



Alabama Board of Nursing Educational Curriculum and Clinical Requirements

Eligibility for Licensure and NCLEX Examination:

- Applicants for Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) licensure must graduate from both an accredited institution and an accredited nursing program that is approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN). Applicants who graduate from institutions outside the State of Alabama must demonstrate that the nursing program substantially meets the educational standards and requirements of an approved Alabama nursing program.
- Nursing education programs in the State are governed by Chapter 610-X-3 of the ABN Administrative Code, titled Nursing Education Programs. This chapter can be accessed on the ABN website at <http://www.alabamaadministrativecode.state.al.us/docs/nurs/610-X-3.pdf>.

Standards for Approval:

- Accreditation- The governing institution offering a nursing program must be accredited by an organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Additionally, the nursing program must be accredited by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education within five (5) years of approval by the Board.
- Nursing Program Approval- Approved by the Board of Nursing in the state where the program is located.

Curriculum and Clinicals:

1. Provide theoretical and clinical experiences specific to the expected scope of practice of graduates from each type of entry-level nursing education program.
2. Clinical learning experiences that encompass opportunities for students to attain knowledge and competence in providing safe and effective care across the life span.
3. Theoretical and clinical learning experiences across the lifespan in the areas of adult, maternal/infant, child/pediatric, and psychiatric/mental health nursing that include simulation, laboratory time, and direct patient care in a licensed health care setting. This does not prohibit additional experience in a licensed non-health care setting. With the exception of individuals holding valid student nurse apprentice permits issued by the board and engaged in registered apprenticeships, pursuant to the Alabama Industry Recognized and Registered Apprenticeship Program Act, under no circumstance may clinical learning experiences related to health assessment, fundamentals, or adult health medical/surgical courses be conducted using a preceptor model of clinical training. At least 50% of clinical experiences shall include direct patient care and include a variety of clinical settings sufficient to meet program outcomes. Clinical learning experiences shall include the development of skills in clinical reasoning, management of care for groups of patients, and delegation to and supervision of other health care personnel performed in acute care and a variety of health care settings (commonly culminating in a preceptorship or capstone clinical experience).



4. Simulation learning experiences conducted according to acceptable faculty training standards and guidelines, which incorporate clinical objectives, student debriefing, and evaluation, are acceptable components of clinical experience. Unless otherwise authorized by the Board, simulation shall not comprise more than 50% of the clinical learning experience for any course or patient population.

Curriculum Content:

1. Anatomy and Physiology with a corresponding lab.
2. Liberal arts and sciences supportive of the nursing education program.
3. Nursing foundations, health assessment, pharmacology, nutrition, and community-based nursing.
4. History and trends of nursing, cultural diversity, legal and ethical responsibilities, and nursing scope of practice responsibilities, including leadership, management, delegation, and health care delivery systems.
5. Microbiology for students pursuing an associate or baccalaureate degree