

1 21 NCAC 36 .0120 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, pages 25-27, as follows:
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3 **21 NCAC 36 .0120 DEFINITIONS**

4 The following definitions apply throughout this chapter unless the context indicates otherwise:

- 5 (1) "Academic term" means one semester of a school year.
- 6 (2) "Accountability/Responsibility" means being answerable for action or inaction of self, and of
7 others in the context of delegation or assignment.
- 8 (3) "Accredited institution" means an institution accredited by a United States Department of
9 Education approved institutional accrediting body.
- 10 (4) "Active Practice" means activities that are performed, either for compensation or without
11 compensation, consistent with the scope of practice for each level of licensee as defined in
12 G.S. 90-171.20(4), (7) and (8).
- 13 (5) "Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)" means a nurse practitioner, nurse
14 anesthetist, nurse-midwife or clinical nurse specialist.
- 15 (6) "Assigning" means designating responsibility for implementation of a specific activity or set of
16 activities to a person licensed and competent to perform such activities.
- 17 (7) "Clinical experience" means application of nursing knowledge in demonstrating clinical
18 ~~judgment.~~ judgment in a current or evolving practice setting where the student provides care
19 to clients under the [guidance] supervision of [an instructor] faculty or a preceptor.
- 20 (8) "Clinical judgment" means the application of the nursing student's knowledge, skills, abilities
21 and experience in making decisions about client care.
- 22 (9) "Competent" means having the knowledge, skills and ability to safely perform an activity or
23 role.
- 24 (10) "Continuing Competence" means the on-going acquisition and application of knowledge and
25 the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse
26 resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.
- 27 (11) "Contact Hour" means 60 minutes of an organized learning experience.
- 28 (12) "Continuing Education Activity" means a planned, organized learning experience that is
29 related to the practice of nursing or contributes to the competency of the nurse as defined in
30 21 NCAC 36 .0223 Subparagraph (a)(2).
- 31 (13) "Controlling institution" means the degree-granting organization or hospital under which the
32 nursing education program is operating.
- 33 (14) "Curriculum" means an organized system of teaching and learning activities directed toward
34 the achievement of specified learning objectives/outcomes.
- 35 (15) "Delegation" means transferring to a competent individual the authority to perform a selected
36 nursing activity in a selected situation. The nurse retains accountability for the delegation.
- 37 (16) "Debriefing" means an activity that follows a clinical or simulated experience and is led by a
38 trained faculty facilitator. Students' reflective thinking is encouraged, and feedback is

1 provided regarding the students' performance while various aspects of the completed
2 experiences are discussed.

3 ~~(16)~~(17) "Dimensions of Practice" means those aspects of nursing practice that include professional
4 responsibility, knowledge-based practice, legal/ethical practice and collaborating with others,
5 consistent with G.S. 90-171.20(4), (7) and (8).

6 ~~(17)~~(18) "Distance education" means the teaching and learning strategies used to meet the learning
7 needs of students, when the students and faculty are separate from each other.

8 (19) "External standardized examinations" means a commercially available standardized
9 predictive test that provides individual student scores that are linked to a probability of
10 passing the NCLEX™ examination.

11 ~~(18)~~(20) "Faculty directed clinical practice" means the responsibility of nursing program faculty in
12 overseeing student clinical learning including the utilization of preceptors.

13 ~~(19)~~(21) "Focused client care experience" means a clinical experience that ~~simulates~~ emulates an
14 entry-level work experience. The intent is to assist the student to transition to an entry-level
15 practice. There is no specific setting requirement. Supervision may be by faculty and
16 preceptor dyad or direct faculty supervision.

17 ~~(20)~~(22) "Interdisciplinary faculty" means faculty from professions other than nursing.

18 ~~(21)~~(23) "Interdisciplinary team" means all individuals involved in providing a client's care who
19 cooperate, collaborate, communicate and integrate care to ensure that care is continuous
20 and reliable.

21 (24) "Learning resources" means a variety of instrumental materials that faculty use to assist
22 students to meet the expectations for learning defined by the curriculum.

23 ~~(22)~~(25) "Level of Licensure" means practice of nursing by either a Licensed Practice Nurse or a
24 Registered Nurse as defined in G.S. 90-171.20(7) and (8).

25 ~~(23)~~(26) "Level of student" means the point in the program to which the student has progressed.

26 ~~(24)~~(27) "Maximum enrollment" means the total number of pre-licensure students that can be enrolled
27 in the nursing program at any one time. The number reflects the capacity of the nursing
28 program based on demonstrated resources sufficient to implement the curriculum.

29 ~~(25)~~(28) "Methods of Instruction" means the planned process through which teacher and student
30 interact with selected environment and content so that the response of the student gives
31 evidence that learning has taken place. It is based upon stated course objectives and
32 outcomes for learning experiences in classroom, ~~laboratory~~ laboratory, simulation and clinical
33 settings.

34 ~~(26)~~(29) "National Credentialing Body" means a credentialing body that offers certification or re-
35 certification in the licensed nurse's or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse's specialty area of
36 practice.

37 ~~(27)~~(30) "NCLEX-PN™" means the National Council Licensure Examinations for Practical Nurses.

38 ~~(28)~~(31) "NCLEX-RN™" means the National Council Licensure Examinations for Registered Nurses.

1 ~~(29)~~(32)"Nursing Accreditation body" means a national nursing accrediting body, recognized by the
2 United States Department of Education.

3 ~~(30)~~(33)"Nursing program faculty" means individuals employed full or part time by academic
4 institution responsible for developing, implementing, evaluation and updating nursing
5 curricula.

6 ~~(34)~~(34)"Nursing project" means a project or research study of a topic related to nursing practice that
7 includes a problem statement, objectives, methodology and summary of findings.

8 ~~(32)~~(35)"Participating in" means to have a part in or contribute to the elements of the nursing process.

9 ~~(33)~~(36)"Pattern of noncompliance" means episodes of recurring non-compliance with one or more
10 Rules in Section .0300.

11 ~~(34)~~(37)"Preceptor" means a registered nurse at or above the level of licensure that an assigned
12 student is seeking, who may serve as a teacher, mentor, role model and supervisor for a
13 faculty directed clinical experience.

14 ~~(35)~~(38)"Prescribing Authority" means the legal permission granted by the Board of Nursing and
15 Medical Board for the nurse practitioner and nurse midwife to procure and prescribe legend
16 and controlled pharmacological agents and devices to a client in compliance with Board of
17 Nursing rules and other applicable federal and state law and regulations.

18 ~~(36)~~(39)"Program Closure" means to cease operation of a nursing program.

19 ~~(37)~~(40)"Program Type" means a course of study that prepares an individual to function as an entry-
20 level practitioner of nursing. The three program types are:

21 (a) BSN - Curriculum components for Bachelor of Science in Nursing provides for the
22 attainment of knowledge and skill sets in the current practice in nursing, nursing
23 theory, nursing research, community and public health, health care policy, health
24 care delivery and finance, communications, therapeutic interventions and current
25 trends in health care. For this program type, the client is the individual, family, group,
26 and community.

27 (b) Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN)/Diploma in Registered Nursing - Curriculum
28 components for the ADN/Diploma in Registered Nursing provides for the attainment
29 of knowledge and skill sets in the current practice in nursing, community concepts,
30 health care delivery, communications, therapeutic interventions and current trends in
31 health care. For this program type, client is the individual, group of individuals, and
32 family.

33 (c) Practical Nurse Diploma - Curriculum prepares for functioning in a dependent role in
34 providing direct nursing care under the direction of a registered nurse or other health
35 care provider as defined by the Nursing Practice Act. Curriculum components
36 provide for the attainment of knowledge and skill sets in the current practice of
37 practical nursing, communications, therapeutic interventions, including

1 pharmacology, growth and development and current trends in health care. For this
2 program type client is the individual, or group of individuals.

3 ~~(38)~~(41)"Review" means collecting and analyzing information to assess compliance with Section
4 .0300 of this Chapter. Information may be collected by multiple methods including review of
5 written reports and materials, on-site observations and review of documents or in person or
6 telephone interview(s) and conference(s).

7 ~~(39)~~(42)"Rescind Approval" means a Board action that removes the approval status previously
8 granted.

9 ~~(40)~~(43)"Self Assessment" means the process whereby the individual reviews her or his own nursing
10 practice and identifies the knowledge and skills possessed, as well as those skills to be
11 strengthened.

12 (44) "Simulation" means a technique, not a technology, to replace or amplify clinical experiences
13 with guided experiences that evoke or replicate substantial aspects of the real world in a fully
14 interactive manner.

15 ~~(41)~~(45)"Specialty" means a broad, population-based focus of study encompassing the common
16 health-related problems of that group of patients and the likely co-morbidities, interventions
17 and responses to those problems.

18 ~~(42)~~(46)"Supervision" means the provision of guidance or direction, evaluation and follow-up by the
19 licensed nurse for accomplishment of an assigned or delegated nursing activity or set of
20 activities.

21 ~~(43)~~(47)"Survey" means an on-site visit for the purpose of gathering data in relation to reviewing
22 nursing programs compliance with Section .0300 of this Chapter.

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24 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23; 90-171.38;*
25 *Eff. April 1, 2003;*
26 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; July 1, 2012; November 1, 2008; May 1, 2006; December*
27 *1, 2005; August 1, 2005.*