



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management or administration of health care personnel and patient care</li> <li>• Subjects approved by the board that are required as part of a formal nursing program but that are more advanced than those completed for original licensure</li> </ul>	
<p>Completion of at least 30 contact hours of continuing education for renewal of a license; <u>the applicant shall earn at least 20 of the contact hours in a continuing education program provided</u></p> <p>(A) Under accreditation standards establish or followed by one of the following organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)</li> <li>(ii) American Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)</li> <li>(iii) Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)</li> <li>(iv) A nurse practitioner certifying body (i.e. AANP)</li> <li>(v) A nurse anesthetist certifying body</li> </ul>	12 AAC 44.610
<p>(B) By a sponsor which an applicant obtain board approval; the board will approve only those sponsors who offer “continuing education: as defined in (c ) (2) of this section</p> <p>(c ) (2): “continuing education” means a systematic educational experience that grants academic credit or contact hours beyond the basic nursing program preparation</p> <p><b>This list is not meant to be all inclusive. A nurse may apply the Board to determine if the continuing education taken is approved. Classes on this list have been approved by the Board of Nursing.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) AMA PRA Category 1</li> <li>(2) BON approved courses from other states</li> <li>(3) ACEN approved courses</li> <li>(4) Prescriber’s Letter</li> <li>(5) Up-To-Date CME</li> <li>(6) AAFP – American Academy of Family Physicians</li> <li>(7) Audio Digest</li> <li>(8) International Association for Continuing Education &amp; Training</li> <li>(9) Medscape</li> <li>(10) Montana Nurses Association</li> <li>(11) American Psychological Association</li> </ul>	12 AAC 44.610
<p>No more than 10 contact hours may be earned through in-service nursing education offered by a licensed health care facility</p>	12 AAC 44.610 (a) (2)
<p>The board will not accept continuing education contact hours for the completion of courses in cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or basic life support (BLS). The board will accept CE’s for renewals of ACLS, PALS, and other advanced courses for RN’s and not ANPs.</p>	12 AAC 44.610 (d) RN advisory opinion 7/2014

Continuing education credits earned to reinstate, renew an expired license, or used for CE after a failing a previous audit may not be used to satisfy the continuing education requirements for a future renewal or reinstatement.	12 AAC 02.965 (a)
The department will audit compliance of licenses with continuing competency requirements. Ten percent of the total number of licensees in that profession if the total number of licensees is less than 3,000 (LPN) Five percent of the total number of licenses in that profession if the total number of licensees is 3,000 or more (RN)	12 AAC 02.960 (a) 12 AAC 02.960 (c ) (1) 12 AAC 02.960 (c ) (2)
A nurse may meet continuing competency requirements without meeting the requirements of 12 AAC 44.610 – 12 AAC 44.630 by documenting that after the last renewal date, the nurse has: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Completed a nursing refresher course approved by the board, or</li> <li>2. Attained a degree or certificate in nursing, or made progress toward one, beyond the education requirements for the nurse’s original license by successfully completing at least 6 academic credits in courses required for the degree or certificate, or</li> <li>3. Successfully completed the NCLEX</li> </ol>	12 AAC 44.640

**Advanced Nurse Practitioner Continuing Education Specific Regulations**

An ANP’s prescriptive authority must be renewed biennially with the ANP authorizations. The renewal application must include the applicant’s certification of completion, during the previous two years, of 12 contact hours of continuing education in advanced pharmacotherapeutics and 12 contact hours of continuing education in clinical management of patients. These 24 hours of continuing education may be counted as part of the continuing education hours described in 12 AAC 44.610 (a) (c )	12 AAC 44.440 (f)
Contact hours used for initial authorization as an ANP may not be used again for renewal of the authorization unless the initial authorization is within 180 days of the renewal deadline.	12 AAC 44.400 (i)
(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of 12 AAC 02.960 and this section, the board will request that the department randomly select 25% of the total advanced nurse practitioner authorizations for audit.	12 AAC 44.660 (b)
A certified nurse anesthetist renewal application must include the applicant’s certification of completion during the previous two years, of 12 hours of continuing education in advanced pharmacotherapeutics and 12 contact hours of continuing education in clinical management of patient. These 24 hours of continuing education may also be counted as part of the continuing education hours described in 12 AAC 44.410 (a) (c )	12 AC 44.525 (e )

## Continuing Competency Statutes and Regulations

**Sec. 08.68.276. Continuing competence required.** A license to practice nursing may not be renewed unless the nurse has complied with continuing competence requirements established by the board by regulation.

**12 AAC 44.600. PURPOSE OF CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS.** The purpose of continuing competency requirements is to ensure that nurses maintain the ability to safely and effectively apply nursing knowledge, principles, and concepts in the practice of registered or practical nursing as defined in AS 08.68.850. Before a license can be renewed each biennial period, a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse must document either

- (1) compliance with 12 AAC 44.640; or
- (2) completion of two of the following three methods for maintaining continuing competency:
  - (A) continuing education as prescribed under 12 AAC 44.610;
  - (B) professional activities as prescribed under 12 AAC 44.620; and
  - (C) nursing employment as prescribed under 12 AAC 44.630.

**12 AAC 44.610 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.** (a) Except as provided in (d) of this section, the board will accept continuing education toward fulfillment of the continuing competency requirements set out in 12 AAC 44.600 if the applicant documents

(1) completion of at least 30 contact hours of continuing education for renewal of a license, during the two years before the licensing period for which the applicant seeks renewal; the applicant shall earn at least 20 of the contact hours in a continuing education program provided

(A) under the accreditation standards established or followed by one of the following organizations:

- (i) American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC);
- (ii) Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME);
- (iii) Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) – courses with a “P” designation or identification number;
- (iv) a nurse practitioner certifying body;
- (v) a nurse anesthetist certifying body; or

(B) by a sponsor for which an applicant obtains board approval; the board will approve only those sponsors who offer “continuing education” as defined in (c)(2) of this section;

(2) that no more than 10 of the contact hours required under (1) of this subsection were earned through in-service nursing education offered by a licensed health care facility that does not meet the qualifications required under (1) of this subsection; and

(3) that the contact hours required under (1) of this subsection were earned in at least one of the following subject areas:

- (A) nursing practice areas and special health care problems;
- (B) biological, physical, or behavioral sciences;
- (C) legal or ethical aspects of health care;
- (D) management or administration of health care personnel and patient care;
- (E) subjects approved by the board that are required as part of a formal nursing program but that are more advanced than those completed for original licensure.

(b) The board will accept continuing education contact hours that are part of a mediated learning system such as educational television, audio or video cassettes, the Internet, or printed media, or that are part of an independent study program, if the system or program is accredited by an agency that the board has approved. The board will maintain a list of accrediting agencies and will approve an accrediting agency that is approved by a national certifying body.

(c) In this section,

(1) “contact hour” means a minimum of 60 minutes of actual organized instruction; academic credit will be converted to contact hours as follows:

- (A) one quarter academic credit equals 10 contact hours;
- (B) one semester academic credit equals 15 contact hours;

(2) “continuing education” means a systematic educational experience that grants academic credit or contact hours beyond the basic nursing program preparation.

(d) The board will not accept continuing education contact hours or in-service hours for the completion of courses in cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or basic life support (BLS).