

Chapter 44. Board of Nursing.

(Words in **boldface and underlined** indicate language being added; words [CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED] indicate language being deleted.)

12 AAC 44.321(d) is amended to read:

(d) The form titled *Application Checklist for **Licensure** [AUTHORIZATION] to Practice as an Advanced **Practice Registered** Nurse [PRACTITIONER] and to Have Prescriptive Authority, dated **June 2018** [JULY 2012], is adopted by reference. This form is established by the board for review by staff of an application for initial **licensure** [AUTHORIZATION] to practice as an advanced **practice registered** nurse [PRACTITIONER], including **requirements for an advanced practice registered nurse** [A NONRENEWABLE PERMIT] to practice as **a certified registered nurse anesthetist, certified clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse practitioner, or certified nurse midwife; focus in one or more roles or population foci;** [AN ADVANCED NURSE PRACTITIONER] and authority to prescribe and dispense legend drugs or prescribe controlled substances.*

12 AAC 321(e) is repealed:

(e) Repealed ____/____/_____. [THE FORM TITLED *APPLICATION CHECKLIST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE AS A CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST OR TO HAVE PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY*, DATED JULY 2012, IS ADOPTED BY REFERENCE. THIS FORM IS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD FOR REVIEW BY STAFF OF AN APPLICATION FOR INITIAL AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE AS A CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST, INCLUDING A NONRENEWABLE CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST PERMIT AND

AUTHORITY TO PRESCRIBE LEGEND DRUGS OR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.]

(Eff. 10/8/95, Register 136; am 4/27/97, Register 142; am 6/16/2002, Register 162; am 7/30/2002, Register 163; am 5/2/2004, Register 170; am 2/9/2007, Register 181; am 3/4/2007, Register 181; am 3/28/2008, Register 185; am 12/27/2012, Register 204; am 5/16/2018, Register 226; am ____/____/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.68.100 AS 08.68.200 AS 08.68.251
AS 08.68.170 AS 08.68.210 AS 08.68.850
AS 08.68.190

Editor's note: The application checklist forms listed in 12 AAC 44.321 are available at the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing offices in Anchorage and Juneau.

12 AAC 44.400 is amended to read:

12 AAC 44.400. Requirements for initial licensure. (a) Except as provided in (e) and (f) of this section, an applicant for initial licensure to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) as defined in AS 08.68.850

(1) must have satisfactorily completed

(A) a formal accredited graduate educational course of study preparing in one of the APRN roles that

(i) is a minimum of one academic year in length;

(ii) prepares registered nurses to perform an expanded role in the delivery of health care;

(iii) includes a combination of classroom instruction and a

minimum of 500 separate, non-duplicated hours of supervised clinical practice;

(iv) **for nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, or clinical nurse specialists**, if completed on or after January 1, 1998, has distinct course offerings of three graduate credits or more in advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacotherapeutics, and advanced physical assessment, **as evidenced by an official transcript or other official documentation received directly from a graduate program accredited by a nursing accrediting body that is recognized by the United States Secretary of Education or that is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization**; and

(v) **for certified registered nurse anesthetists, if completed on or after January 1, 2016, has distinct course offerings in advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacotherapeutics, and advanced physical assessment, as** [IS] evidenced by an official transcript or other official documentation received directly from a graduate program accredited by a nursing accrediting body that is recognized by the United States Secretary of Education or that is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization;

(B) repealed 4/27/97;

(2) must hold a current license to practice as a registered nurse in this state;

(3) must hold a current certification of advanced practice registered nurse in the

population focus of nursing for which the applicant was educated as provided in (a) of this section, granted by a national certification body recognized by the board and as evidenced by

official documentation received directly from the certifying body;

(4) shall, in the absence of a continuing education requirement of the certifying body, submit documented evidence of having obtained 60 contact hours of continuing education in the population focus of the advanced practice registered nurse every two years;

(5) if intending to deliver health care services to the public, must submit with the application for initial licensure a consultation and referral plan; the plan must

(A) describe the applicant's clinical practice;

(B) identify the expected client population focus area, which is within the scope of practice of the applicant;

(C) list the applicant's method of routine consultations and referrals, the method of documenting routine consultations and referrals in the patient record, and the names and titles of health care providers that the applicant will use for routine consultations and referrals;

(D) list the applicant's method for emergency referrals; and

(E) repealed 10/3/2011;

(F) describe the process for quality assurance the applicant will use to evaluate the applicant's practice, including

(i) the use of standards that apply to the area of practice;

(ii) present or past review of the practice;

(iii) use of pre-established criteria; and

(iv) a written evaluation of the quality assurance review with a plan for corrective action, if indicated, and follow-up;

(6) shall submit a completed application on a form provided by the department;

the completed application must include

(A) the names and addresses of three persons who may be contacted as professional references;

(B) one fully completed reference form, that is signed by one of the persons named under (A) of this paragraph who is qualified to verify the applicant's competency to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse, and that indicates that the applicant has demonstrated competency to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse within the two years immediately before the date of application;

(C) the applicant's notarized signature certifying that the information in the application is correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge;

(D) a certified transcript sent directly to the department from the graduate APRN program of study showing the applicant has satisfactorily completed an educational course of study that meets the requirements of (1) of this subsection; and

(E) if the applicant graduated from an advanced practice registered nurse program that was not taught with English as the primary language, English textbooks, and English testing modules, verification of passing one of the following English proficiency examinations, with at least the following minimum scores:

(i) International English Language Testing System (IELTS) academic examination - overall score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 on all modules;

(ii) Test of English as a Foreign Language, paper-based test (TOEFL - PBT) - overall score of 560 with a score on the Test of Spoken English (TSE) of 50;

(iii) Test of English as a Foreign Language, computer-based test

(TOEFL - CBT) - overall score of 220 with a score on the Test of Spoken English (TSE) of 50;

(iv) Test of English as a Foreign Language, Internet-based test

(TOEFL - iBT) - overall score of 84 with a speaking score of 26; and

(7) shall submit the initial biennial licensure fee established by 12 AAC 02.280.

(b) Repealed 12/1/84.

(c) Repealed 4/27/97.

(d) To meet the requirements of (a)(3) of this section, an applicant for licensure to practice as an adult or family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner must submit

(1) certification issued by the American Nurses Credentialing Center before January 1, 2003 certifying that the applicant has passed the examination administered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center for

(A) psychiatric mental health clinical nurse specialist; or

(B) adult or family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner; or

(2) certification issued by the American Nurses Credentialing Center on or after January 1, 2003 certifying that the applicant has passed the examination administered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center for adult or family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist.

(e) Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, an applicant for initial authorization to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse who is a graduate of a foreign advanced practice registered nurse program may satisfy the requirements of (a) of this section by graduation from a foreign graduate level advanced practice registered nurse program that is

equivalent to an accredited advanced practice registered nurse education program in the United States. The applicant must submit an official transcript, mailed directly to the department from the foreign advanced practice registered nurse program, and accompanied by certified English translations if the original documents are not in English. The applicant must also submit a credentials evaluation from the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools verifying that the foreign advanced practice registered nurse education program from which the applicant graduated is equivalent to an accredited advanced practice registered nurse education program in the United States.

(f) Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, the graduate degree requirements of (a) of this section are satisfied by a

(1) certificate-prepared women's health care nurse practitioner, neonatal nurse practitioner, or nurse midwife who completed the individual's advanced nurse practitioner program before January 1, 2006;

(2) certificate-prepared nurse practitioner in a population focus recognized by the board, other than a population focus listed in (1) of this subsection, who completed the individual's advanced practice registered nurse program before January 1, 2003; or

(3) certificate-prepared certified registered nurse anesthetist who completed an accredited program before January 1, 2001.

(g) In this section,

(1) "accredited" means approved by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), the National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Program (COA), the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education, or another

national nursing accrediting organization at the time the applicant attended the program;

(2) "certificate-prepared" means an advanced practice registered nurse who graduated from an advanced practice registered nurse program that awarded a certificate. (Eff. 1/13/80, Register 73; am 5/16/81, Register 78; am 12/1/84, Register 91; am 11/7/87, Register 104; am 4/27/97, Register 142; am 11/2/2001, Register 160; am 11/16/2002, Register 164; am 3/28/2008, Register 185; am 11/19/2008, Register 188; am 4/16/2010, Register 194; am 10/3/2011, Register 200; am 12/27/2012, Register 204; am 3/19/2014, Register 209; am 8/10/2016, Register 219; am 5/16/2018, Register 226; am ___/___/____, Register ____)

Authority: AS 08.68.100 AS 08.68.850

Editor's note: Information on the Psychiatric Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist examination and the Adult or Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner examination referred to in 12 AAC 44.400 may be obtained from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, 8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3492; telephone: (800) 284-2378.