

1 21 NCAC 36.0228 is amended, **with changes**, as published in the NCR 29:05 pages 509-511, as
2 follows:

3
4 **21 NCAC 36 .0228 CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST PRACTICE**

5 (a) A Effective ~~March~~ July 1, 2015, only a registered nurse who meets the qualifications as outlined in
6 Paragraph (b) of this Rule ~~may shall~~ be recognized by the Board as a clinical nurse **specialist, specialist**
7 ~~and to~~ perform advanced practice registered nursing activities at an advanced skill level as outlined in
8 Paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f) of this Rule.

9 (b) ~~In order to be recognized as a Clinical Nurse Specialist, the~~ The Board of Nursing shall **require**
10 recognize an applicant to meet the following qualifications: who:

11 (1) has an unrestricted license to practice as a registered nurse in North Carolina or a **party**
12 **state; state that has adopted the Nurse Licensure Compact;**

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

16 ~~(2)~~ (3) has successfully completed a master's or higher degree program consisting of a minimum
17 of 500 hours of clinical experience in the clinical nursing specialty as defined in 21 NCAC
18 36 .0120(41) and consistent with G.S. 90-171.21(d)(4). For a dual track graduate
19 program, if less than 500 hours per track, a requirement that there must be
20 documentation of any crossover which would justify less than an additional 500 hours for
21 the second track; and accredited by a nursing accrediting body approved by the **U.S.**
22 **United States** Secretary of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation;
23 **and, Accreditation and meets the qualifications for clinical nurse specialist**
24 **certification by an approved national credentialing body under Part (b)(4)(A) of this**
25 **Rule; and**

26 (4) either:

27 ~~(3)~~ (A) has current certification in the as a clinical nursing specialty nurse specialist from
28 a national credentialing body approved by the Board of Nursing, as defined in
29 Paragraph ~~(e)~~ (g) (h) of this Rule and 21 NCAC ~~36 .0120(26).~~ 36 .0120(26); or

30 (B) if no clinical nurse specialist certification is available in the specialty, meets
31 requirements determined by the Board to be equivalent to national certification.
32 The Board shall determine equivalence based on consideration of an official
33 transcript and course descriptions validating Subparagraph (b)(3) of this Rule,
34 current curriculum vitae, work **history history**, and professional recommendations
35 indicating evidence of at least 1,000 hours of clinical nurse specialist practice,
36 and documentation of certificates indicating 75 contact hours of continuing

1 education applicable to clinical nurse specialist practice during the previous five
2 years.

3 (c) An applicant certified as a clinical nurse specialist by a national credentialing body prior to January 1,
4 2007 and who has maintained that certification and active clinical nurse specialist practice, and holds a
5 master's or higher degree in nursing or a related field shall be recognized by the Board as a clinical nurse
6 specialist.

7 (d) New graduates seeking first-time clinical nurse specialist recognition in North Carolina shall hold a
8 Master's, post-master's or higher degree from a clinical nurse specialist program accredited by a nursing
9 accrediting body approved by the U.S. Secretary of Education or the Council for Higher Education
10 Accreditation as acceptable by the Board, and meets all requirements in **Subparagraphs (b)(1), (2), (3)**
11 **and (4)(A) Subparagraph (b)(1) and Part (g)(5)(A)** of this Rule.

12 (e) A clinical nurse specialist seeking Board of Nursing recognition who has not practiced as a clinical
13 nurse specialist in more than **five two** years shall complete a clinical nurse specialist refresher course
14 approved by the Board of Nursing in accordance with 21 NCAC 36 .0220(o) and (p) and consisting of
15 common conditions and their management **directly** related to the clinical nurse specialist's area of
16 education and certification. A clinical nurse specialist refresher course participant shall be granted clinical
17 nurse specialist recognition that is limited to clinical activities required by the refresher course.

18 ~~(e)(f)~~ The scope of practice of a Clinical clinical nurse specialist scope of practice incorporates the basic
19 components of nursing practice as defined in Rule .0224 of this Section as well as the understanding and
20 application of nursing principles at an advanced practice registered nurse level in ~~his/her~~ the area of
21 clinical nursing specialization in which the clinical nurse specialist is educationally prepared and for which
22 competency has been maintained **which includes: that includes the following:**

- 23 (1) assessing clients' health status, synthesizing and analyzing multiple sources of data, and
24 identifying alternative possibilities as to the nature of a healthcare problem;
- 25 (2) diagnosing and managing clients' acute and chronic health problems within a an
26 advanced practice nursing framework;
- 27 (3) assessing for and monitoring the usage and effect of pharmacologic agents within an
28 advanced practice nursing framework;
- 29 ~~(3)(4)~~ (4) formulating strategies to promote wellness and prevent illness;
- 30 ~~(4)(5)~~ (5) prescribing and implementing therapeutic and corrective ~~nursing measures;~~ non-
31 pharmacologic nursing interventions;
- 32 ~~(5)(6)~~ (6) planning for situations beyond the clinical nurse specialist's expertise, and consulting with
33 or referring clients to other health care providers as appropriate;
- 34 ~~(6)(7)~~ (7) promoting and practicing in collegial and collaborative relationships with clients, families,
35 other health care professionals and individuals whose decisions influence the health of
36 individual clients, families and communities;

- 1 ~~(7)~~(8) initiating, establishing and utilizing measures to evaluate health care outcomes and
2 modify nursing practice decisions;
3 ~~(8)~~(9) assuming leadership for the application of research findings for the improvement of health
4 care outcomes; and
5 ~~(9)~~(10) integrating education, consultation, management, leadership leadership, and research
6 into the advanced clinical nursing nurse specialist role.

7 ~~(d)~~(g) The A registered nurse ~~who seeks~~ seeking recognition by the Board as a clinical nurse specialist
8 shall:

- 9 (1) complete the appropriate application, application which that shall ~~include:~~ include the
10 following:
11 (A) evidence of the appropriate a masters, post-master's certificate or doctoral
12 degree as set out in Subparagraph ~~(b)(2)~~ (b)(3) or Paragraph (d) of this Rule;
13 and and, either
14 (B) evidence of current certification in a clinical nursing specialty from a national
15 credentialing body as set out in Subparagraph ~~(b)(3)~~ Part (b)(4)(A) of this Rule; or
16 (C) meet requirements as set out in Part (b)(4)(B) of this Rule.

17 ~~(2)~~ submit any additional information necessary to evaluate the application as requested by
18 the Board.

19 ~~(2)(3)~~ submit a processing fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) to cover the costs of duplicating
20 and distributing the application materials; and administrative costs;

21 ~~(2)~~ (4) renew the recognition every two years at the time of registered nurse renewal; and,

22 ~~(3)~~ (5) either:

- 23 ~~(3)~~(A) submit evidence of initial certification and re-certification by a national
24 credentialing body at the time such occurs in order to maintain Board of Nursing
25 recognition consistent with Paragraphs (b) and ~~(e)~~ (h) of this ~~Rule.~~ Rule; or
26 (B) if subject to Part (b)(4)(B) of this Rule, submit evidence of at least 1,000 hours of
27 practice and 75 contact hours of continuing education every five years.

28 ~~(e)~~(h) The Board of Nursing ~~may shall~~ may approve those national credentialing bodies offering
29 certification and recertification in a clinical nursing specialty which that have established the following
30 minimum requirements:

- 31 (1) an unencumbered unrestricted registered nurse license; and
32 (2) certification as a clinical nurse specialist is shall be limited to masters, post-master's
33 certificate certificate, or doctoral doctorally prepared applicant applicant, ~~effective January~~
34 1, 2010.

37 *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);
38 90-171.42(b);

1 *Eff. April 1, 1996;*
2 *Amended Eff. **January 1, 2015**; April 1, 2008; January 1, 2007; November 1, 2005;*
3 *August 1, 2005; April 1, 2003.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0317 is amended, **with changes**, as published in the NCR 29:02, pages 163-164, as
2 follows:

3
4 **21 NCAC 36 .0317 ADMINISTRATION**

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

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

13 (c) Program director ~~qualifications~~ in a program preparing for initial nurse licensure shall include: **shall:**
14 **shall satisfy the following requirements:**

- 15 (1) ~~faculty qualifications as specified in 21 NCAC 36 .0318; hold a current unrestricted license~~
16 ~~or multistate licensure privilege to practice as a registered nurse in North Carolina;~~
- 17 (2) ~~have two years of full-time experience as a faculty member in an a board approved~~
18 ~~nursing **program. program**. Beginning January 1, 2015 this experience is as a faculty with~~
19 ~~a master's degree;~~
- 20 (3) ~~for a program preparing individuals for registered nurse practice, a master's degree; and~~
21 ~~be experientially qualified to lead the program to accomplish the mission, goals, and~~
22 ~~expected program outcomes;~~
- 23 (4) ~~for a program leading to a baccalaureate, a doctoral degree in nursing; or a master's~~
24 ~~degree in nursing and a doctoral degree in a health or education field. hold either a~~
25 ~~baccalaureate in nursing or a graduate degree in nursing from an accredited institution. If~~
26 ~~newly employed on or after January 1, 2016, hold a graduate degree from an accredited~~
27 ~~institution. If newly employed on or after January 1, 2021, hold a graduate degree in~~
28 ~~nursing from an accredited institution;~~
- 29 (5) ~~prior to or within the first three years of employment, have preparation in teaching and~~
30 ~~learning principles for adult education, including curriculum development, implementation,~~
31 ~~and evaluation, appropriate to assignment. This preparation may be demonstrated by~~
32 ~~one of the following:~~
 - 33 (A) ~~completion of 45 contact hours of continuing education courses;~~
 - 34 (B) ~~completion of a certificate program in nursing education;~~
 - 35 (C) ~~nine semester hours of graduate course work;~~
 - 36 (D) ~~national certification in nursing education; or~~

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

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

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

9 (d) The nursing education program shall implement, for quality improvement, a comprehensive program
10 evaluation ~~which that shall include:~~ include the following:

11 (1) students' achievement of program outcomes;

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

15 (3) measures of program outcomes for graduates;

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 (e) The controlling institution and the nursing education program shall communicate information
27 describing the nursing education program that is accurate, complete, consistent across mediums
28 mediums, and accessible by the public. ~~At least the The~~ following must shall be made known accessible
29 to all applicants and students:

30 (1) admission policies and practices;

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

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

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

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

35 (6) grievance procedure;

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

37 (8) policies for clinical performance.
38

1 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38;*
2 *Eff. June 1, 1992;*
3 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; April 1, 2008; March 1, 2006.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0318 is amended, **with changes**, as published in the NCR 29:02, pages 164-165, as
2 follows:

3
4 **21 NCAC 36 .0318 FACULTY**

5 (a) ~~Full-time and part-time faculty members are considered nursing program faculty. When part-time~~
6 ~~faculty members are utilized, they shall participate in curriculum implementation and evaluation. Nursing~~
7 ~~program faculty shall include full-time and part-time faculty members. Part-time faculty shall participate in~~
8 ~~curriculum implementation and evaluation.~~

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

11 (c) ~~Nurse faculty members shall be academically qualified and sufficient in number to accomplish~~
12 ~~program outcomes. Fifty percent or more of the nursing faculty must shall hold a graduate degree.~~

13 (d) ~~Fifty percent or more of the nursing faculty must hold a master's degree. As of January 1, 2021, at~~
14 ~~least eighty percent of the full time faculty must shall hold a graduate degree in nursing.~~

15 (e) ~~Each nurse faculty member shall hold a current unrestricted license to practice as a registered nurse~~
16 ~~in North Carolina. The program director shall document current licensure to practice as a registered nurse~~
17 ~~in North Carolina. As of January 1, 2021, at least fifty percent of the part time faculty must shall hold a~~
18 ~~graduate degree in nursing.~~

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

21 (f)(g) Nursing [Nurse] Full-time and part-time nurse faculty who teach in a program leading to initial
22 licensure as a nurse shall:

23 (1) hold either a baccalaureate in nursing or a master's graduate degree in nursing from an
24 accredited institution;

25 (2) ~~if employed after December 31, 1983,~~ have two calendar years or the equivalent of full
26 time clinical experience as a registered nurse;

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

30 (3)(4) prior to or within the first three years of employment, have preparation in teaching and
31 learning principles for adult education, including curriculum development, implementation,
32 and evaluation, appropriate to assignment. This preparation may be demonstrated by
33 one of the following:

34 (A) completion of 45 contact hours of continuing education courses;

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

36 (C) nine semester hours of ~~education~~ graduate course work;

37 (D) national certification in nursing education; or

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

6 ~~(4) If employed prior to July 1, 2006, faculty shall meet the requirements in Subparagraph~~
7 ~~(f)(3) of this Rule by December 31, 2010. If employed on or after July 1, 2006 faculty~~
8 ~~members have three years from date of employment to meet the requirements in~~
9 ~~Subparagraph (f)(3) of this Rule.~~

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

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

13 ~~(g)(h)~~ Interdisciplinary faculty who teach in nursing program courses shall have academic preparation in
14 the content area they are teaching.

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

20 ~~(i)(j)~~ Nurse faculty members shall have the authority and responsibility for:

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

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

23 ~~(j)(k)~~ Nurse faculty members shall be academically qualified and sufficient in number to implement the
24 curriculum as demanded by the course objectives, the levels of the students, and the nature of the
25 learning environment, and ~~shall be sufficient~~ to provide for teaching, supervision and evaluation. ~~The~~
26 ~~faculty-student clinical ratio shall be 1:10 or less.~~

27 ~~(k)(l) There shall be a written evaluation of each nurse faculty member by the program director or a~~
28 ~~designee and a written evaluation of the program director according to the institutional policy. The faculty-~~
29 ~~student ratio for faculty directed preceptor clinical experiences shall be no larger than 4:15 or less. 1:15.~~
30 The faculty-student ratio for all other clinical experiences shall be no larger than 4:10 or less. 1:10.

31
32 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38; 90-171.83;*

33 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

34 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; August 1, 2011; November 1, 2008; July 1, 2006; July 1,*
35 *2000; January 1, 1996; June 1, 1992; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1984.*

1 21 NCAC 36 .0323 is amended, **with changes**, as published in the NCR 29:02, page 165, 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 **use- 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 enrolled student shall contain up-to-date and complete information, **including:**
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 **received by to be filed with** the Board by November 1 of each year;
 - 20 (2) a Program Description Report for non-accredited programs **received by filed with the**
21 Board at least 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 **must shall** include a vitae for the new individual
24 and **must shall** be submitted within 20 business days of the effective date of the **change;**
25 **and change**.
 - 26 (4) ~~a curriculum vitae for new faculty submitted by the program director within 20 business~~
27 ~~days from the time of employment.~~
- 28 (g) All communications relevant to accreditation shall be submitted to the North Carolina Board of Nursing
29 at the same time the communications are submitted to the accrediting body.
- 30 (h) The Board may require additional records and reports for review at any time to provide evidence and
31 substantiate compliance with the rules in this Section by a program and its associated agencies.
- 32 (i) The part of the application for licensure by examination to be submitted by the nursing program shall
33 include a statement verifying satisfactory completion of all requirements for graduation and the date of
34 completion. The nursing program director shall submit the verification form to the Board within one month
35 following completion of the program.

36
37 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-171.23(b)(8); 90-171.38;*

1 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
2 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; December 1, 2005; January 1, 2004; June 1, 1992;*
3 *January 1, 1989; January 1, 1984.*