as an Advanced Practice Nurse in each Role or Specialty in which they were granted inclusion on the Advanced Practice Registry by the Board.
- 4.2 The Board may withdraw an Advanced Practice Nurse's registration on the Advanced Practice Registry in one or more of the Roles or Specialties for which the Advanced Practice Nurse was granted recognition, if the Board has reasonable cause to believe that the Advanced Practice Nurse no longer meets the requirements as set forth in section 2 of these Chapter XIV Rules.
- 4.3 The Board may withdraw an Advanced Practice Nurse's registration on the advanced Practice Registry in one or more of the Roles or Specialties for which the Advanced Practice Nurse was granted recognition, if the Board has reasonable cause to believe that the Advanced Practice Nurse is unable to practice Advanced Practice Nursing with reasonable skill and safety.

5. RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTRATION

- 5.1 Renewal of registration on the Advanced Practice Registry is required at the time of the Advanced Practice Nurse's Colorado professional nurse license renewal. Multi-state compact licensed professional nurses granted inclusion on the Advanced Practice Registry shall be required to renew their registration every two years and shall be issued with a specific expiration date.
- 5.2 At the time of reinstatement of inclusion on the Advanced Practice Registry, the Applicant shall submit an application on the current Board approved application forms, pay the current application fee, and submit supporting documentation for each Role and Specialty in which the Applicant wishes to practice Advanced Practice Nursing.
- 5.3 The Applicant may be required to demonstrate continued competency in each Role or Specialty in which they wish to be included on the Advanced Practice Registry at the time they apply for reinstatement.
- 5.4 Reinstatement of Advanced Practice registration following disciplinary action requires compliance with all requirements set forth in section 2 of these Chapter XIV Rules and any requirements set forth by the Board.

6. DISCIPLINE OF ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES

- 6.1 Advanced Practice Nurse discipline and proceedings shall be the same as set forth in C.R.S. 12-38-116.5 and 12-38-117.

Adopted: July 30, 2008
Effective: October 1, 2008

II. EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES' REGISTRATION ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1995 UNTIL JULY 1, 2008.

- 2.1 An applicant to be registered as a Certified Nurse Midwife must meet the standards for education and certification established by the American College of Nurse- Midwives (ACNM) or its designee. Documentation required shall be ACNM confirmation of certification.
- 2.2 An applicant to be registered as a Clinical Nurse Specialist must either (1) complete a nationally accredited educational program which confers a graduate degree in a clinical nursing specialty or (2) pass a national advanced practice certification examination. Documentation required shall be a transcript of the conferred degree or verification of national advanced practice certification.
- 2.3 An applicant to be registered as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist must complete a program accredited by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists' (AANA) Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Program and pass the national certification examination as administered by the AANA Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists. Documentation required shall be AANA confirmation of certification or recertification.
- 2.4 An applicant to be registered as a Nurse Practitioner must either (1) complete a nationally accredited educational program for Nurse Practitioners or (2) pass a national advanced practice certification examination. Documentation required shall be transcripts or other written proof of program completion or national advanced practice certification.

III. OTHER REQUIREMENTS WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED ARE:

- 3.1 Possession of an active, current Colorado license as a Professional Nurse, without current disciplinary sanctions.
- 3.2 Submission of application on Board approved form(s).
- 3.3 Payment of application fee.
- 3.4 The Board reserves the right to evaluate documentation of education, examination, certification, and/or experience provided by an applicant and establish the area of specialty it deems appropriate.