

# Position Statement

*Disclaimer: Items 2 and 3.4 are under review to align with requirements outlined in the new RN Regulations (2013)*

## Criteria For ARNNL Licensure

### 1. Definition Of Terms

The following definition of terms, as specified in the Position Paper prepared by the Subcommittee on Nursing Practice, Task Force on Entry to Practice (1988), clarify key concepts in nursing practice.

- a) **NURSING** is a professional service. The practice of nursing is a synthesis of attitudes, competencies, and knowledge applied to all aspects of caring for the client's health (promotion, protection, maintenance, restoration and palliation). It is goal-directed, continuing and comprehensive service. This service is carried out through collaboration with the client, who is an active participant, and with other health care professionals.
- b) **CLIENT** is the recipient of nursing service and includes individuals, families, aggregates or target groups, communities, and society. Clients are always viewed in relation to their environment.
- c) **HEALTH** is a resource for living and encompasses the physical, functional, spiritual, cultural, psychological, social, political and economic integrity of the client.
- d) **ENVIRONMENT** is the surrounding and circumstances within which nursing practice takes place. The environment includes the site of activity (hospital/institutions, person's home, educational facilities, workplace, clinics, etc.), programmes designed to address all aspects of the client's health, and resources available to the client and nurse. The environment consists of physical, social, political, and economic factors.
- e) **ROLE** is the function or set of behaviors which enables the nurse to provide a professional service to society, e.g. direct care giver, co-coordinator of care, educator, manager, researcher.
- f) **COMPETENCIES** are specific abilities required to perform a role. Competencies require knowledge, skills, judgments, values, and attitudes.

## 2. Maintenance Of Licence To Practice

### ARNNL By-law Article VI – Registration

#### Section 7.

#### Maintenance of Licence to Practise as Registered Nurse

A nurse seeking a practicing licence shall be required to verify that she has:

- a) practiced as a nurse for at least one hundred fifty (150) days\* during the preceding sixty (60) month period OR sixty (60) days\* during the preceding twenty-four (24) month period.  
OR
- b) completed a basic diploma or university diploma programme or baccalaureate nursing programme, or nurse practitioner programme, or graduate programme in a health related discipline during the preceding sixty (60) month period.  
OR
- c) successfully completed an approved nursing refresher or re-entry programme during the preceding sixty (60) month period.  
OR
- d) enrolled in a university nursing programme, nurse practitioner programme or graduate programme in a health related discipline, and at the time of admission was eligible for a practicing licence, for a maximum of sixty (60) months.

Council may require that documentary proof of the above requirements be submitted.

#### Section 8.

#### Maintenance of Licence to Practise as Nurse Practitioner

A nurse seeking a license to practise as a nurse practitioner shall be required to provide proof that the nurse:

- a) completed an approved nurse practitioner educational programme within the previous thirty-six (36) months, as stipulated in Section 3,  
OR
- b) has demonstrated that the nurse possesses the competencies to be a nurse practitioner within the previous thirty-six (36) months, as stipulated in Section 3,  
OR
- c) practiced as a nurse practitioner for a minimum of eighteen hundred (1800) hours within the previous thirty-six (36) months.

Council may require that documentary proof of the above requirements be submitted.

\* A day is 7.5 hours

- 2.1** To have time count toward maintaining eligibility for registration, the nurse:
- a) must have maintained registration within the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador for a period nursed in the Province, OR
  - b) must have maintained registration within the province, state or country for the period nursed outside the Province.
- 2.2** The nurse must provide official verification of hours practiced in nursing service for licence renewal.

### **3. Environment/Site Of Activity/Role**

- 3.1** If an agency, which oversees the site of activity, advertises for a nurse to fill a position, that position can be recognized as being in the practice of nursing, provided the time is spent in nursing service. On call and standby are not counted.
- 3.2.1** The following environments/roles can be acceptable as nursing service towards maintenance of nursing licensure:
- Institutional nursing
    - hospital
    - nursing home
    - penitentiary
    - correctional centre
    - rehabilitation centre
    - private duty
  - Doctor's/dentist's office nurse
  - Teaching
    - nursing programmes
    - nursing assistant programmes
    - auxiliary health care workers programmes
    - continuing nursing education programmes

- Community health
  - public health/community health nursing
  - home care nursing
  - St. John's Seniors Resource Centre programmes as follows:
    - a) All volunteer hours given by nurses, who hold ARNNL practicing licensure, to the following programmes:
      - **Wellness and Healthy Aging**
      - **Bereavement Support Group**
      - **Mall Walkers Club**
      - **Foot Care Clinics**
    - b) If it can be verified by the Centre that the visitor carried out nursing functions, e.g. assessment of needs, then the hours spent in nursing-related activities to the **Friendly Visiting Programme** can be recognized as nursing hours.
    - c) If it can be verified by the Centre that the volunteer's involvement was in a health-related capacity, e.g. lobbying for healthy public policy as it related to senior's health, then those hours given to the **Co-Operative Action for Seniors Programme** can be recognized as nursing hours.
    - d) If it can be verified by the Centre that the information being given to the senior is more than time and place of an event or contact person and it can be demonstrated that the nurse volunteer gave health-related information and/or counseling, then the respective hours given to the **Information and Referral Line Programme** can be recognized as nursing hours.
    - e) Other programmes can be recognized provided the activities are clearly nursing and/or health related.
      - private duty
      - perinatal programme
      - genetic counselling
      - non-profit health organizations, e.g.
        - Canadian Red Cross
        - Canadian Lung Association
        - Organ Procurement,
        - Newfoundland Cancer and Treatment Research Foundation
        - Alcohol and Drug Dependency Commission

- Occupational health nursing
- Consulting positions requiring nursing expertise
  - government
  - Newfoundland and Labrador Health Boards Association
- Research requiring nursing expertise
- Ambulance
  - air ambulance
  - airport nurses
- Independent practice
  - footcare
  - back care
  - holistic nursing
- Professional nursing association
  - nursing positions
- Newfoundland and Labrador Nurses Union
  - president
  - labour relations officers
- Private companies/agencies providing patient services
  - home health agencies
  - para-medical assessments

**3.3** The following non-remunerative nursing service activities may make up not more than ten percent (10%) of nursing practice (15 days or 112 hours every 5-year period):

- private duty
- conducting workshops in nursing related areas
- tutoring nursing students
- camp nurse

### **3.4 Continuing Education**

- a) A nurse, who is not enrolled in a university nursing programme but is completing courses towards a nursing degree, may, on an individual basis, request that the nursing courses completed at a university be considered as equivalent to hours of practice for licence renewal.

- b) A nurse who has completed a non-nursing university baccalaureate degree may request, on an individual basis, that some of the university courses be considered as equivalent to hours of nursing practice for licence renewal.
  - i) This request will be considered under the following conditions:
  - ii) The nurse was eligible for a practicing licence when she/he enrolled in the non-nursing university programme.
  - iii) The course(s) will be reviewed only on completion of the programme in order to evaluate which course(s) can be recognized as equivalent to required courses in the baccalaureate in nursing programme and which can be considered as electives if the nurse had completed a nursing degree.
  - iv) For the elective courses, the nurse **must** demonstrate how the work/assignments took a nursing focus.
  - v) The time-frame for equivalency must be in accordance with ARNNL By-law Article VI, Section 7.
- c) A nurse who is enrolled in an approved post-basic specialty nursing course/programme that is a minimum of the equivalent of 3 months full-time in length, may, on an individual basis, request that time spent completing the course be considered as equivalent to hours of practice for licence renewal.
- d) A nurse who has completed an approved post-basic specialty nursing course/programme that is the equivalent of a minimum of 3 months full-time in length, may, on an individual basis, request that the course be considered as equivalent to hours of practice for licence renewal.
- e) A nurse who is enrolled in a non-nursing specialty course/programme that is multi-disciplinary and offered to health professionals who have completed a diploma or degree, is relevant for nursing practice/education/administration/research, and would enhance the practice of nursing, and is a minimum of the equivalent of 3 months full-time in length, may, on an individual basis, request that time spent completing the course be considered as equivalent to hours of practice for licence renewal.

- f) A nurse who has completed a non-nursing specialty course/programme that is multi-disciplinary and offered to health professionals who have completed a diploma or degree, is relevant for nursing practice/education /administration/research, and would enhance the practise of nursing, and is the equivalent of a minimum of 3 months full-time in length, may, on an individual basis, request that the course be considered as equivalent to hours of practice for licence renewal.

3.5 Other requests for recognition may be presented for consideration on an individual basis.

#### **4. Job Description**

A job description is required and a list of job functions may be requested to have a position/role considered as nursing practice. The job description should reflect nursing service in accordance with sections 1 and 3, and the (ARNNL) Standards for Nursing Practice in Newfoundland and Labrador.

#### **5. Committee On Registration**

The Committee on Registration shall:

- a) review Criteria for ARNNL Licensure on a regular basis or as required.
- b) review a nurse's request for recognition of a job description as being in nursing service.

Approved:       - March 1994  
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