

1 21 NCAC 36 .0228 Clinical Nurse Specialist Practice is amended, with changes, as published in NCR 37:10, pages
2 757-759 as follows:

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4 **21 NCAC 36 .0228 CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST PRACTICE**

5 (a) Only a registered nurse who meets the qualifications outlined in Paragraph (b) of this Rule shall be approved by
6 the Board as a clinical nurse specialist to perform advanced practice registered nursing activities listed in Paragraph
7 (f) of this Rule.

8 (b) The Board shall approve an applicant who:

9 (1) has an active, unencumbered license to practice as a registered nurse in North Carolina or a state
10 that has adopted the Nurse Licensure Compact;

11 (2) has an unrestricted previous approval, registration, or license as a clinical nurse specialist if
12 previously approved, registered, or licensed as a clinical nurse specialist in another state, territory,
13 or possession of the United States;

14 (3) has successfully completed a master's or higher-level higher-level degree program that is accredited
15 by a nursing accrediting body approved by the United States Secretary of Education or the Council
16 for Higher Education Accreditation and meets the qualifications for clinical nurse specialist
17 certification by an approved national credentialing body under ~~Part (b)(4)(A)~~ Subparagraph (b)(4)
18 of this Rule; and

19 (4) ~~either:~~

20 (A) has current certification as a clinical nurse specialist from a national credentialing body
21 approved by the Board, as defined in Paragraph (h) of this Rule and ~~21 NCAC 36~~
22 ~~.0120(26); or 21 NCAC 36~~ ~~[.0120(26);~~ ~~.0120(33)].~~

23 (B) ~~meets requirements that are equivalent to national certification if no clinical nurse specialist~~
24 ~~certification is available in the specialty. The Board shall determine equivalence based on~~
25 ~~consideration of an official transcript and course descriptions validating Subparagraph~~
26 ~~(b)(3) of this Rule, a current curriculum vitae, work history, professional recommendations~~
27 ~~indicating evidence of at least 1,000 hours of clinical nurse specialist practice, and~~
28 ~~documentation of certificates indicating 75 contact hours of continuing education~~
29 ~~applicable to clinical nurse specialist practice during the previous five years.~~

30 (c) An applicant certified as a clinical nurse specialist by a national credentialing body prior to January 1, 2007, 2007
31 and who has maintained that certification and active clinical nurse specialist practice and holds a master's or higher
32 degree in nursing or a related field shall be approved by the Board as a clinical nurse specialist.

33 (d) New graduates seeking first-time clinical nurse specialist approval in North Carolina shall hold a master's or
34 doctoral higher-level degree or a post-master's post-graduate certificate from a clinical nurse specialist program
35 accredited by a nursing accrediting body approved by the U.S. United States Secretary of Education or the Council
36 for Higher Education Accreditation and shall meet all requirements in Subparagraph (b)(1) and Part (g)(3)(A) of this
37 Rule.

1 (e) A **certified** clinical nurse specialist seeking Board approval who has never practiced as a clinical nurse specialist
2 or has not practiced in more than two years shall complete a clinical nurse specialist refresher course approved by the
3 Board in accordance with 21 NCAC 36 .0220(o) and (p), consisting of common conditions and their management
4 related to the clinical nurse specialist's area of education and certification. A clinical nurse specialist refresher course
5 participant shall be granted limited clinical nurse specialist recognition that is specific to clinical activities taught in
6 the refresher course.

7 (f) The scope of practice of a clinical nurse specialist shall incorporate the basic components of nursing practice as
8 defined in Rule .0224 of this Section as well as the understanding and application of nursing principles at an advanced
9 practice registered nurse level in the area of clinical nursing specialization in which the clinical nurse specialist is
10 educationally prepared and for which competency is maintained, including:

- 11 (1) assessing clients' health status, synthesizing and analyzing multiple sources of data, and identifying
12 alternative possibilities as to the nature of a healthcare problem;
- 13 (2) diagnosing and managing clients' acute and chronic health problems within **an advanced practice**
14 **nursing framework; the essential core competencies for professional nursing education;**
- 15 (3) assessing for and monitoring the usage and effect of pharmacologic agents within **an advanced**
16 **practice nursing framework; the essential core competencies for professional nursing education;**
- 17 (4) formulating strategies to promote wellness and prevent illness;
- 18 (5) prescribing and implementing therapeutic and corrective non-pharmacologic nursing interventions;
- 19 (6) planning for situations beyond the clinical nurse specialist's expertise and consulting with or
20 referring clients to other health care providers as appropriate;
- 21 (7) promoting and practicing in collegial and collaborative relationships with clients, families, other
22 health care professionals, and individuals whose decisions influence the health of individual clients,
23 families, and communities;
- 24 (8) initiating, establishing, and using measures to evaluate health care outcomes and modify nursing
25 practice decisions;
- 26 (9) assuming leadership for the application of research findings for the improvement of health care
27 outcomes; and
- 28 (10) integrating education, consultation, management, leadership, and research into the clinical nurse
29 specialist role.

30 (g) A registered nurse seeking approval by the Board as a clinical nurse specialist shall:

- 31 (1) ~~complete the appropriate~~ **submit a completed** application that includes the following:
 - 32 (A) evidence of a master's or **doctoral higher-level** degree or a **post-master's post-graduate**
33 certificate, as set out in Subparagraph (b)(3) or Paragraph (d) of this Rule; and **either**
 - 34 (B) evidence of current certification in a clinical nursing specialty from a national credentialing
35 body, set out in ~~Part (b)(4)(A)~~ **Subparagraph (b)(4) of this Rule; or Rule.**
 - 36 ~~(C) meet requirements set out in Part (b)(4)(B) of this Rule;~~
- 37 (2) renew the approval every two years at the time of registered nurse renewal; and

- 1 (3) ~~either submit evidence of the following:~~
- 2 (A) ~~submit evidence of~~ initial certification and re-certification by a national credentialing body
- 3 at the time such occurs in order to maintain Board recognition, consistent with Paragraphs
- 4 (b) and (h) of this Rule; or
- 5 (B) if subject to Part (b)(4)(B) of this Rule, ~~recognized in North Carolina]~~ recognized by the
- 6 Board as a clinical nurse specialist without national certification prior to April 1, 2023,
- 7 ~~submit evidence of~~
- 8 (i) at least 1,000 hours of practice and 75 contact hours of continuing education with
- 9 25 contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics as a portion of the mandatory 75 contact
- 10 hours every five years. ~~years; or~~
- 11 (ii)(C) if recognized by the Board as a clinical nurse specialist without national
- 12 certification prior to April 1, 2021, [submit] 150 contact hours of continuing
- 13 education with 50 contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics as a portion of the 150
- 14 contact hours every five years.

15 Subparagraph (B) and (C) of this Section does not apply to first time CNS' renewing their

16 application for the first time.

- 17 (4) maintain [Documentation] documentation of clinical practice hours and continuing education [shall
- 18 be maintained by the clinical nurse specialist] for the previous five years and made available upon
- 19 request [to either] of the Board.

20 (h) The Board shall approve those national credentialing bodies offering certification and recertification in a clinical

21 nursing specialty that have established the following minimum ~~requirements; requirements for applicants:~~

- 22 (1) active unencumbered licensure as a registered nurse; and
- 23 (2) certification as a clinical nurse specialist that is limited to applicant prepared with a master's or
- 24 ~~doctoral higher-level~~ degree or a ~~post-master's post-graduate~~ certificate.

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26 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 90-171.20(4); 90-171.20(7); 90-171.21(d)(4); 90-171.23(b); ~~90-171.27(b);~~ 90-

27 171.42(b);

28 *Eff. April 1, 1996;*

29 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; April 1, 2008; January 1, 2007; November 1, 2005; August 1, 2005;*

30 *April 1, 2003;*

31 *Readopted Eff. January 1, 2019;*

32 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2020; 2020; [March 1, 2023.] April 1, 2023.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0817 COVID-19 Drug Preservation Rule is repealed as published in NCR 37:10, page 759 as follows:

2

3 **21 NCAC 36 .0817 COVID-19 DRUG PRESERVATION RULE**

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5 History Note: Authority G.S. 90-8.2; ~~90-171.23(b)(14)~~ 90-171.23(b)(14);

6 Emergency Adoption Eff. April 21, 2020;

7 Temporary Adoption Eff. June 26, 2020;

8 Temporary Adoption Exp. Eff. June 26, 2020;

9 Eff. June 1, 2021;

10 Repealed Eff. April 1, 2023.