



GEORGIA BOARD OF NURSING

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO RULES CHAPTER 410-4 LICENSURE BY REINSTATEMENT

Purpose/Main Feature: The purpose of the rule amendment is to update licensure and reentry requirements and renumber Board rules as part of the combination of the Georgia Board of Nursing and the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Practical Nurses.

410-4-.01 Development and Implementation of New Nursing Education Programs. Amended

(1) To obtain approval by the Board for the development of a new nursing education program, the chief administrative officer of a parent institution proposing the development and implementation of a new nursing education program must submit a letter of intent to the Board. The following information must be included:

- (a) a completed application signed by the chief administrative officer of the parent institution;
- (b) a board-approved feasibility study, completed within one year of the date of the letter, which includes, but is not limited to: rationales for the establishment of the proposed nursing education program documenting an educational need which cannot be met by existing nursing education programs; financial resources; educational facilities and resources; faculty members; and practice settings;
- (c) evidence of accreditation of the parent institution by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
- (d) a written plan for the recruitment and appointment of a qualified nurse administrator and faculty members to teach courses across the curriculum; and
- (e) the nonrefundable, required fee which does not guarantee any approval status;
- (f) documentation of the appointment of a registered nurse, currently licensed in Georgia, with the graduate nursing education and expertise necessary to develop and implement the proposed nursing education program and assess its outcomes;
- (g) an affidavit of approval of the proposed nursing education program by the highest governing body of the parent institution within one year of the date of submission of the application;
- (h) documentation of projected revenue sources (federal, state, private, grants, gifts) and expenditures for five (5) fiscal years to support the development and implementation of the proposed nursing education program. The information must include, but is not limited to: appointment of sufficient qualified nursing faculty members (consistent with Rule 410-3-.05); appointment of secretarial personnel and support services; and provision of print and non-print learning resources, academic support courses, and educational resources in compliance with Board rules;
- (i) a written description for each practice setting proposed for learning activities with a letter of commitment from practice setting personnel to include the possible impact on existing, affiliating nursing programs; and
- (j) a five-year timeline for the development and implementation of the nursing education

program which includes cohorts of students and faculty members; and

(k) a proposed timeline for initiating and expanding the program.

(2) The nurse administrator and at least two (2) (full-time or part-time) faculty members with the graduate nursing education and expertise necessary to develop and implement the nursing education program and assess its outcomes, must be appointed by the parent institution to submit the following materials for Board review at least twelve (12) months prior to the enrollment of students in the first nursing course(s):

(a) faculty qualification records for the nurse administrator and faculty members;

(b) program purpose or mission statement;

(c) program philosophy/assumptions;

(d) goals/outcomes of the curriculum;

(e) written plan for the organization and development of the curriculum;

(f) curriculum plan, consistent with Rule 410-3-.04, showing the placement, sequence, and credit distribution of all nursing and non-nursing courses;

(g) syllabus for each nursing course to include the title, credit distribution, prerequisites and corequisite courses, goals/outcomes, and course outline;

(h) plan for continuous quality assessment and improvement consistent with Rule 410-3-.03(8);

(i) information specific to the nursing education program, including but not limited to, admissions, options for advanced placement, acceleration, part-time study, articulation, progression, graduation, health requirements, the potential for criminal background checks and expanded medical profiles, and appeals;

(j) a current financial report including expenditures to date consistent with Rule 410-4-.01(3)(c);

(k) a plan for the recruitment of students; and

(l) current catalog and student handbook for the parent institution.

(m) any substantive changes since the review of previous reports;

(n) detailed information for each nursing course in the curriculum consistent with Rule 410-3-.04;

(o) faculty qualification records for any new faculty members;

(p) a description of any additional practice setting(s) with a written commitment from practice setting representatives to include the possible impact on existing affiliating nursing programs;

(q) a current financial report including expenditures to date consistent with Rule 410-4-.01(3)(c); and

(r) an update on projected enrollment;

(3) Board representatives will conduct site visits to a developing nursing education program as necessary.

(4) Nursing education programs with Initial Approval are required to comply with all Board rules.

410-4-.01 Licensure by Reinstatement (RN)

(1) An applicant for licensure by reinstatement who was previously licensed as a registered nurse in the state of Georgia must submit the following:

(a) A complete application containing data required by the Board attesting that all information contained in, or referenced by, the application is complete and accurate and is not false or misleading;

(b) The required application processing fee which is not refundable;

- (c) Completed registration as required by the Board to cause the submission of a criminal background check as required by O.C.G.A. § 43-26-7(d)(3);
- (d) Documentation of one of the following within four years immediately preceding the date of application:
1. Five hundred (500) hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse as documented on the verification of employment form provided by the Board and, effective February 1, 2016, documentation of completion of one of the five competency requirements as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-9 within two years preceding the date of application for reinstatement;
 2. Graduation from a nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-3(1.2); or
 3. Completion of a Board approved reentry program as defined in Rule 410-4-03.
- (e) Secure and verifiable documentation of United States citizenship or lawful presence in the United States as required by Georgia law; and
- (f) Any additional information requested by the Board needed to establish eligibility.
- (2) Reinstatement of the license is within the discretion of the Board.
- (3) The Board may require the passage of an examination or other competency assessments. The Board, in its discretion, may impose any remedial requirements deemed necessary.
- (4) The Board may deny reinstatement for failure to demonstrate current knowledge, skill and proficiency in the practice of nursing or being mentally or physically unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety or for any ground set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-11.
- (5) The denial of reinstatement is not a contested case within the meaning of Chapter 13 of Title 50, but the applicant shall be entitled to an appearance before the Board.
- (6) An application is active for one year after which a new application and fee are required.
- (7) An applicant who is under investigation for possible violation of the Nurse Practice Act may not be issued a license until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Board. The license may be denied or sanctioned despite the applicant meeting all other criteria for licensure.

O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-7(d), 46-26-8, 43-26-9, and 43-26-9.1

410-4-.02 Licensure by Reinstatement (LPN)

- (1) An applicant for licensure by reinstatement who was previously licensed as a practical nurse in the state of Georgia must submit the following:
- (a) A complete application containing data required by the Board attesting that all information contained in, or referenced by, the application is complete and accurate and is not false or misleading;
- (b) The required application processing fee which is not refundable;
- (c) Completed registration as required by the Board to cause the submission of a criminal background check as required by O.C.G.A. § 43-26-36.1;
- (d) Documentation of one of the following within four years immediately preceding the date of application:
1. Five hundred (500) hours of licensed practice as a practical nurse as documented on the verification of employment form provided by the Board;
 2. Graduation from a nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-32(1.1); or
 3. Completion of a Board approved reentry program as defined in Rule 410-4-.04.
- (e) Secure and verifiable documentation of United States citizenship or lawful presence in the United States as required by Georgia law; and

- (f) Any additional information requested by the board needed to establish eligibility.
- (2) Reinstatement of the license is within the discretion of the Board.
- (3) The Board may require the passage of an examination or other competency assessments. The Board, in its discretion, may impose any remedial requirements deemed necessary.
- (4) The Board may deny reinstatement for failure to demonstrate current knowledge, skill and proficiency in the practice of nursing or being mentally or physically unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety or for any ground set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-40.
- (5) The denial of reinstatement is not a contested case within the meaning of Chapter 13 of Title 50, but the applicant shall be entitled to an appearance before the Board.
- (6) An application is active for one year after which a new application and fee are required.
- (7) An applicant who is under investigation for possible violation of the Nurse Practice Act may not be issued a license until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Board. The license may be denied or sanctioned despite the applicant meeting all other criteria for licensure.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-26-31, 43-26-32, 43-26-35, 43-26-36, 43-26-36.1, and 43-26-39

410-4-.03 Reentry (RN)

- (1) An applicant for licensure by endorsement or reinstatement that has not provided documentation of at least five hundred (500) hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse or graduation from an approved nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-3(1.2) must complete a Board approved reentry program prior to licensure.
- (2) A Board approved reentry program is comprised of forty (40) contact hours of didactic study and one hundred and sixty (160) hours of clinical study.
 - (a) Didactic study courses must be selected from Board approved continuing competency providers and must include the following areas of study:
 - 1. Physician Orders
 - 2. Medication Administration
 - 3. Intravenous (IV) Therapy
 - 4. Respiratory Care
 - 5. Physical Assessment
 - 6. Documentation
 - (b) Clinical study must include the following areas of practice:
 - 1. Functions of the registered nurse as defined in O.C.G.A. §43-26-3(6) and (8);
 - 2. Instruction in and opportunities to demonstrate ability to safely practice nursing and knowledge in caring for clients;
 - (c) Review of the Georgia Nurse Practice Act and Board rules;
 - (d) Evidence of current health care provider cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification;
- (3) A reentry plan must contain the following information:
 - (a) Outline for the completion of the didactic and clinical components of the plan which contains the following:
 - 1. Course objectives, content outline and time allocation;
 - 2. Didactic and clinical learning experiences including teaching methodologies;
 - 3. Plan for evaluation of competencies and ability to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety.

- 4. List of all instructors or preceptors and their functions and teaching roles;
- 5. Projected schedule for the clinical component; and
- 6. Evidence of clinical resources which documents support and availability for required experiences.
- (4) Reentry programs may be conducted at a post-secondary educational institution, a health care facility or other agency.
- (5) A reentry program must be coordinated by a registered nurse licensed in good standing with the Georgia Board of Nursing who has had at least two (2) years experience in direct patient nursing practice as a registered nurse or other licensed practitioner as approved by the Board.
- (6) A reentry program must be approved by the Board and a temporary permit issued to the applicant prior to the start of the clinical component.
- (7) A reentry program must be completed within six months after approval by the Board.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-7(c) and (d), 43-26-8 and 43-26-9

410-4-.04 Reentry (APRN)

- (1) An applicant for initial authorization or reinstatement that has not provided documentation of at least five hundred (500) hours of licensed practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in the area of practice for which an application was submitted or graduation from an approved nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-3(1.2) must complete a Board approved reentry program before obtaining authorization.
- (2) A Board approved reentry program is comprised of forty (40) hours of didactic study and one hundred and sixty (160) hours of clinical study. Course objectives must be stated which show the relationship between theory and practice and indicate behaviors consistent with the ability to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse with reasonable skill and safety. The Board may waive the forty (40) hours of didactic study if the applicant has passed a Board approved certification exam within the four years preceding the date of application.
- (3) Reentry programs may be conducted at a post-secondary educational institution, a health care facility or other agency.
- (4) A reentry program must be coordinated by an advanced practice registered nurse licensed and authorized in good standing with the Georgia Board of Nursing, practicing in the population of the reentry candidate's certification, and who has had at least two (2) years experience in direct patient nursing practice as an advanced practice registered nurse or other licensed practitioner as approved by the Board.
- (5) A reentry program must be approved and a temporary permit must be issued prior to the applicant prior to the start of the clinical component.
- (6) A reentry program must be completed within six months of after approval by the Board.
- (7) A reentry program shall incorporate the following:
 - (a) Common medical-surgical conditions and management of common nursing problems associated with these conditions, including mental health principles associated with management of nursing problems;
 - (b) Functions of the advanced practice registered nurse as defined in Chapter 410-11;
 - (c) Instruction in and opportunities to demonstrate ability to safely practice nursing and knowledge in caring for clients with common medical-surgical problems;
 - (d) Review of the Georgia Nurse Practice Act and Board Rules;

(e) Outline for the completion of the didactic and clinical components of the plan which contains the following:

1. Course objectives, content outline and time allocation;
2. Didactic and clinical learning experiences including teaching methodologies; and
3. Plan for evaluation of student competencies and ability to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety.
4. List of all instructors or preceptors and their functions and teaching roles; and
5. Projected schedule for the clinical component.

(f) Evidence of current health care provider cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification; and

(g) Evidence of clinical resources which documents support and availability for required experiences.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-26-2, and 43-26-5

410-4-.05 Reentry (LPN)

(1) An applicant for licensure by endorsement or reinstatement that has not provided documentation of at least five hundred (500) hours of licensed practice as a licensed practical nurse or graduation from an approved nursing education program as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-32(1.1) must complete a Board approved reentry program prior to licensure.

(2) A Board approved reentry program is comprised of forty (40) hours of didactic study and one hundred and sixty (160) hours of clinical study. Course objectives must be stated which show the relationship between theory and practice and indicate behaviors consistent with the ability to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety.

(3) Reentry programs may be conducted at a post-secondary educational institution, a health care facility or other agency.

(4) A reentry program must be coordinated by a registered nurse licensed in good standing with the Georgia Board of Nursing who has had at least two (2) years experience in direct patient nursing practice as a registered nurse.

(5) A reentry program must be approved and a temporary permit must be issued prior to the applicant prior to the start of the clinical component.

(6) A reentry program must be completed within six months of after approval by the Board.

(7) A reentry program shall incorporate the following:

(a) Common medical-surgical conditions and management of common nursing problems associated with these conditions, including mental health principles associated with management of nursing problems;

(b) Functions of the licensed practical nurse as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-26-32(1) and (7);

(c) Instruction in and opportunities to demonstrate ability to safely practice nursing and knowledge in caring for clients with common medical-surgical problems;

(d) Review of the Georgia Nurse Practice Act and Board rules;

(e) Outline for the completion of the didactic and clinical components of the plan which contains the following:

1. Course objectives, content outline and time allocation;
2. Didactic and clinical learning experiences including teaching methodologies; and
3. Plan for evaluation of student competencies and ability to practice nursing with reasonable

skill and safety.

4. List of all instructors or preceptors and their functions and teaching roles; and

5. Projected schedule for the clinical component.

(f) Evidence of current health care provider cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification;
and

(g) Evidence of clinical resources which documents support and availability for required
experiences.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-26-38, and 43-26-39