

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.

23
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.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0302 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, pages 27-28, as follows:
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3 **21 NCAC 36 .0302 ESTABLISHMENT OF A NURSING PROGRAM - INITIAL APPROVAL**

4 (a) At least six months prior to the proposed enrollment of students in a nursing program, an institution
5 seeking approval to operate a nursing program shall employ a program director qualified pursuant to 21 NCAC
6 36 .0317(c) to develop the application documenting the following:

- 7 (1) a narrative description of the organizational structure of the program and its relationship to
8 the controlling institution, including accreditation status. The controlling institution must be an
9 accredited institution;
- 10 (2) a general overview of the proposed total curriculum that includes:
 - 11 (A) program philosophy, purposes, and objectives;
 - 12 (B) master plan of the curriculum, indicating the sequence for both nursing and non-
13 nursing courses, as well as prerequisites and corequisites;
 - 14 (C) course descriptions and course objectives for all courses; and
 - 15 (D) course syllabi pursuant to 21 NCAC 36.0321(i) for all first-year nursing courses;
- 16 (3) proposed student population;
- 17 (4) projected student enrollment;
- 18 (5) evidence of learning resources and clinical experiences available to implement and maintain
19 the program;
- 20 (6) financial resources adequate to begin and maintain program;
- 21 (7) physical facilities adequate to house the program;
- 22 (8) support services available to the program from the institution;
- 23 (9) approval of the program by the governing body of the parent institution; and
- 24 (10) a plan with a specified time frame for:
 - 25 (A) availability of qualified faculty as specified in 21 NCAC 36 .0318;
 - 26 (B) course syllabi as specified in 21 NCAC 36. 0321(h) of this Section for all nursing
27 courses;
 - 28 (C) student policies pursuant to 21 NCAC 36 .0320 of this Section for admission,
29 progression, and graduation of students; and
 - 30 (D) total program evaluation pursuant to 21 NCAC 36 ~~.0317(e)~~..0317(d).

31 (b) The application to establish a nursing program must be on a Board form, contain current and accurate
32 information, be complete, and be signed by the program director and the chief executive officer of the
33 controlling institution.

34 (c) The completed application shall be received by the Board not less than ~~90~~ 120 days prior to a regular
35 meeting of the Board to be considered for placement on the agenda of that meeting.

36 (d) The Board shall conduct an on-site survey of the proposed program and agencies after the application
37 meets all rule requirements and afford the petitioning institution an opportunity to respond to the survey.

1 (e) The Board shall consider all evidence, including the application, the survey report, and ~~any testimony~~
2 comments from representatives of the petitioning ~~institution~~ institution, public comments, and the status of
3 other nursing programs at the institution in determining approval status.

4 (f) If the Board finds, from the evidence presented, that the resources and plans meet all ~~rules~~ rule
5 requirements for establishing a new nursing program, the Board shall grant Initial Approval including a
6 maximum enrollment and implementation date.

7 (g) If the Board determines that a proposed program does not comply with all rules, initial approval shall be
8 denied.

9 (h) Failure of the controlling institution to submit documentation consistent with the time specified in the plan
10 of Subparagraph (a)(10) of this Rule shall result in Initial Approval being rescinded.

11 (i) Following the Initial Approval, if the first class of students are not enrolled in the program within one year,
12 the approval shall be rescinded.

13 (j) For 12 months following rescinded approval, the controlling institution shall not submit an application for
14 establishing a nursing program.

15 (k) A program may retain Initial Approval Status for the time necessary for full implementation of the
16 curriculum.

17 (l) Programs with Initial Approval shall be surveyed:

18 (1) during the final term of curriculum implementation of the program; and

19 (2) when there is information that the program may not be complying with Section .0300.

20 (m) If at any time it comes to the attention of the Board that a program on initial approval is not complying with
21 Section .0300 of this Chapter, the program, upon written notification, shall:

22 (1) correct the area of noncompliance and submit written evidence of correction to the Board; or

23 (2) submit and implement a plan for correction to the Board.

24 (n) If the Board determines that the program does not comply with Paragraph (m) of this Rule, Initial Approval
25 shall be rescinded.

26 (o) If, following the survey during the final term for curriculum implementation, the Boards finds that the
27 program is complying with Section .0300 of this Chapter, the Board shall place the program on Full Approval
28 status.

29 (p) If, following the survey during the final term for curriculum implementation the Board finds that the program
30 does not comply with the Section .0300 of this Chapter, the Board shall rescind Initial Approval and provide the
31 program with written notice of the Board's decision.

32 (q) Upon written request from the program submitted within 10 business days of the Board's written notice,
33 the Board shall schedule a hearing within 30 business days from the date on which the request was received.

34 (r) Following the hearing and consideration of all evidence provided, the Board shall assign the program Full
35 Approval status or shall enter an Order rescinding the Initial Approval status, which shall constitute closure of
36 the program pursuant to 21 NCAC 36 .0309.

37
38 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38;*

1 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
2 *Amended Eff. June 1, 1992; January 1, 1989; November 1, 1984; May 1, 1982;*
3 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 2001;*
4 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; January 1, 2009; December 1, 2005; August 1, 2002.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0303 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, pages 28-29, as follows:
2

3 **21 NCAC 36 .0303 EXISTING NURSING PROGRAM**

4 (a) All nursing programs under the authority of the Board may obtain national program accreditation by a
5 nursing accreditation body as defined in 21 NCAC 36 .0120(29).

6 (b) Full Approval

7 (1) The Board shall review approved programs at least every eight years as specified in G.S. 90-
8 171.40. Reviews of individual programs shall be conducted at shorter intervals upon request
9 from the individual institution or as considered necessary by the Board. National
10 accreditation self study reports shall provide basis for review for accredited programs.

11 (2) The Board shall send a written report of the review no more than 20 business days following
12 the completion of the review process. Responses from a nursing education program
13 regarding a review report or Board Warning Status as referenced in Paragraph (c) of this
14 Rule shall be received in the Board office by the deadline date specified in the letter
15 accompanying the report or notification of Warning Status. If no materials or documents are
16 received by the specified deadline date, the Board shall act upon the findings in the review
17 report and testimony of the Board staff.

18 (3) If the Board determines that a program has complied with the rules in this Section, the
19 program shall be continued on Full Approval status.

20 (4) If the Board determines a pattern of noncompliance with one or more rules in this Section, a
21 review shall be conducted. The program shall submit to the Board a plan of compliance to
22 correct the identified pattern. Failure to comply with the correction plan shall result in
23 withdrawal of approval, constituting closure, consistent with 21 NCAC 36 .0309.

24 (c) Warning Status

25 (1) If the Board determines that a program is not complying with the rules in this Section, the
26 Board shall assign the program Warning Status, and shall give written notice by certified mail
27 to the program specifying:

28 (A) the areas in which there is noncompliance;

29 (B) the date of notice by which the program must comply. The maximum timeframe for
30 compliance is two years; and

31 (C) the opportunity to schedule a hearing.

32 (2) On or before the required date of compliance identified in this Paragraph, if the Board
33 determines that the program is complying with the rules in this Section, the Board shall
34 assign the program Full Approval Status.

35 (3) If the Board finds the program is not in compliance with the rules in this Section by the date
36 specified in Part (c)(1)(B) of this Rule, ~~the Board shall withdraw approval constituting closure~~
37 ~~consistent with 21 NCAC 36 .0309, the program shall remain on Warning Status:~~

38 (A) a review by the Board shall be conducted during that time;

1 (B) following review, the Board may continue the program on Warning Status; or
2 (C) the Board may withdraw approval constituting closure consistent with 21 NCAC 36
3 .0309.

4 (4) Upon written request from the program, submitted within 10 business days of the Board's
5 written notice of Warning Status, the Board shall schedule a hearing within 30 business days
6 from the date on which the request was received.

7 (5) When a hearing is held at the request of the program and the Board determines ~~that:~~
8 ~~(A) —the program is in compliance with the rules in this Section, the Board shall assign the~~
9 ~~program Full Approval status; or Status.~~

10 ~~(B)(6) When a hearing is held at the request of the program and the Board determines that the~~
11 ~~program is not in compliance with the rules in this Section, the program shall remain on~~
12 ~~Warning Status. Status:~~

13 ~~(A) a review by the Board shall be conducted during that time.~~

14 ~~(B) following review, the Board may continue the program on Warning Status; or~~

15 ~~(C) the Board may withdraw approval constituting closure consistent with 21 NCAC 36~~
16 ~~.0309.~~

17 NOTE: The Board recommends but does not require that all nursing programs under the authority of the
18 Board pursue and maintain national nursing accreditation.

19
20 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b); 90-171.38; 90-171.39; 90-171.40;*

21 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

22 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; August 1, 2011; July 3, 2008; March 1, 2006; January 1,*
23 *2004; June 1, 1992; January 1, 1989.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0309 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, page 29 as follows:
2

3 **21 NCAC 36 .0309 PROCESS FOR CLOSURE OF A PROGRAM**

4 (a) When the controlling institution makes the decision to close a nursing program, the Administration of the
5 institution shall submit a written plan for the discontinuation of the program to the ~~Board.~~ Board and include
6 reason(s) for the closing of the program, date of intended closure, and a plan for students to complete this or
7 another approved program.

8 (b) When the Board closes a nursing program, the program director ~~shall develop and submit to the Board a~~
9 ~~plan, for discontinuation of the program including the transfer of students to approved programs. Closure shall~~
10 ~~take place after the transfer of students to approved programs.~~ shall, within 30 days, develop and submit a
11 plan for discontinuation of the program for Board approval. The plan shall address transfer of students to
12 approved programs.

13 (c) The controlling institution shall notify the Board of the arrangement for secure storage of ~~permanent~~
14 ~~records.~~ and access to academic records and transcripts.

15

16 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.38; 90-171.39; 90-171.40;*

17 *Eff. June 1, 1992;*

18 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; December 1, 2005.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0317 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, pages 29-30, as follows:

2
3 **21 NCAC 36 .0317 ADMINISTRATION**

4 (a) The controlling institution of a nursing program shall provide those human, physical, technical, and
5 financial resources and services essential to support program processes, outcomes, and maintain
6 compliance with Section .0300 of this Chapter.

7 (b) A full time registered nurse qualified pursuant to Paragraph (c) of this Rule shall have the authority for
8 the direction of the nursing program. This authority shall encompass responsibilities for maintaining
9 compliance with rules and other legal requirements in all areas of the program. The program director shall
10 have non-teaching time sufficient to allow for program organization, administration, continuous review,
11 planning, and development.

12 (c) Program director in a program preparing for initial nurse licensure shall satisfy the following
13 requirements:

- 14 (1) hold a current ~~unrestricted~~ unrestricted license or multistate licensure privilege to practice
15 as a registered nurse in North Carolina;
- 16 (2) have two years of full-time experience as a faculty member in a board approved nursing
17 program;
- 18 (3) be experientially qualified to lead the program to accomplish the mission, goals, and
19 expected program outcomes;
- 20 (4) hold either a baccalaureate in nursing or a graduate degree in nursing from an accredited
21 institution. If newly employed on or after January 1, 2016, hold a graduate degree from
22 an accredited institution. If newly employed on or after January 1, 2021, hold a graduate
23 degree in nursing from an accredited institution;
- 24 (5) prior to or within the first three years of employment, have preparation in teaching and
25 learning principles for adult education, including curriculum development, implementation,
26 and evaluation, appropriate to assignment. This preparation may be demonstrated by
27 one of the following:
 - 28 (A) completion of 45 contact hours of Board approved continuing education courses;
 - 29 (B) completion of a certificate program in nursing education;
 - 30 (C) nine semester hours of graduate course work;
 - 31 (D) national certification in nursing education; or
 - 32 (E) documentation of successful completion of structured, individualized
33 development activities of at least 45 contact hours approved by the Board.
34 Criteria for approval include content in the faculty role within the curriculum
35 implementation, objectives to be met and evaluated, review of strategies for
36 identified student population and expectations of student and faculty
37 performance;

1 (6) maintain competence in the areas of assigned responsibility; and

2 (7) have current knowledge of nursing practice for the registered nurse and the licensed
3 practical nurse.

4 (d) The nursing education program shall implement, for quality improvement, a comprehensive program
5 evaluation that shall include the following:

6 (1) students' achievement of program outcomes;

7 (2) evidence of program resources including fiscal, physical, human, clinical, and technical
8 learning resources; student support services, and the availability of clinical sites and the
9 viability of those sites adequate to meet the objectives of the program;

10 (3) measures of program outcomes for graduates;

11 (4) evidence that accurate program information for consumers is available;

12 (5) evidence that the head of the academic institution and the administration support
13 program outcomes;

14 (6) evidence that program director and program faculty meet board qualifications and are
15 sufficient in number to achieve program outcomes;

16 (7) evidence that the academic institution assures security of student information;

17 (8) evidence that collected evaluative data is utilized in implementing quality improvement
18 activities; and

19 (9) evidence of student participation in program planning, implementation, evaluation, and
20 continuous improvement.

21 (e) The controlling institution and the nursing education program shall communicate information
22 describing the nursing education program that is accurate, complete, consistent across mediums, and
23 accessible by the public. The following shall be accessible to all applicants and students:

24 (1) admission policies and practices;

25 (2) policy on advanced placement, transfer of credits;

26 (3) number of credits required for completion of the program;

27 (4) tuition, fees, and other program costs;

28 (5) policies and procedures for withdrawal, including refund of tuition or fees;

29 (6) grievance procedure;

30 (7) criteria for successful progression in the program including graduation requirements; and

31 (8) policies for clinical performance.

32
33 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38;*

34 *Eff. June 1, 1992;*

35 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; January 1, 2015; April 1, 2008; March 1, 2006.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0318 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, pages 30-31, as follows:
2

3 **21 NCAC 36 .0318 FACULTY**

4 (a) Nursing program faculty shall include full-time and part-time faculty members. Part-time faculty shall
5 participate in curriculum implementation and evaluation.

6 (b) Policies for nursing program faculty members shall be consistent with those for other faculty of the
7 institution. Variations in these policies may be necessary due to the nature of the nursing curriculum.

8 (c) Fifty percent or more of the nursing faculty shall hold a graduate degree.

9 (d) As of January 1, 2021, at least 80 percent of the full time faculty shall hold a graduate degree in
10 nursing.

11 (e) As of January 1, 2021, at least 50 percent of the part time faculty shall hold a graduate degree in
12 nursing.

13 (f) Hold a current unrestricted license or multistate licensure privilege to practice as a registered nurse in
14 North Carolina.

15 (g) Full-time and part-time nurse faculty who teach in a program leading to initial licensure as a nurse
16 shall:

17 (1) hold either a baccalaureate in nursing or a graduate degree in nursing from an accredited
18 institution;

19 (2) have two calendar years or the equivalent of full time clinical experience as a registered
20 nurse;

21 (3) if newly employed in a full time faculty position on or after January 1, 2016, hold a
22 graduate degree from an accredited institution, or obtain a graduate degree in nursing
23 from an accredited institution within five years of initial full time employment;

24 (4) prior to or within the first three years of employment, have preparation in teaching and
25 learning principles for adult education, including curriculum development, implementation,
26 and evaluation, appropriate to assignment. This preparation may be demonstrated by
27 one of the following:

28 (A) completion of 45 contact hours of Board approved continuing education courses;

29 (B) completion of a certificate program in nursing education;

30 (C) nine semester hours of graduate course work;

31 (D) national certification in nursing education; or

32 (E) documentation of successful completion of structured, individualized
33 development activities of at least 45 contact hours approved by the Board.
34 Criteria for approval include content in the faculty role within the curriculum
35 implementation, objectives to be met and evaluated, review of strategies for
36 identified student population and expectations of student and faculty
37 performance;

38 (5) maintain competence in the areas of assigned responsibility; and

1 (6) have current knowledge of nursing practice for the registered nurse and the licensed
2 practical nurse.

3 (h) Interdisciplinary faculty who teach in nursing program courses shall have academic preparation in the
4 content area they are teaching.

5 (i) Clinical preceptors shall have competencies, assessed by the nursing program, related to the area of
6 assigned clinical teaching responsibilities and serve as role models to the student. Clinical preceptors
7 may be used to enhance faculty-directed clinical learning experiences after a student has received basic
8 instruction for that specific learning experience. Clinical preceptors shall hold a current, unrestricted
9 license to practice as a registered nurse in North Carolina.

10 (j) Nurse faculty members shall have the authority and responsibility for:

11 (1) student admission, progression, and graduation requirements; and

12 (2) the development, implementation, and evaluation of the curriculum.

13 (k) Nurse faculty members shall be academically qualified and sufficient in number to implement the
14 curriculum as demanded by the course objectives, the levels of the students, the nature of the learning
15 environment, and to provide for teaching, supervision and evaluation.

16 (l) The faculty-student ratio for faculty directed preceptor clinical experiences shall be no larger than 1:15.
17 The faculty-student ratio for all other clinical experiences shall be no larger than 1:10.

18
19 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38; 90-171.83;*
20 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
21 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; January 1, 2015; August 1, 2011; November 1, 2008;*
22 *July 1, 2006; July 1, 2000; January 1, 1996; June 1, 1992; January 1, 1989; January 1,*
23 *1984.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0320 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, page 31, as follows:
2

3 **21 NCAC 36 .0320 STUDENTS**

4 (a) Students in nursing programs shall meet requirements established by the controlling institution. Additional
5 requirements may be stipulated by the nursing program for students because of the nature and legal
6 responsibilities of nursing education and nursing practice.

7 (b) Admission requirements and practices shall be stated and published in the controlling institution's
8 publications and shall include assessment of:

- 9 (1) record of high school graduation, high-school equivalent, or earned credits from a post-
10 secondary institution;
11 (2) achievement potential through the use of previous academic records and pre-entrance
12 examination cut-off scores that are consistent with curriculum demands and scholastic
13 expectations; and
14 (3) physical and emotional health that would provide evidence that is indicative of the applicant's
15 ability to provide safe nursing care to the public.

16 (c) The number of students enrolled in nursing courses shall not exceed the maximum number approved by
17 the Board as defined in 21 NCAC 36 .0302(f) and 21 NCAC 36 .0321(k) by more than 10 students.

18 (d) The nursing program shall publish policies in nursing student handbook and college catalog that provide
19 for identification and dismissal of students who:

- 20 (1) present physical or emotional problems which conflict with safety essential to nursing practice
21 and do not respond to treatment or counseling within a timeframe that enables meeting
22 program ~~objectives~~. objectives;
23 (2) demonstrate behavior which conflicts with safety essential to nursing ~~practice~~. practice; or
24 (3) fail to demonstrate professional behavior, including honesty, integrity, and appropriate use of
25 social media while in the nursing program of study.

26 (e) The nursing program shall maintain a three year average at or above 95 percent of the national pass rate
27 for licensure level pass rate on first writing of the licensure examination for calendar years ending December
28 31.

29 (f) The controlling institution shall publish policies in nursing student handbook and college catalog for transfer
30 of credits or for admission to advanced placement and the nursing program shall determine the total number
31 of nursing courses or credits awarded for advanced placement.
32

33 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38; 90-171.43;*
34 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

35 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; January 1, 2006; August 1, 1998; January 1, 1996; June 1,*
36 *1992; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1984.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0321 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, pages 31-32, as follows:

2
3 **21 NCAC 36 .0321 CURRICULUM**

4 (a) Nursing program curriculum shall:

- 5 (1) be planned by nursing program faculty;
- 6 (2) reflect the stated program philosophy, purposes, and objectives pursuant to 21 NCAC 36
7 .0302(a)(2);
- 8 (3) be consistent with the Statutes and Rules governing the practice of nursing;
- 9 (4) define the level of performance required to pass each course in the curriculum;
- 10 (5) enable the student to develop the nursing knowledge, skills and ~~competencies~~ abilities
11 necessary for the level, scope and competent practice consistent with the level of licensure
12 and scope in all applicable Rules as defined in 21 NCAC 36 .0221, .0224, .0225, and .0231
13 consistent with the level of licensure; and .0231;
- 14 (6) include content in the biological, physical, social and behavioral sciences to provide a
15 foundation for safe and effective nursing ~~practice.~~ practice;
- 16 (7) provide students the opportunity to acquire and demonstrate, through [theory] didactic
17 content and clinical experience under faculty supervision, the knowledge, skills, and abilities
18 required for safe, effective, competent nursing practice across the lifespan; and
- 19 (8) be revised as necessary to maintain a program that reflects changes and advances in health
20 care and its delivery.

21 (b) Didactic content and supervised clinical experience across the lifespan appropriate to program type shall
22 include:

- 23 (1) Implementing safety principles and practices, minimizing risk of harm to clients and providers
24 through both system effectiveness and individual performance;
- 25 ~~(1)(2)~~ (2) Using informatics to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate error and support decision
26 making; making;
- 27 ~~(2)(3)~~ (3) Employing evidence-based practice to integrate best research with clinical expertise and
28 client values for optimal care, including skills to identify and apply best practices to nursing
29 care by care;
- 30 ~~(A)(4)~~ ~~providing~~ Providing client-centered, culturally competent ~~care;~~ care by:
- 31 ~~(B)(A)~~ respecting client differences, values, preferences and expressed needs;
- 32 ~~(C)(B)~~ involving clients in decision-making and care management;
- 33 ~~(D)(C)~~ coordinating and managing continuous client care consistent with the level of
34 licensure. This includes demonstration of the ability to supervise others and provide
35 leadership of the profession appropriate for program type; and
- 36 ~~(E)(D)~~ promoting healthy lifestyles for clients and populations.
- 37 ~~(3)(5)~~ (5) Working in interdisciplinary teams to cooperate, collaborate, communicate and integrate
38 client care and health promotion.

1 (1) demonstrate that simulation faculty have been formally educated, and maintain competencies
2 in simulation and ~~debriefing theory;~~ debriefing; and

3 (2) provide a simulation environment with adequate faculty, space, equipment, and supplies to
4 simulate realistic clinical experiences to meet the curriculum and course objectives.

5 (n) Programs not holding national nursing accreditation shall limit simulation experiences to no more than
6 25% in any course, including the focused client care experience.

7 (o) Programs holding national nursing accreditation shall limit simulation experiences to:

8 (1) no more than 25% in the focused client care experience, and

9 (2) no more than 50% of clinical experience time in any other course.

10 (p) External standardized examinations shall not be used as a determinant of a student's progression or
11 graduation in a prelicensure nursing education program.

12
13 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38;*

14 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

15 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; June 1, 1992; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1984;*

16 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 2001;*

17 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2005; August 1, 2002.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0322 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, pages 32-33, as follows:
2

3 **21 NCAC 36 .0322 FACILITIES**

4 (a) Campus facilities shall be appropriate in type, number, and accessibility for the total needs of the program.

5 (b) Classrooms, ~~laboratories~~, laboratory/simulation space, and conference rooms shall be sufficient in size,
6 number, and types for the number of students and purposes for which the rooms are to be used. Lighting,
7 ventilation, location, and equipment must be suitable for the number of students and purposes for which the
8 rooms are to be used.

9 (c) Office and conference space for nursing program faculty members shall be appropriate and available for
10 uninterrupted work and privacy including conferences with students.

11 (d) Learning resources, including clinical experiences, shall be comprehensive, current, developed with
12 nursing faculty input, accessible to students and faculty and support the implementation of the curriculum.

13

14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38;*

15 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

16 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; January 1, 1996; June 1, 1992; January 1, 1989; May 1,*
17 *1988;*

18 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 2001;*

19 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2006; August 1, 2002.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0323 is adopted as published in NCR 31:01, pages 33, as follows:

2
3 **21 NCAC 36 .0323 RECORDS AND REPORTS**

4 (a) The controlling institution's publications describing the nursing program shall be accurate.

5 (b) There shall be a system for maintaining official records. Current and permanent student records shall
6 be stored in a secure manner that prevents physical damage and unauthorized access.

7 (c) Both permanent and current records shall be available for review by Board staff.

8 (d) The official permanent record for each graduate shall include documentation of graduation from the
9 program and a transcript of the individual's achievement in the program.

10 (e) The record for each currently enrolled student shall contain up-to-date and complete information,
11 including the following:

12 (1) documentation of admission criteria met by the student;

13 (2) high school graduation, high school equivalent, or earned credits from post-secondary
14 institution approved pursuant to G.S. 90-171.38(a); and

15 (3) transcript of credit hours achieved in the classroom, laboratory, and clinical instruction for
16 each course that reflects progression consistent with program policies.

17 (f) The nursing program shall file with the Board records, data, and reports in order to furnish information
18 concerning operation of the program as prescribed in the rules in this Section including:

19 (1) an Annual Report to be filed with the Board by November 1 of each year;

20 (2) a Program Description Report for non-accredited programs filed with the Board at least
21 30 days prior to a scheduled review; and

22 (3) notification by institution administration of any change of the registered nurse responsible
23 for the nursing program. This notification shall include a vitae for the new individual and
24 shall be submitted within ~~20~~ 10 business days of the effective date of the change.

25 (g) All communications relevant to accreditation shall be submitted to the North Carolina Board of
26 Nursing at the same time the communications are submitted to the accrediting body.

27 (h) The Board may require additional records and reports for review at any time to provide evidence and
28 substantiate compliance with the rules in this Section by a program and its associated agencies.

29 (i) The part of the application for licensure by examination to be submitted by the nursing program shall
30 include a statement verifying satisfactory completion of all requirements for graduation and the date of
31 completion. The nursing program director shall submit ~~the online verification form~~ to the Board within **one**
32 **month** ~~[10 business days]~~ following **completion of the [graduation from a]** Board approved nursing
33 program.

34
35 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38;*

36 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

1 *Amended Eff. December 1, 2016; January 1, 2015; December 1, 2005; January 1, 2004;*
2 *June 1, 1992; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1984.*