

RULES OF GEORGIA BOARD OF NURSING

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CHAPTER 410-1 ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

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410-1-.01 Organization and Administration of the Board Office

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410-1-.01 Organization and Administration of the Board Office.

(1) The Nurse Practice Act provides that, in order to protect, promote and preserve the public health, safety and welfare, any person practicing or offering to practice professional nursing for compensation in Georgia, shall be licensed according to the provisions established by the Georgia Board of Nursing.

(2) The Nurse Practice Act further creates a Board of Nursing with regulatory authority and dictates the Board's composition and qualifications of members, methods of appointment, and terms of office. The Act specifies Board functions and duties thus providing for the implementation of the Nurse Practice Act through the adoption of rules and regulations.

(3) All provisions of O.C.G.A. 43-1-19 (General Provisions Act) are expressly incorporated as regulating registered professional nurses.

(4) All Rules and Regulations pertaining to the Administration of the Georgia Board of Nursing shall be administered by the Executive Director through the Division Director, Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State.

(5) The Georgia Board of Nursing shall consist of seven registered nurses and one consumer appointed by the Governor.

(6) The Board shall approve the selection of a qualified registered nurse, to serve as Executive Director and define the duties in collaboration with the Division Director.

(7) The Board staff shall consist of at least three qualified registered nurses, in addition to the Executive Director and clerical staff, to assist in the regulation of nursing education, nursing practice and licensure.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-4, 43-26-5(a)(c) **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Organization of Board" was filed and effective on June 30, 1965. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new rule of the same title adopted. Filed November 15, 1966; effective December 4, 1966. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Organization of the Board" adopted. Filed April 10, 1980; effective April 30, 1980. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Organization and Administration" adopted. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new Authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Organization and Administration of the Board Office" adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990.

410-1-.02 General Requirements

(1) A registered nurse or graduate nurse must present a valid, current license or temporary permit to the employer prior to beginning employment (including orientation) in any nursing position in Georgia for which licensure is required.

(2) Registered nurse employers must not permit anyone to practice as a registered professional nurse or a graduate nurse without evidence of a valid, current license or temporary permit.

(3) The registered nurse employer (or designee) must inspect the Board-issued license or temporary permit and verify the identity of the bearer prior to authorizing the beginning of employment (including orientation).

(4) An applicant for licensure by examination, endorsement, or reinstatement who has been employed as a registered nurse or a graduate nurse without a license or temporary permit shall be subject to referral to the Attorney General's office for a legal Consent Order which may include:

(a) a public reprimand; and

(b) a fine of \$50.00 per month (up to \$250.00) for practice between two (2) and six (6) months (or any portion thereof);

(c) a fine of \$75.00 per month for each additional month (or portion thereof) between seven (7) and 12 months;

(d) a fine at the Board's discretion for unlicensed practice extending over one (1) year.

(5) Within thirty (30) days of an address change, a licensee or applicant must provide written notification to the Board.

(6) Name changes require submission of a copy of the marriage certificate (not marriage license), court order, or substantiating documentation within 30 days after receipt of the document by the licensee/applicant.

(a) a licensee must submit an application for a duplicate license accompanied by the copied document and the required fee.

(b) during the application process or renewal period, name changes may be processed without an additional fee if the copied document accompanies the renewal application.

(c) an applicant for licensure must submit the copied document whenever a name change occurs in the application process.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-26-5(a)(c). **History.** Original Rule entitled "General Requirements" was f. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990.

CHAPTER 410-2

MEETINGS, OFFICERS, AND DUTIES

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410-2-.01 Meetings, Officers, and Duties

410-2-.02 through 410-2-.06 Repealed

410-2-.01 Meetings, Officers, and Duties.

- (1) The Board shall hold at least four scheduled meetings each year.
- (2) All scheduled meetings of the Board shall be open and public except as provided by statute.
- (3) A majority of the Board members shall constitute a quorum.
- (4) Annually, the Board shall elect from its members a President and a Vice-President.
- (5) The President shall preside at meetings, perform all duties of that office, and appoint Board members to serve on committees as may be created. The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall assume the duties of the President when necessary.
- (6) An agenda shall be comprised of items submitted for Board review at least ten (10) working days before the meeting, and of any other relevant items.
- (7) A permanent record shall be kept of all meetings. The minutes shall be transcribed and approved or amended by the Board at the next scheduled meeting.
- (8) Meetings of the Board shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless otherwise specified.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-4; 43-26-5(a)(c). **Administrative History.** Original Rule was filed and effective on June 30, 1965. **Amended:** Filed November 15, 1966; effective December 4, 1966. **Amended:** Original Rule entitled "Objectives" repealed and new Rule entitled "Meetings" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Meetings, Officers, and Duties" adopted. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987. **Amended:** Filed February 6, 1987; effective February 26, 1987. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990.

410-2-.02 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501,505; Ga. Code Ann. Sec. 84-1003. **Administrative History.** Original Rule was filed and effective on June 30, 1965. **Amended:** Filed November 15, 1966; effective December 4, 1966. **Amended:** Filed November 2, 1973; effective November 22, 1973. **Amended:** Original Rule entitled "Nursing Defined" repealed and a new Rule entitled "Duties of Officers" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987.

410-2-.03 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501,505. **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Board Functions" was filed and effective on June 30, 1965. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed November 15, 1966; effective December 4, 1966. **Amended:** Filed November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-2-.04 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501,505. **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Officers and Elections" was filed and effective on June 30, 1965. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed November 15, 1966; effective December 4, 1966. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-2-.05 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501,505. **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Duties of Officers" was filed and effective on June 30, 1965. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed November 15, 1966; effective December 4, 1966. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-2-.06 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501,505. **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Meetings" was filed and effective on June 30, 1965. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed November 15, 1966; effective December 4, 1966. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

CHAPTER 410-3

NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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410-3-.01 General Requirements. Amended.

(1) Rules for nursing education programs shall provide reasonable and uniform standards within which flexibility and creativity, based upon prevailing educational principles, are possible.

(2) A parent institution is defined as an educational institution that is part of the University System of Georgia, the Department of Technical and Adult Education or a nonprofit postsecondary institution. The board reserves the right to approve any parent institution outside of these categories.

(3) The course of study for initial licensure may be offered through an approved combination of on site, distance learning, or online teaching/learning strategies. Neither class nor clinical learning activities may be offered exclusively through electronic modalities. The majority of learning activities in practice settings must be taught by nursing faculty members according to Rules 410-3-.05 and 410-3-.06.

(4) A parent institution shall grant degrees and maintain the locus of control and fiscal responsibility for the planning, implementation, teaching, and evaluation of the nursing education program.

(5) Faculty and students in a nursing education program shall enable a curriculum that educates graduates to become eligible for licensure by examination as registered nurses or to provide educational mobility for registered nurses.

(6) Nursing education programs that provide educational mobility solely for registered nurses pursuing baccalaureate degrees in nursing have the option of seeking and maintaining Full Approval. If the parent institution subsequently develops and implements a prelicensure baccalaureate program, in which a registered nurse track is an

option, the existing RN-BSN program will cease to exist as a single entity. Board approval will apply to one baccalaureate program according to Rule 410-3-.02.

(7) If approval for an RN-BSN Program, as a single entity, is not granted at the inception of the program and is sought at a later date, the program shall be required to comply with the rules for the development and implementation of a new program in order to be considered for Board approval.

(8) Board representatives shall conduct scheduled site visits to nursing education programs on a regular basis every four (4) years. At its discretion, the Board may schedule site visits more frequently. A nursing education program may request a site visit.

(9) Representatives of the parent institution and/or the nursing education program shall be notified of any Board meeting at which action is to be taken relative to the program and shall be sent documentation of the action(s) in writing.

(10) Representatives of the parent institution and/or the nursing education program may appeal any board action within 90 days of written notification.

(11) To be approved as first-time writers of the licensing examination, applicants must have graduated from a nursing education program with Initial, Full or Conditional Approval at the time of graduation.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-26-2. 43-26-5(a), (2), (4), (5), (6), (c); 43-26-7. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Examinations" was filed and effective on June 30, 1965. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed November 15, 1966 effective December 4, 1966. **Amended:** Filed February 8, 1974; effective February 28, 1974. **Amended:** Filed August 5, 1974; effective August 25, 1974. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Standards and Curricula for Educational Programs" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "General Requirements" adopted. Filed October 12, 1984, effective November 1, 1984. **Amended:** Filed May 31, 1988; effective June 20, 1988. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. Amended: F. Oct. 14, 1998; eff. Nov. 3, 1998. Amended: F. Jan. 14, 2000; eff. Feb. 3, 2000. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.02 Nursing Education Program Approval. Amended.

(1) Developing Programs.

(a) The Board may grant Developmental Approval to a proposed nursing education program when compliance with Rules 410-4-.01 paragraphs (1) through (3) has been documented.

(b) The Board may grant Initial Approval to a nursing education program with Developmental Approval when compliance with Rule 410-4-.01(4) has been documented. Initial Approval is required prior to the enrollment of at least twenty (20) students in the first nursing courses.

(c) The Board may continue Initial Approval prior to the graduation of the first class when review of materials specified in Rule 410-4-.01 (3)(c), the most recent annual

report, and most recent site visit report, and program responses to it document compliance with the rules.

(d) The Board may grant Full Approval to a nursing education program with Initial Approval when review of the most recent annual report, the most recent site visit report, and program responses to it document compliance with the rules. At least eighty (80) percent of all graduates must pass the licensing examination as first-time writers within one (1) calendar year of the graduation date. For single entity RN-BSN programs seeking Full Approval, transcripts of the first graduates must be submitted to the Board in addition to any other requested documents.

(e) The Board may continue the Initial Approval of a program ineligible for Full Approval after graduation of the first class-when noncompliance with the criteria in Rule 410-3-.02 (1)(d) is documented.

(f) If the program is not eligible for Full Approval after graduation of the second class, Conditional Approval may be imposed according to Rule 410-3-.02 (3).

(2) Established Programs.

(a) The Board may continue the Full Approval of a nursing education program for any period up to four (4) years. Approval is based upon documentation of compliance with rules relating to annual reports, the most recent site visit report and program responses to it, and a passing percentage of at least eighty (80) percent of all first-time writers on the licensing examination over the four (4) most recent calendar years.

(b) A nursing education program, with Full Approval, must submit a written assessment and plan of action for review by the Board if the passing percentage of all first-time writers on the licensing examination is less than eighty (80) percent in a calendar year.

(c) A nursing education program, with Full Approval, must submit a written evaluation of the plan of action for review by the Board if the passing percentage of all first-time writers on the licensing examination is less than eighty (80) percent for a second consecutive calendar year. A site visit by Board representatives will be scheduled.

(3) Conditional Approval.

At any point during the initial approval period or within the four-year approval cycle, the Board may impose Conditional Approval on a nursing education program for reasons, including but not limited to, the following conditions: review of any annual report reveals noncompliance with the rules; review(s) of the most recent site visit report(s) and program response(s) to it reveal continued, documented noncompliance with the rules; and/or the passing percentage of first-time writers on the licensing examination was less than eighty (80) percent for three (3) consecutive calendar years and/or the four-year average was less than eighty (80) percent.

(4) Granting of Full Approval for a Nursing Education Program on Conditional Approval.

(a) The granting of Full Approval will require documentation of outcome measures, including but not limited to NCLEX-RN results, on an annual basis until compliance with conditions identified in Rule 410-3-.02 (3) is documented.

(b) The granting of Full Approval may be for any period of time up to four (4) years as determined by the board. If Conditional Approval has been imposed for noncompliance with the identified four-year passing percentage on the licensing examination, the Board at its discretion may grant Full Approval for one (1) year. The (1) year approval is based upon the program having documented evidence of at least two (2) consecutive years of a passing percentage of at least eighty (80) percent of its first-time writers in each calendar year even though the four-year average is not eighty (80) percent.

(5) Withdrawal of Approval.

The Board may withdraw the approval of a nursing education program on Conditional Approval when continued, documented noncompliance with the rules fails to be corrected within a time period specified by the Board. In order for students, who are currently enrolled in at least one nursing course when approval is withdrawn, to be eligible for licensure upon graduation, the nursing education program must submit a written plan for their completion of the program or for their transfer to another approved nursing education program. Prior to the actual date of withdrawal of approval, the nursing program will continue to have time-limited Conditional Approval so that students will be identified as having graduated from an approved program and be eligible for licensure by examination.

(6) Reinstatement of Withdrawn Approval.

(a) Representatives of the parent institution and/or the nursing education program may appeal in writing to the Board for reconsideration of withdrawn approval within 90 days of written notification.

(b) Upon written request, representatives of the parent institution and/or the nursing education program may appear before the Board to review its findings regarding program deficiencies and/or the adequacy of the program's plan of action.

(c) After documentation of compliance with rules, as determined by the Board, a nursing education program may petition the Board in writing for reinstatement of approval status and permission to enroll students.

(d) If approval is not reinstated, the parent institution must comply with all rules for the development and implementation of a new nursing education program.

(7) Reconstitution of a Nursing Education Program.

(a) If a program, which has had its approval withdrawn, decides to develop and implement a reconstituted (new) nursing education program, it must document compliance with Rule 410-4-.01. At its discretion, the Board may not require the fee for new programs and the feasibility study if Conditional Approval has previously been imposed on the program.

(b) In order for Full Approval to be considered, a reconstituted nursing education program, with Initial Approval, must document compliance with the most recent site visit report and program responses to it and with the most recent annual report. In addition, at least eighty (80) percent of all first-time NCLEX-RN writers from the first class must pass within one (1) year of the date of graduation.

(c) Initial Approval will be continued for a second year if Full Approval is not granted in the first year. In order for Full Approval to be considered, compliance with the most recent site visit report and program responses to it and with the most recent annual report must be documented. In addition, at least eighty (80) percent of all first-time NCLEX-RN writers must pass within one (1) year of the graduation date. The average passing percentage of the first two (2) classes must be at least eighty (80) percent. If compliance with this rule is not documented, approval will be withdrawn with no option for the development and implementation of another nursing program.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Organization and Administration" adopted. F. Mar. 18, 1976; eff. Apr. 7, 1976; except for paragraph (2) which is eff. July 1, 1977, as specified by the Agency. **Amended:** Eff. Date of paragraph (2) changed to July 1, 1978, and paragraph (7) declared eff. July 1, 1978. F. June 15, 1976; eff. July 5, 1976. **Amended:** F. Oct. 26, 1977; eff. Nov. 15, 1977. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Nursing Education Program Approval" adopted. F. Oct. 12, 1984; eff. Nov. 1, 1984. **Amended:** F. May 31, 1988; eff. June 20, 1988. **Amended:** Authority changed. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Amended:** F. June 5, 1996; eff. June 25, 1996. **Amended:** F. Oct. 14, 1998; eff. Nov. 3, 1998. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.03 Organization and Administration. Amended.

(1) The nursing education program must be an integral part of a parent institution accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

(2) The relationship of the nursing unit as a program, department, division, school, or college to the parent institution must be delineated on a current organizational chart in accordance with the structural or functional plan of the parent institution.

(3) The nurse administrator shall assume authority and responsibility for the administration, planning, implementation, and evaluation of the nursing education program. This will include oversight of and budgeting for the program, selection and evaluation of qualified faculty, and evaluation of program outcomes. A percentage of time for, and description of, administrative responsibilities and must be identified. The Board must be notified within 30 days of a change in the nurse administrator.

(4) The minimum length of a nursing education program shall be six (6) academic quarters or four (4) academic semesters, each of which shall include nursing courses with learning activities in classes, simulated settings, and practice settings.

(5) If a nursing education program has an accelerated option for students who have earned a baccalaureate or higher degree in another discipline, the minimum length of study as identified in Rule 410-3-.03 (4) may be shortened. The course of study must be

comparable to that required for prelicensure students graduating from the same nursing education program.

(6) Adequate financial resources shall be provided for the effective operation of the nursing education program and the professional development of faculty.

(7) A faculty/student ratio of at least one (1) full-time nursing faculty member for each twenty (20) students enrolled in the nursing education program (including audited courses) shall be maintained.

(8) The nursing education program shall have a plan for continuous quality assessment and improvement which includes, but is not limited to: organization and administration; curriculum; faculty; students; performance of students and graduates; and educational facilities and resources.

(9) Implementation of the plan for continuous quality assessment and improvement, findings, and relevant actions and/or decisions shall be documented.

(10) All information, course materials, and documentation pertaining to the nursing education program shall be accurate and current.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Faculty" adopted. F. Mar. 18, 1976; eff. Apr. 7, 1976. **Amended:** F. Apr. 10, 1980; eff. Apr. 30, 1980. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Organization and Administration" adopted. F. Oct. 12, 1984; eff. Nov. 1, 1984. **Amended:** F. Oct. 1, 1987; eff. Oct. 21, 1987. **Amended:** F. May 31, 1988; eff. June 20, 1988. **Amended:** F. Aug. 1, 1989; eff. Aug. 21, 1989. **Amended:** Authority changed. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Aug. 16, 1991; eff. Sept. 5, 1991. **Amended:** F. Oct. 6, 1992; eff. Oct. 26, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Amended:** F. June 12, 1997; eff. July 2, 1997. **Amended:** F. Oct. 14, 1998; eff. Nov. 3, 1998. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.04 Curriculum. Amended.

(1) The nursing education program shall be consistent with the mission/purpose, outcomes, and policies of the parent institution and the established and emerging standards of nursing education and practice.

(2) Faculty shall develop the curriculum so that the philosophy/assumptions, outcomes, written plan for its organization and development, teaching/learning strategies, assessment of outcomes and policies are internally consistent.

(3) The curriculum shall be inclusive of courses in humanities, natural sciences, social sciences and nursing which are offered in a logical and supportive sequence appropriate for collegiate study. Courses in the natural sciences must have class and laboratory components.

(4) The curriculum must be balanced in terms of semesters/quarters, contact hours, and student workload.

(5) The curriculum must be inclusive of learning activities in class, simulated settings, and practice settings, in reality-based situations, incorporating caring and the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of health or end-of-life care with people of all age groups

who have commonly occurring acute and long-term physical and mental health problems, illnesses, and experiences.

(6) Practice-based learning activities shall occur in diverse settings representative of the continuum of health care and with opportunities for students to engage in learning activities that enable the goals of the curriculum.

(7) The curriculum shall be inclusive of current and emerging issues in nursing, health care, and society.

(8) Teaching/learning strategies, activities, and interactions must include opportunities for praxis, reflection, critical thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making.

(9) Teaching/learning strategies, activities, and interactions must facilitate the transition to professional practice by incorporating concepts, including but not limited to: accountability; the provision and coordination of care; advocacy; and collaboration.

(10) In a baccalaureate program, learning activities in research, community health nursing, and management/leadership shall be included.

(11) Various strategies shall be used in the assessment and evaluation of student outcomes.

(12) Students enrolled in a nursing education program leading to initial licensure may participate in cooperative internship experiences or programs. Academic credit may be awarded provided that the relationship between the academic and employment aspects of the course is clearly delineated consistent with Rules 410-3-.04; 410-3-.05(10); 410-3-.05(11); 410-3-.06(2), 410-3-.07(5) and 410-3-.08.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5(a), (2), (4), (5), (6), (c). **History:** Original Rule entitled "Students" was filed on March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Curriculum" adopted Filed October 12, 1984; effective November 1, 1984. **Amended:** Filed May 31, 1988; effective June 20, 1988. **Amended:** F. Feb. 1, 1989; eff. Feb. 21, 1989. **Repealed.** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 6, 1992; eff. Oct 26, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; Eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Amended:** F. Oct. 14, 1998; eff. Nov. 3, 1998. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.05 Faculty. Amended.

(1) A nursing faculty member includes any registered nurse, appointed by the parent institution, regardless of the institutional designation, who is engaged in teaching/evaluation in classes, simulated settings, and practice settings.

(2) The nurse administrator and nurse faculty members of any nursing education program must be currently licensed as registered nurses in Georgia and authorized as advanced practice nurses (if applicable) from the initial date of appointment.

(3) Faculty who are assigned to practice settings in another state or country shall comply with the relevant nurse practice act in that jurisdiction.

(4) The nurse administrator, who is appointed with the authority and responsibility for the development, administration, and evaluation of the nursing program(s) within the nursing unit, must have at least one (1) earned graduate degree in nursing and at least three (3) years of teaching experience in a nursing education program leading to initial registered nurse licensure or completion of a higher degree in nursing.

(5) Any registered nurse, appointed by the parent institution, who is engaged in teaching/evaluation in classes, simulated settings and practice settings, must hold at least a baccalaureate or higher degree in nursing.

(6) For any given academic term, the nursing education program must be able to provide evidence that at least three-fourths of individual full-time and part-time faculty members hold one (1) or more earned graduate degrees in nursing.

(7) A full-time faculty member with only a baccalaureate degree in nursing must be able to provide documentation of progress toward an earned graduate degree in nursing, have experience in the area of responsibility, and be directed by a faculty member with at least one (1) earned graduate degree in nursing

(8) Faculty members shall have the graduate nursing education, expertise, and professional development necessary to enable the goals/outcomes of the curriculum.

(9) For any course with a nursing title and number, a qualified registered nurse faculty member must be the coordinator.

(10) Faculty members must be available to direct, coach, mentor, and critique students engaged in learning activities in classes, simulated settings, and practice settings.

(11) A faculty/student ratio of at least one (1) registered nurse faculty member for no more than ten (10) students engaged in actual, interactive learning activities in practice settings must be maintained to provide for the safety of patients/clients, students, and faculty members.

(12) Faculty members shall participate in and document the development, implementation, and evaluation of the nursing education program.

(13) Policies in effect for nursing faculty, including workload, shall be consistent with those in effect for all faculty appointed by the parent institution.

(14) The process of selection, approval, and role development, and delineation of responsibilities of full-time and part-time faculty members shall be documented.

(15) Out of state nursing education programs that have faculty and students engaged in learning activities in Georgia practice settings must comply with the Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act.

(16) An international nursing educator, who is not licensed as a registered professional nurse in Georgia and who is participating as an exchange visitor in a nursing education program, may direct, coach, mentor, and critique students engaged in learning activities in classes and simulated settings under the following conditions:

(a) responsibility for any course, in which the international nursing educator participates, must be assumed by a faculty member appointed by the parent institution;

(b) monetary compensation to the international nursing educator must not be provided by the parent institution;

(c) until licensure by examination has been granted, the international nursing educator must not be involved in actual, interactive learning activities with students and patients/clients in practice settings; and

(d) in advance of the exchange period, the Board of Nursing must be notified of the academic and regulatory credentials of the international nursing educator for a one-time period not to exceed all or part of a quarter or semester.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5(a), (2),(4),(5),(6), (c). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Educational Facilities" was filed on March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Clinical Learning Experiences" adopted. Filed October 12, 1984; effective November 1, 1984. **Amended:** Filed October 1, 1987; effective October 21, 1987. **Amended:** Filed May 31, 1988; effective June 20, 1988. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Faculty" adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 22, 1990; eff. Nov. 11, 1990. **Amended:** F. Aug. 16, 1991; eff. Sept. 5, 1991. **Amended:** F. Oct. 6, 1992, eff. Oct. 26, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Amended:** F. Jun. 12, 1997; eff. Jul. 2, 1997. **Amended:** F. Oct. 14, 1998; eff. Nov. 3, 1998. **Amended:** F. Jan. 14, 2000; eff. Feb. 3, 2000. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.06 Learning Activities with Preceptors.

(1) Learning activities with preceptors may be included in a curriculum on a limited basis.

(2) The student shall be enrolled in the course in which the learning activities with preceptors occur and shall not be compensated by the practice setting during this time.

(3) The process of selection, approval, and role development of preceptors shall be documented.

(4) The preceptor shall be currently licensed as a registered nurse and authorized as an advanced practice nurse (if applicable) according to the Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act or the statute in the state/country in which the practice setting is located.

(5) The preceptor for a registered nurse student may be a non-nurse provided that the designated faculty member serves as the co-preceptor.

(6) The preceptor shall be educated at preferably the same or higher level as the student and have at least one year of work experience in the practice setting in which the learning activity occurs.

(7) The preceptor shall have the education and/or expertise to enable the learning goals of the student.

(8) The preceptor shall be selected collaboratively by the designated faculty member and the registered nurse responsible for nursing care in the practice setting.

(9) The preceptor shall interact with no more than two (2) students at any given time.

(10) Each student and preceptor shall have a readily available, designated faculty member who is responsible for the learning activities in compliance with Rules 410-3-.04 and 410-3-.05(10), (11).

(11) The designated faculty member shall meet with students and preceptors prior to and throughout the learning activities to clarify roles, learning goals, and the assessments of outcomes.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-7. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Clinical Facilities" was filed on March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Filed April 10, 1980; effective April 30, 1980. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Faculty" adopted. Filed October 12, 1984; effective November 1, 1984. **Amended:** Filed May 31, 1988; effective June 20, 1988. **Amended:** F. Jun. 13, 1989; eff. Jul. 3, 1989. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Preceptorial Learning Activities" adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Aug. 16, 1991; eff. Sept. 5, 1991. **Amended:** F. Oct. 6, 1992; eff. Oct. 26, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Learning Activities with Preceptors" adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.07 Students. Amended.

(1) Policies for nursing students shall be comparable to those for all students enrolled in the parent institution except in such instances where the nature of the nursing major may require variance. Students must be high school graduates or have documented equivalent education.

(2) Current, accurate, consistent, written information, including but not limited to, the course of study, admissions, options for advanced placement, acceleration, part-time study, articulation, progression, graduation, health requirements, the potential for criminal background checks and expanded medical profiles, and appeals shall be published.

(3) Students shall have opportunities to evaluate learning activities, full-time and part-time faculty members, preceptors, educational resources, and practice settings.

(4) Any registered nurse, who is a student in a baccalaureate or higher degree nursing program, must be currently licensed according to the Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act in order to engage in any actual, interactive learning activities with patients/clients.

(5) An applicant who has graduated from an international nursing education program and is required by the board to satisfy a curricular deficiency in an approved nursing education program in order to establish eligibility for licensure by examination must be considered as an unlicensed student.

(6) Any registered nurse, who is a student with learning activities in practice settings in another state or country, shall comply with the relevant nurse practice act.

(7) The process for verifying the current license or certificate of any student who holds a health-related license or certificate must be documented.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-7. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Curriculum" was filed on March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Paragraph (5) adopted. Filed October 26, 1977; effective July 1, 1978, as specified by the Agency. **Amended:** Filed September 29, 1978; effective October 19, 1978. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Students" adopted. Filed October 12, 1984; effective November 1, 1984. **Amended:** Filed March 3, 1987; effective March 23, 1987. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 22, 1990; eff. Nov. 11, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Amended:** F. Oct. 14, 1998; eff. Nov. 3, 1998. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.08 Employee of Unlicensed Students and/or Graduates Prior to Licensure.

(1) Unlicensed students, in conjunction with faculty members and/or preceptors, are exempt from licensure during the practice of nursing that is an integral part of a curriculum in a nursing education program.

(2) Students, who are not otherwise licensed or certified, shall be employed only as unlicensed nursing personnel. They shall not represent themselves as nursing students nor assume responsibilities within the scope of practice of a registered nurse.

(3) Graduates, who are not otherwise licensed or certified, shall be employed only as unlicensed personnel prior to licensure. They shall not assume responsibilities within the scope of practice of a registered nurse.

(4) The registered nurse supervising employed unlicensed students and/or graduates prior to licensure is referred to Rules 410-3-.08 (2) and 410-3-.08(3) re job responsibilities.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5 to 43-26-7, 43-26-10, 43-26-12. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Performance of Graduates" adopted. Filed October 12, 1984; effective November 1, 1984. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Employment of Unlicensed Students and/or Graduates Prior to Licensure" adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.09 Performance of Graduates.

(1) Acceptable performance on the licensing examination for each nursing education program shall be a passing rate of at least eighty (80) percent of its first-time writers in any given calendar year.

(2) A passing percentage of at least eighty (80) percent of all first-time writers on the licensing examination over the four (4) most recent years must be maintained.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-7. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Educational Facilities and Resources" adopted. F. Oct. 12, 1984; eff. Nov. 1, 1984. **Amended:** Authority changed. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 22, 1990; eff. Nov. 11, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 6, 1992; eff. Oct. 26, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Performance of Graduates" adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.10 Educational Facilities, Resources, and Practice Settings.

(1) The parent institution shall provide for and maintain facilities, resources, and services for the effective development and implementation of the nursing education program.

(2) Classes, simulated settings, equipment, and supplies should facilitate the learning goals of the curriculum.

(3) Adequate storage space, with security as appropriate, must be provided for supplies, equipment, and materials.

(4) Comprehensive, current, and pertinent print and non-print learning resources must be available for faculty and student needs.

(5) Office and meeting space, with appropriate furnishings and equipment, must be provided for the nurse administrator, faculty members, and staff.

(6) Secretarial personnel and support services must be available to meet the needs of faculty members and students.

(7) The parent institution shall maintain a written agreement with any agency that provides educational facilities and resources for the nursing education program which delineates the responsibilities of all involved parties.

(8) Any practice setting affiliating with a nursing education program must have documented approval by appropriate regulatory bodies (if applicable).

(9) Any practice setting affiliating with a nursing education program must have available and appropriate personnel, facilities, and resources to enable collaborative planning, implementation, and evaluation of learning activities.

(10) The parent institution shall maintain a written agreement with each practice setting in which actual, interactive learning activities occur that delineates the responsibilities of involved parties.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Reports and Records" adopted. F. Oct. 12, 1984; eff. Nov. 1, 1984. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 31, 1988; eff. June 20, 1988. **Amended:** Authority changed. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Reports" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Educational Facilities, Resources, and Practice Settings" adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

410-3-.11 Reports.

(1) Annually by July 1, each nursing program with enrolled students must provide the board with requested information pertaining to the time period between July 1 of the previous year and June 30 of the current year.

(2) The board must receive written reports by a specified date for review at a designated board meeting. Reports include, but are not limited to: advance site visit information; program responses to site visit reports; offering of a nursing course(s) at an off-campus

site prior to implementation; new tracks within an approved prelicensure program; and development of major curricular or program changes prior to implementation.

(3) A written explanation must be provided to the board if a program which should have students eligible for graduation in a given year does not have them.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-10. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Reports" adopted. F. Sept. 27, 2007; eff. Oct. 17, 2007.

(b) an affidavit of approval of the proposed nursing education program by the highest governing body of the parent institution within one year of the date of submission of the application;

(c) documentation of projected revenue sources (federal, state, private, grants, gifts) and expenditures for five (5) fiscal years to support the development and implementation of the proposed nursing education program. The information must include, but is not limited to: appointment of sufficient qualified nursing faculty members; (consistent with Rule 410-3-.05); appointment of secretarial personnel and support services; and provision of print and non-print learning resources, academic support courses, and educational resources in compliance with Board rules;

(d) a written description, for each practice setting proposed for learning activities with a letter of commitment from practice setting personnel to include the possible impact on existing, affiliating nursing programs; and

(e) a five-year timeline for the development and implementation of the nursing education program which includes cohorts of students and faculty members.

(4) The nurse administrator and at least two (2) (full-time or part-time) faculty members, with the graduate nursing education and expertise necessary to develop, and implement the nursing education program, and assess its outcomes, must be appointed by parent institution to submit the following Report I materials for Board review at least thirteen (13) months prior to the enrollment of students in the first nursing course(s):

(a) faculty qualification records for the nurse administrator and faculty members;

(b) program purpose or mission statement;

(c) program philosophy/assumptions;

(d) goals/outcomes of the curriculum;

(e) written plan for the organization and development of the curriculum;

(f) curriculum plan, consistent with Rule 410-3-.04, showing the placement, sequence, and credit distribution of all nursing and non-nursing courses;

(g) syllabus for each nursing course to include the title, credit distribution, prerequisites and corequisite courses, goals/outcomes, and course outline;

(h) plan for continuous quality assessment and improvement consistent with Rule 410-3-.03(8);

(i) information specific to the nursing education program, including but not limited to, admissions, options for advanced placement, acceleration, part-time study, articulation, progression, graduation, health requirements, the potential for criminal background checks and expanded medical profiles, and appeals;

(j) a current financial report including expenditures to date consistent with Rule 410-4-.01 (3)(c);

(k) a plan for the recruitment of students; and

(l) current catalog and student handbook for the parent institution.

(5) The nurse administrator and at least two (2) full-time faculty members with graduate nursing education and expertise necessary to develop and implement the nursing education program and assess its outcomes must be appointed by the parent institution to submit the following Report II materials for Board review at least six (6) months prior to the enrollment of students in the first nursing course(s):

(a) any substantive changes since the review of previous reports;

(b) detailed information for each nursing course in the first half of the curriculum consistent with 410-3-.04;

(c) faculty qualification records for any new faculty members;

(d) a description of any additional practice setting(s) with a written commitment from practice setting representatives to include the possible impact on existing affiliating nursing programs;

(e) a current financial report including expenditures to date consistent with Rule 410-4-.01 (3)(c); and

(f) an update on projected enrollment;

(6) The nurse administrator and full-time faculty members must submit materials specified in Rule 410-4-.01 (5) as Report III for each nursing course in the second half of the curriculum no later than six (6) months after the enrollment of students in the first nursing courses.

(7) Board representatives will conduct site visits to a developing nursing education program on an annual basis at least until the first class graduates.

(8) Nursing education programs with Initial Approval are required to comply with all Board rules.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Validation of Certificates" adopted. F. and eff. June 30, 1965. **Amended:** F. Nov. 15, 1966; eff. Dec. 4, 1966. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Biennial Validation of Certificates" adopted. F. Feb. 8, 1974; eff. Feb. 28, 1974. **Amended:** F. Aug. 5, 1974; eff. Aug. 25, 1974. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Reports and Surveys" adopted. F. Mar. 18, 1976; eff. Apr. 7, 1976. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Development and Implementation of New Nursing Education Programs" adopted. F. Aug. 6, 1984; eff. Aug. 26, 1984. **Amended:** F. May 31, 1988; eff. June 20, 1988. **Amended:** F. Aug. 1, 1989; eff. Aug. 21, 1989. **Amended:** Authority changed. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 6, 1992; eff. Oct. 26, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Amended:** F. Oct. 14, 1998; eff. Nov. 3, 1998. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 26, 2007; eff. Oct. 16, 2007.

410-4-.02 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505; Ga. Code Ann. Sec. 84-1004. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Requirements for Reinstatement of Invalid Certificates" was filed on February 8, 1974; effective February 28, 1974. **Amended:** Filed August 5, 1974; effective August 25, 1974. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new

Rule entitled "Annual Reports" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed August 6, 1984; effective August 26, 1984.

410-4-.03 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505; Ga. Code Ann. Sec. 84-1004. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Failure to Reinstate Invalid Certificate: Revocation" was filed on February 8, 1974; effective February 28, 1974. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Comprehensive Reports" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed Filed August 6, 1984; effective August 26, 1984.

410-4-.04 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505; Ga. Code Ann. Sec. 84-1004. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Completion of Endorsement Forms to Other States" was filed on February 8, 1974; effective February 28, 1974. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Site Visits" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed August 6, 1984; effective August 26, 1984.

CHAPTER 410-5

DISCONTINUANCE OF A NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

410-5-.01 Discontinuance of a Nursing Education Program

410-5-.02 through 410-5-.14 Repealed

410-5-.01 Discontinuance of a Nursing Education Program. Amended.

(1) The dean/director shall notify the Board in writing of the intent to discontinue a nursing education program at least one year prior to the discontinuance.

(2) The dean/director shall submit a written plan for discontinuance of the program to include the:

(a) timetable;

(b) plan for students to complete the course of study or transfer to an approved nursing education program; and

(c) provision for permanent retention of student and graduate records.

(3) When a class is not admitted in a given year, the nursing education program must close unless approval has been granted by the Board based on the justification for continuation submitted to the Board.

(4) If a program is discontinued, the parent institution must provide for the completion of the course of study by all currently enrolled students either by continuing courses until those students have graduated, in accordance with 410-3-.02(5), or by transferring them to an approved nursing education program. Prior to the transfer of students, the parent institution must negotiate a written agreement, which delineates all responsibilities assumed by the participating parties. It must be signed by the respective administrative officers and submitted to the Board of Nursing for its review upon request.

(5) The parent institution is responsible for providing for the permanent retention and security of student and graduate records.

(6) If the parent institution also closes, advice should be sought from the Board concerning the permanent safekeeping and availability of records of the nursing education program.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5(a)(c). **History.** Original Rule entitled "General Administration" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Types of Approval" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Discontinuance of a Nursing Education Program" adopted. Filed August 6, 1984; effective August 26, 1984. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 6, 1992; eff. Oct. 26, 1992.

410-5-.02 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505; Ga. Code Ann. Sec. 84-1004. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Procedures for Approval of Schools of Nursing" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Requirements" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed August 6, 1984; effective August 26, 1984.

410-5-.03 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Permanent Records" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.04 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Permanent Records" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.05 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Certificates" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.06 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Size of School" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.07 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Financial Support" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.08 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Faculty" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.09 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Admission Requirements" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.10 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Graduation Requirements" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.11 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Students" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.12 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Curriculum" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.13 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Educational Facilities" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

410-5-.14 Repealed.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505. **History.** Original Rule entitled "General Equipment and Buildings" was filed on November 24, 1970; effective December 14, 1970. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976.

CHAPTER 410-6

LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

410-6-.01 Licensure by Examination

410-6-.02 Applicant for Licensure by Examination

410-6-.03 Repealed

410-6-.01 Licensure by Examination. Amended.

(1) The Board-recognized licensing examination is the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), for which a passing result must be achieved.

(2) An applicant must pass the licensing examination within a three year period from the date of graduation for graduates of United States nursing education programs or the date of eligibility for graduates of out-of-country nursing education programs.

(3) An applicant whose period of eligibility has expired must reestablish eligibility as a duly qualified applicant by enrolling in and graduating from an approved nursing education program.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5(a)(c), 43-26-7(a), 43-26-8. **History:** Original Rule entitled "Registration of Foreign Nurses Without Examination" was filed on February 8, 1974; effective February 28, 1974. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Licensure by Examination" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Filed October 26, 1977; effective November 15, 1977. **Amended:** Rule amended and title changed to "Licensure". Filed May 31, 1978; effective June 20, 1978. **Amended:** Filed September 29, 1978; effective October 19, 1978. **Amended:** Filed April 10, 1980; effective April 30, 1980. **Amended:** Filed December 9, 1980; effective December 29, 1980. **Amended:** Filed April 22, 1981; effective May 12, 1981. **Amended:** Filed June 8, 1984; effective June 28, 1984. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed December 20, 1984; effective January 9, 1985. **Amended:** Filed June 6, 1986; effective June 26, 1986. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Licensure by Examination" adopted. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987. **Amended:** Filed February 6, 1987; effective February 26, 1987. **Amended:** Filed January 28, 1988; effective February 17, 1988. **Amended:** F. Jun. 13, 1989; eff. Jul. 3, 1989. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule same title, adopted. F. Dec. 14, 1993; eff. Jan. 3, 1994.

410-6-.02 Applicants for Licensure by Examination.

(1) In order to establish eligibility, an applicant for the licensing examination must:

(a) have graduated from a nursing education program approved by Georgia Board of Nursing, from a nursing education program in another NCLEX-RN jurisdiction approved by its Board of Nursing, or from a nursing education program approved by appropriate authorities in its territory, province, state, district, or country which meets criteria similar to, and not less stringent than, those established by this Board.

(b) submit a completed application, on the appropriate Board form, accompanied by the required fee. An application is active for one year, after which a new application and fee are required.

(c) request the educational institution to submit an official transcript which bears the institution's stamp/seal, date of graduation and the degree/diploma conferred.

(2) In order to establish eligibility, an applicant who has graduated from an out-of-country nursing education program must request or provide the following in addition to criteria in 410-6-.02(1):

(a) verification of current registered nurse licensure in another territory, province, state, district, or country directly from the licensing board;

(b) transcript as specified in 410-6-.02(1)(c) in English or accompanied by a certified English language translation directly from the school, another licensing Board, or the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS);

(c) if a curricular deficiency(ies) must be remediated, an official transcript documenting passing of the course(s) must be submitted directly by an approved educational institution;

(d) documentation directly from the Educational Testing Service of a score of 500 (paper) or 173 (computer) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and 50 on the Test of Spoken English (TSE) for an applicant whose native language is not English. As of September 1, 2001, in lieu of the previously required English language tests, an applicant has one of two options:

Request the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) to provide documentation of CGFNS certification directly to the Board office.

Request the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools' (CGFNS) Credentials Evaluation Service to provide a Nursing and Science Course-by-Course Report directly to the Board office. In addition, the Educational Testing Service must be requested to provide documentation of a score of 540 (paper) or 207 (computer) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) directly to the Board office. Certain applicants may be exempt from the TOEFL requirement if they meet all of the following criteria: native language is English; country of initial nursing education was Australia, Bermuda, Canada, Ireland, Jamaica, New Zealand, South Africa, Trinidad, or the United Kingdom; language of instruction was English; and language of textbooks was English. International applicants who are currently licensed by endorsement in a United States jurisdiction shall be exempt from options (1) and (2).

(e) documentation of three (3) months or 500 hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse in another territory, province, state, district or country during the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of current application;

(f) an applicant who is unable to meet the requirement of 410-6-.02(2)(e) must satisfactorily complete 160 hours, or amount specified by the Board, of relevant nursing practice. Relevant nursing practice is any practice in which the job description requires a current, valid registered nurse license in the state of practice. The applicant who is engaging in relevant nursing practice must meet the following criteria:

1. be supervised/mentored by a registered nurse who holds a current valid license in the state/country in which the practice occurs;
2. submit a calendar/outline for the period of nursing practice for Board approval;
3. hold a temporary permit prior to beginning the period of nursing practice including orientation to the job, if applicable;
4. present the temporary permit to the supervising registered nurse prior to beginning the relevant nursing practice;
5. complete the relevant nursing practice within the six (6) month period in which the temporary permit is issued;

6. request the supervising R.N. to verify in writing, on a form provided by the Board, that the applicant has satisfactorily completed the relevant nursing practice;

7. return the temporary permit immediately if the relevant nursing practice is not begun or completed.

(3) Each applicant must apply directly to the test service for each NCLEX-RN.

(4) An applicant who is under investigation for possible violation of the Nurse Practice Act shall be permitted to take the examination.

(5) An applicant who passes the licensing examination and is under investigation for possible violation of the Nurse Practice Act may not be issued a license until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Board. If charges are substantiated, the license may be denied or sanctioned despite the applicant meeting all other criteria for licensure.

(6) Application for Licensure by Examination for Repeat Writers:

(a) An applicant who fails the licensing examination is not eligible for a license or for practice as a registered professional nurse in Georgia.

(b) An applicant who fails the licensing examination must complete a new application accompanied by the required fee.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-4, 43-26-7, 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-8. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Competence in English Language" adopted. F. Feb. 8, 1974; eff. Feb. 28, 1974. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Out of State and Foreign Applicants" adopted. F. Mar. 18, 1976; eff. Apr. 7, 1976. **Repealed:** F. Dec. 20, 1984; eff. Jan. 9, 1985. **Amended:** New Rule entitled "Applicants for Licensure by Examination" adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule same title adopted. F. Dec. 14, 1993; eff. Jan. 3, 1994. **Amended:** F. May 16, 1996; eff. June 5, 1996. **Amended:** F. July 23, 1997; eff. Aug. 12, 1997. **Repealed:** New Rule same title adopted. F. Aug. 3, 2001; eff. Aug. 23, 2001.

410-6-.03 Repealed.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-4(a)(5), (a)(9) and 43-26-7(b)(1)(3). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Registration of Foreign Nurses by Examination" was filed on February 8, 1974; effective February 28, 1974. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new rule entitled "Failures" adopted. Filed March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Failure" adopted. Filed October 20, 1982; effective November 9, 1982. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed December 20, 1984; effective January 9, 1985.

CHAPTER 410-7

LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT

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410-7-.01 Licensure by Endorsement. Amended.

410-7-.02 Repealed.

410-7-.01 Licensure by Endorsement for Registered Nurses Licensed in Another NCLEX-RN (SBTPE) Jurisdiction. Amended.

- (1) An applicant who is licensed as a registered nurse in another jurisdiction must:
- (a) have graduated from a nursing education program prior to passing a licensing examination recognized by the Board as valid for licensure as a registered nurse in Georgia:
 - 1. the current National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) for which a passing result must be achieved.
 - 2. earlier series of the NCLEX-RN and State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE) if all required parts of the test were taken and graded, and if the scores qualified the nurse for a license in another licensing jurisdiction or country using either the NCLEX-RN or SBTPE at the time of licensure;
 - 3. licensing examinations administered by the Board of Nursing of another state or territory of the United States prior to 1951, if the scores qualified the nurse for licensure;
 - (b) be currently licensed under the laws of another NCLEX-RN jurisdiction until licensure in Georgia is approved;
 - (c) request the Board(s) of original and current licensure to submit verification of (a) and (b) above on a form provided by the Georgia Board of Nursing.
- (2) The applicant shall submit a completed application, on a form provided by the Board, a photograph, the required fee, and requested supporting documents.
- (3) The applicant must be able to document one of the following within the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of current application:
- (a) three (3) months or 500 hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse;
 - (b) graduation from a nursing education program within the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of current application; or
 - (c) completion of a Board-approved reentry/refresher program within the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of current application.
- (4) An applicant who is unable to meet the requirements of 410-7-.01 (3) (a) (b) or (c) must satisfactorily complete both of the following:
- (a) 40 hours of study relevant to nursing practice within one (1) year of the date of application. Relevant study must include at least four (4) different content areas to include cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and Georgia Board of Nursing Law (Nurse Practice Act) and Rules. The Board may waive this requirement if the applicant has passed NCLEX-RN within the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of current application.
 - (b) 160 hours, (or amount specified by the Board) of relevant nursing practice in accordance with the criteria specified in 410-6-.02 (2) (f) 1. through 7.

(5) An applicant who has submitted a completed application accompanied by evidence of current licensure in another NCLEX-RN jurisdiction may be issued a temporary permit to practice as a registered nurse for six (6) months.

(6) A temporary permit or permanent license must be presented to the employer prior to employee's beginning any nursing position (including orientation) for which current Georgia licensure as a registered professional nurse is required.

(7) An applicant who holds an endorsement temporary permit may use the title registered nurse (R.N.).

(8) An application is considered valid for one year from the date of submission. After one year, an applicant must submit a new application, photograph, required fee, and those supporting documents which are subject to change.

(9) An applicant who is under investigation for possible violation of any Nurse Practice Act may not be issued a license until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Board. If the charges are substantiated, the license may be denied or sanctioned despite the applicant's meeting all other criteria for licensure.

(10) An applicant for licensure by endorsement who has begun employment as a registered nurse in Georgia prior to issuance of a temporary permit or license shall be subject to a referral to the Legal Services Office for a Consent Order which may include:

(a) a public reprimand; and

(b) a fine of \$50.00 per month (up to \$250.00) for practice between two (2) and six (6) months (or any portion thereof);

(c) a fine of \$75.00 per month for each additional month (or portion thereof) between seven (7) and twelve (12) months;

(d) a fine at the Board's discretion for unlicensed practice extending over one (1) year.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5(a)(c), 43-26-7(b), 43-26-8. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Fees" was filed on August 5, 1974; effective August 25, 1974. **Amended:** Rule repealed by Emergency Rule 410-7-0.1, entitled "Fees". Filed and effective on July 14, 1975, to remain in effect for a period of 120 days as specified by the Agency. (Said Emergency Rule expired November 11, 1975.) **Amended:** Rule entitled "Fees" adopted. Filed November 18, 1975; effective December 8, 1975. **Amended:** Filed May 21, 1978; effective July 1, 1978, as specified by the Agency. **Amended:** Filed June 27, 1978; effective July 17, 1978. **Amended:** Filed April 10, 1980; effective April 30, 1980. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed January 28, 1982; effective February 17, 1982. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed October 20, 1982; effective November 9, 1982. **Amended:** Filed June 8, 1984; effective June 28, 1984. **Amended:** Filed October 3, 1985; effective October 23, 1985. **Amended:** Filed April 1, 1986; effective April 21, 1986. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Licensure by Endorsement" adopted. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987. **Amended:** Filed January 28, 1988; effective February 17, 1988. **Amended:** Filed May 31, 1988; effective June 20, 1988. **Amended:** F. Mar. 28, 1989; eff. Apr. 17, 1989. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 22, 1990; eff. Nov. 11, 1990. **Amended:** F. May 7, 1991; eff. May 27, 1991. **Amended:** F. Aug. 13, 1992; eff. Sept. 2, 1992. **Amended:** F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997. **Amended:** F. Feb. 1, 2000; eff. Feb. 21, 2000.

410-7-.02 Repealed.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5(a)(2)(c), 43-26-7(b), 43-26-8. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Exclusion Provision" was filed on February 7, 1975; effective February 27, 1975. **Amended:** Rule repealed by Emergency Rule 410-7-0.1; filed and effective on July 14, 1975. (Said Emergency Rule expired November 11, 1975.) **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed November 18, 1975; effective December 8, 1975. **Amended:** Rule entitled "Licensing by Endorsement for First-Time Writers of the Licensing Examination in Another NCLEX-RN Jurisdiction" adopted. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority

adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Repealed:** F. Apr. 10, 1997; eff. Apr. 30, 1997.

CHAPTER 410-8

REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE

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410-8-.01 Reinstatement of License

410-8-.02 Unlicensed Practice

410-8-.03 Repealed

410-8-.01 Reinstatement of License. Amended.

- (1) The applicant shall submit a completed application, on a form provided by the Board, a photograph and the required fee.
 - (2) The applicant must be able to document **one** of the following:
 - (a) three (3) months or 500 hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse during the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of application;
 - (b) graduation from a nursing education program within the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of current application; or
 - (c) completion of a Board approved reentry or refresher program within the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of current application.
 - (3) An applicant unable to meet the requirements of 410-8-.01(2) must complete 40 hours of relevant study as described in 410-7-.01 (4)(a) and 160 hours of relevant nursing practice as described in 410-6-.02(f)1. through 7.
 - (4) A temporary permit or permanent license must be presented to the employer prior to the employee beginning any nursing position (including orientation) for which current Georgia licensure as a registered professional nurse is required.
 - (5) An applicant who has been or is under investigation for possible violation of the Nurse Practice Act may not be issued a temporary permit or license until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Board. If charges are substantiated, the license may be denied or sanctioned despite the applicant meeting all other criteria for reinstatement.
- Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5(a)(c), 43-26-7(c), 43-26-8, 43-26-10(1). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Temporary Permits" was filed on March 18, 1976, effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Temporary Permits by Examination" adopted. Filed October 26, 1977; effective July 1, 1978 as specified by the Agency. **Amended:** Filed January 11, 1978; effective July 1, 1978, as specified by the Agency. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed October 20, 1982; effective November 9, 1982. **Amended:** Filed March 14, 1983; effective April 3, 1983. **Amended:** Filed April 1, 1986; effective April 21, 1986. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Reinstatement of License" adopted. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987. **Amended:** Filed January 28, 1988; effective February 17, 1988. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Aug. 13, 1992; eff. Sept. 2, 1992. **Amended:** F. Jul. 23, 1997; eff. Aug. 12, 1997.

410-8-.02 Unlicensed Practice. Amended.

An applicant for reinstatement whose license is revoked by administrative law for failure to renew but who has continued employment as a registered nurse without a license shall be subject to a referral to the Legal Services Office for a Consent Order which may include:

- (a) a public reprimand; and

(b) a fine of \$50.00 per month (up to \$250.00) for practice between two (2) and six (6) months (or any portion thereof);

(c) a fine of \$75.00 per month for each additional month (or portion thereof) between seven (7) and twelve (12) months;

(d) a fine at the Board's discretion for unlicensed practice extending over one (1) year.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5(a)(c), 43-26-7(c), 43-26-8, 43-26-10(1). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Permits by Endorsement" was filed on March 18, 1976; effective April 7, 1976. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed October 26, 1977; effective November 15, 1977.

Amended: Filed May 31, 1978; effective July 1, 1978, as specified by the Agency. **Amended:** Filed January 28, 1982; effective February 17, 1982. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Other Temporary Permits" adopted. Filed October 20, 1982; effective November 9, 1982. **Amended:** Filed December 20, 1984; effective January 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987. **Amended:** Rule entitled "Unlicensed Practice" adopted. Filed May 31, 1988; effective June 20, 1988. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. Amended: F. Feb. 1, 2000; eff. Feb. 21, 2000.

410-8-.03 Repealed.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-4(a)(9); 43-26-7(c), (d). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Temporary Permits Prior to Employment" was filed on June 6, 1986; effective June 26, 1986. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987.

CHAPTER 410-9

RENEWAL OF LICENSE

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410-0-.01 Renewal of license

410-9-.02 Repealed

410-9-.01 Renewal of License.

(1) Licenses shall expire according to the rules of the Joint Secretary, State Examining Boards, Rule 295-2-.05, Licenses Expiring January 31 – Even Years and Rule 295-2-.12, Licenses Expiring January 31 – Odd Years.

(2) Completed license renewal applications, accompanied by the required fee, shall be submitted by the posted deadline.

(3) A licensee must present the current license to the employer by February 1, or the next work day, after the license expires to continue employment as a registered professional nurse. However, if the license has been renewed but has not been received by the licensee or the employer is located in another city or state, then the licensee shall cause the employer to verify current license status through the Board web site, www.sos.state.ga.us.

(4) Registered nurse employers shall not permit anyone to practice as a registered professional nurse without evidence of a current license or temporary permit after February 1 after the license expires.

(5) License renewal applications postmarked after January 31 the year your license expires will be returned and the licensee required to reinstate the license.

(6) A name change occurring during the renewal period may be processed without additional fee provided that a copy of the marriage certificate, court order, or substantiating documentation accompanies the renewal application.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-9, 43-26-10. **History.** Original Rule entitled “Criteria for Reinstatement of License” adopted. F. Mar. 18, 1976; eff. Apr. 7, 1976. **Amended:** F. June 27, 1978; eff. July 17, 1978. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled “Criteria for Reinstatement of a Lapsed or Inactive License” adopted. F. Apr. 10, 1980; eff. Apr. 30, 1980. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled Criteria for Reinstatement of License” adopted. F. Dec. 9, 1980; eff. Dec. 29, 1980. **Amended:** F. Dec. 20, 1984; eff. Jan. 9, 1985. **Amended:** F. June 19, 1985; eff. July 9, 1985. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled “Renewal of License” adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1986; eff. Jan. 7, 1987. **Amended:** F. Feb. 6, 1987; eff. Feb. 26, 1987. **Amended:** Authority changed. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 28, 1995; eff. Apr. 17, 1995. **Amended:** F. Dec. 1, 1998; eff. Dec. 21, 1998. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 26, 2004; eff. Sept. 15, 2004.

410-9-.02 Repealed.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-5, 43-26-9, 43-26-10. **History.** Original Rule entitled “Change of Address” adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1986; eff. Jan. 7, 1987. **Amended:** Authority changed. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990.

CHAPTER 410-10

FEES

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410-10-.01 Fees. Amended.

410-10-.02 Repealed.

410-10-.01 Fees.

(1) All fees for applications for registered nurse licensure by examination (first-time or repeat writers), licensure by endorsement, initial advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) authorizations, registered nurse reinstatements, advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) reinstatements, biennial renewal of the RN licenses and APRN authorizations, and all other fees which may be authorized by law shall be established by the Board periodically as set forth on a fee schedule and may be obtained from the Board office. Application fees are non-refundable and an application or request is not complete unless the required fee has been received by the Board. Fees must be paid in U.S. funds.

(2) Fees for the NCLEX-RN examination shall be determined by and paid directly to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN).

(3) Fees for any national examination for certification as a nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife, certified registered nurse anesthetist, or clinical nurse specialist/psychiatric mental health shall be determined by and paid directly to that respective certifying organization. The examination must be administered by a national certification organization approved by the Board.

(4) The Board will determine fees for biennial license renewal.

(5) Reinstatement of a licensure as a registered professional nurse and/or authorization as a nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife, certified registered nurse anesthetist, or clinical nurse specialist/psychiatric mental health is at the discretion of the Board after all requirements, as determined by the Board, have been met. The required fee is not refundable.

(6) Fees and applications for initial licensure, initial authorization, or reinstatement that are received, approved, or authorized within ninety (90) days before a biennial licensure expiration date shall be issued a license or authorization for the next successive licensure period.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-26-5. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Procedure for Renewal License" adopted. F. Mar. 18, 1976; eff. Apr. 7 1976. **Amended:** F. May 31, 1978; eff. July 1, 1978, as specified by the Agency. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Expiration of License" adopted. F. Apr. 10, 1980; eff. Apr. 30, 1980. **Amended:** ER. 410-10-0.2-.01 adopted. F. Dec. 22, 1980; eff. Dec. 18, 1980, the date of adoption. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 28, 1982; eff. Feb. 17, 1982. **Amended:** ER. 410-10-0.3-.01 adopted. F. Dec. 28, 1982; eff. Dec. 27, 1982, the date of adoption. **Amended:** ER. 410-10-0.4-.01 adopted. F. and eff. Jan. 31, 1983, the date of adoption. **Amended:** F. Aug. 6, 1984; eff. Aug. 26, 1984. **Amended:** F. June 19, 1985; eff. July 9, 1985. **Amended:** F. Apr. 1, 1986; eff. Apr. 21, 1986. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Fees" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1986; eff. Jan. 7, 1987. **Amended:** F. Feb. 6, 1987; eff. Feb. 26, 1987. **Amended:** F. Jan. 28, 1988; eff. Feb. 17, 1988. **Amended:** Authority changed. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted F. Aug. 23, 1990; eff. Sept. 12, 1990. **Amended:** F. Oct. 4, 1991; eff. Oct. 24, 1991. **Amended:** F. June 9, 1992; eff. June 29, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 28, 1995; eff. Apr. 17, 1995. **Amended:** F. Apr. 10, 1997; eff. Apr. 30, 1997. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 27, 1998; eff. Feb. 16, 1998. **Amended:** F. June 10, 2002; eff. June 30, 2002. **Amended:** F. Oct. 2, 2002; eff. Oct. 22, 2002. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 26, 2004; eff. Sept. 15, 2004.

410-10-.02 Repealed.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-4(a)(9). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Change of Address" was filed on June 19, 1985; effective July 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed December 18, 1986; effective January 7, 1987.

CHAPTER 410-11

STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

410-11-.01 Standards of Registered Professional Nursing Practice

410-11-.02 Definition of Unprofessional Conduct

410-11-.01 Standards of Registered Professional Nursing Practice. Amended.

(1) For purposes of O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-4 (a)(6)(B)(v) and 43-1-29(6), the Georgia Board of Nursing defines the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing nursing practice as including, but not limited to the following enumerated standards of competent practice.

(2) The Georgia Board of Nursing recognizes that assessment, nursing diagnosis, planning, intervention, evaluation, teaching, and supervision are the major responsibilities of the registered nurse in the practice of nursing. The Standards of Registered Professional Nursing Practice delineate the quality of nursing care which a patient/client should receive regardless of whether it is provided solely by a registered nurse or by a registered nurse in collaboration with other licensed or unlicensed personnel. The Standards are based on the premise that the registered nurse is responsible for and accountable to the patient/client for the quality of nursing care rendered. The Standards of Registered Professional Nursing Practice shall establish a baseline for quality nursing care; be derived from the law governing nursing; apply to the registered nurse practicing in any setting; govern the practice of the licensee at all levels of competency.

(a) Standards related to the registered nurse's responsibility to apply the nursing process (adapted from American Nurses' Association *Code for Nurses and Standards of Practice*). The registered nurse shall:

1. assess the patient/client in a systematic, organized manner;
2. formulate a nursing diagnosis based on accessible, communicable and recorded data (which is collected in a systematic and continuous manner);
3. plan care which includes goals and prioritized nursing approaches or measures derived from the nursing diagnoses;
4. implement strategies to provide for patient/client participation in health promotion, maintenance and restoration;
5. initiate nursing actions to assist the patient/client to maximize her/his health capabilities;
6. evaluate with the patient/client the status of goal achievement as a basis for reassessment, reordering of priorities, new goal-setting and revision of the plan of nursing care;
7. seek educational resources and create learning experiences to enhance and maintain current knowledge and skills appropriate to her/his area of practice.

(b) Standards related to the registered nurse's responsibilities as a member of the nursing profession. The registered nurse shall:

1. function within the legal boundaries of nursing practice based upon knowledge of statutes and regulations governing nursing;
2. accept responsibility for individual nursing actions and continued competence;
3. communicate, collaborate and function with other members of the health team to provide optimum care;
4. seek education and supervision as necessary when implementing nursing practice techniques;
5. respect the dignity and rights of the patient/client regardless of socioeconomic status, personal attributes or nature of health problems;
6. maintain each patient/client's right to privacy by protecting confidential information unless obligated, by law, to disclose the information;
7. provide nursing care without discrimination on the basis of diagnosis, age, sex, race, creed or color;
8. delegate and supervise only those nursing measures which the nurse knows, or should know, that another person is prepared, qualified, or licensed to perform;
9. retain professional accountability for nursing care when delegating nursing intervention;
10. respect and safeguard the property of clients, family, significant others and the employer;
11. notify the appropriate party of any unprofessional conduct which may jeopardize patient/client safety;
12. Participate in the periodic review and evaluation of the quality and appropriateness of nursing care.

(c) Standards related to the registered nurse's responsibilities in assignment of patient activities to unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP). The registered nurse shall:

1. Determine that the care and/or activity to be performed would be based upon orders or directions of a licensed physician, licensed dentist, licensed podiatrist or person licensed to practice nursing as a registered professional nurse.
2. Assign only care and activities that do not require the skills and knowledge of a person practicing nursing as a registered professional nurse or licensure of another health care professional. The care and activities to be assigned must meet all of the following criteria:
 - a. The care and/or activities do not require complex observations or critical decisions.
 - b. The care and/or activities can be safely performed according to exact, unchanging directions.
 - c. The outcome and/or results of the activities are reasonably predictable.
3. Verify that the UAP has the necessary knowledge and skills to accept the assignment.
4. Periodically evaluate and review the quality and appropriateness of the care provided by the UAP.

5. Not assign activities which require licensure to an unlicensed assistive personnel.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-3, 43-26-5(a)(b)(c), 43-26-10, 43-26-12(a)(5). **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Procedural Rules" was filed on January 11, 1978; effective January 31, 1978. **Amended:** Rule renumbered as 410-13.01 and a new Rule entitled "Definition of Unprofessional Conduct" adopted. Filed February 6, 1987; effective February 26, 1987. **Amended:** Rule renumbered as 410-11-.02 and a new rule entitled "Standards of Registered Professional Nursing Practice" adopted. Filed August 5, 1987; effective August 25, 1987. **Amended:** Filed October 1, 1987; effective October 21, 1987. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Amended:** F. Aug. 11, 2000; eff. Aug. 31, 2000.

410-11-.02 Definition of Unprofessional Conduct. Amended.

Nursing behaviors (acts, knowledge, and practices) failing to meet the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing nursing practice, which could jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of the public, shall constitute unprofessional conduct. These behaviors shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) using inappropriate or unsafe judgement, technical skill or interpersonal behaviors in providing nursing care;
- (b) performing any nursing technique or procedure for which the nurse is unprepared by education or experience;
- (c) disregarding a patient/client's dignity, right to privacy or right to confidentiality;
- (d) failing to provide nursing care because of diagnosis, age, sex, race, creed or color;
- (e) abusing a patient/client verbally, physically, emotionally, or sexually;
- (f) falsifying, omitting or destroying documentation of nursing actions on the official patient/client record;
- (g) abandoning or knowingly neglecting patients/clients requiring nursing care;
- (h) delegating nursing care, functions, tasks or responsibility to others when the nurse knows or should know that such delegation is to the detriment of patient safety;
- (i) providing one's license/temporary permit to another individual for any reason;
- (j) failing to practice nursing in accordance with prevailing nursing standards due to physical or psychological impairment;
- (k) diverting prescription drugs for own or another person's use;
- (l) misappropriating money or property from a patient/client or employee;
- (m) failing to notify the appropriate party of any unprofessional conduct which may jeopardize patient/client safety.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-2, 43-26-3, 43-26-5(a)(b)(c), 43-26-10. **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Definition of Professional Conduct" was adopted as Rule 410-11-.01 on February 6, 1987; effective February 26, 1987 and renumbered as Rule 410-11-.02 by filing of August 5, 1987; effective August 25, 1987. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990.

CHAPTER 410-12

REGULATION OF ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE

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410-12-.01	Purpose, Definitions, Title, and Authority for Advanced Nursing Practice.
410-12-.03	Rules for Nurse Practitioners. Amended.
410-12-.04	Rules for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists. Amended.
410-12-.05	Rules for Clinical Nurse Specialists, Psychiatric/Mental Health. Amended.
410-12-.06	Provisional Authority to Practice.
410-12-.07	Failure of the Examination.
410-12-.08	Temporary Authority to Practice.
410-12-.09	Unauthorized Practice.
410-12-.10	Revocation or Suspension.
410-12-.11	Reinstatement of Authorization.
410-12-.12	Recognition of National Certifying Organizations for Advanced Nursing Practice.
410-12-.13	Repealed.

410-12-.01 Purpose, Definitions, Title, and Authority for Advanced Nursing Practice.

(1) Purpose.

(a) To promote, preserve, and protect public health, safety, and welfare by regulating advanced nursing practice.

(2) Definitions:

(a) The advanced practice registered nurse is a certified nurse-midwife (CNM), nurse practitioner (NP), certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) or clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health (CNS,PMH), and is authorized to practice by the Georgia Board of Nursing ("the Board").

(b)"Advanced nursing practice" means practice by a registered professional nurse who meets those educational, practice, certification requirements, or any combination of such requirements, as specified by the Board and includes certified nurse-midwives, nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists in psychiatric/mental health, and others required by the Board.

(3) Title.

(a) Advanced practice registered nurses are authorized to practice in the categories of certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist and clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health. Each advanced practice registered nurse shall use the category designation for purposes of identification and documentation.

(4) Authority to Practice:

(a) Only a registered professional nurse authorized to practice according to these rules shall use the specified title, and practice or offer to practice, as a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist or clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health, unless otherwise authorized to do so by the Board.

(b) The advanced practice registered nurse is authorized to perform advanced nursing functions and certain medical acts which include, but are not limited to, ordering drugs, treatments, and diagnostic studies as provided in O.C.G.A. 43-34-26.1 and Chapter 410-13.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-4, 43-26-2, 43-26-3(1), 43-26-5(a)(c). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Rules for Nurse Practitioner" was filed on May 23, 1980; effective June 12, 1980. **Amended:** Filed December 9, 1980; effective December 29, 1980. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed April 1, 1986; effective April 21, 1986. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted F. Mar. 31, 1992; eff. Apr. 20, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Purpose and Authority for Advanced Nursing Practice" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Purpose, Definitions, Title and Authority for Advanced Nursing Practice" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997.

410-12-.02 Rules for Certified Nurse-Midwives. Amended.

(1) Definition.

(a) A certified nurse-midwife is a registered professional Nurse who has completed/graduated from a post-basic educational program for nurse midwives which included theoretical and practical components and evidence of advanced pharmacology within the curriculum or as a separate course. The certified nurse-midwife is certified by the ACNM Certification Council and is authorized to practice by the Board.

(2) Scope and Standards of Practice for the Certified Nurse-Midwife.

(a) The certified nurse-midwife (CNM) provides independent management of women's health care, focusing particularly on pregnancy, childbirth, the postpartum period, care of the newborn, and the family planning and gynecological needs of women. The certified nurse-midwife practices within a health care system that provides for consultation, collaborative management, or referral as indicated by the health status of the client. The certified nurse-midwife must practice in accordance with the Board-approved American College of Nurse-Midwives' current Standards for the Practice of Nurse-Midwifery.

(3) Requirements to Practice as a Certified Nurse-Midwife:

(a) Prior to January 1, 1999, and applicant who submits the following items may be authorized to practice as a certified nurse-midwife:

1. evidence of current licensure as a registered professional nurse in Georgia;
2. a completed Board application with required fee;
3. official transcript which verifies graduation from a post-basic educational program for nurse-midwives which includes theoretical and practical components and evidence of advanced pharmacology within the curriculum or as a separate course, and;
4. verification of current national certification from the ACNM Certification Council. If certified prior to January 1, 1996, evidence of enrollment in the Continuing Competency Assessment Program of the American College of Nurse-Midwives, which bears current cycle dates, must be provided.

(b) Beginning January 1, 1999, for initial authority to practice as a certified nurse-midwife, and applicant must submit an official transcript which verifies completion/graduation with a master's or higher degree in nursing or a graduate degree with a concentration in nurse-midwifery, evidence of advanced pharmacology within the curriculum or as a separate course, in addition to the requirements stated in 410-12-.02 (3)(a) 1., 2. and 4.

(4) Biennial Renewal of Board Authorization to Practice as a Certified Nurse-midwife:

(a) The date for renewal of Board authorization as a certified nurse-midwife will coincide with the renewal of the registered professional nurse license.

(b) Authorization to practice as a certified nurse-midwife shall expire on January 31st of odd-numbered years and shall be administratively revoked if not renewed.

(c) For continued authority to practice, the certified nurse-midwife must submit:

1. a completed renewal application for advanced nursing practice;
2. a copy of current national certification with expiration date from the ACNM Certification Council. If certified prior to January 1, 1996, evidence of enrollment in the Continuing Competency Assessment Program of the American College of Nurse-Midwives, which bears current cycle dates must be provided.
3. payment of the renewal fee.

(d) A renewal application, received with a postmark date after January 31 of odd-numbered years, will be returned to the applicant. Thereafter, the applicant must apply to reinstate the authorization.

Authority Ga. L. 1975, pp. 501, 505, 511; Ga. L. 1978, pp. 1635, 1636; Ga. Code Ann. 84-10, 84-1001(d), 84-1004(a), 84-1004(g), (1), (5), 84-1004(n), 84-1009(c); O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-4, 43-26-2, 43-26-3(1), 43-26-5(a)(c). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Rules for Registered Nurse Anesthetists" was filed on May 27, 1981; effective June 16, 1981. **Amended:** Filed January 31, 1984; effective February 20, 1984. **Amended:** Filed December 20, 1984; effective January 9, 1985. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Definitions" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Rules for Certified Nurses-Midwives" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997. **Amended:** F. Jan 27, 1998; eff. Feb. 16, 1998. **Amended:** F. Jan. 27, 1999; eff. Feb. 16, 1999.

410-12-.03 Rules for Nurse Practitioners. Amended.

(1) Definition

(a) A nurse practitioner is a registered professional nurse who has completed/graduated from a post-basic educational program for nurse practitioners, at least nine (9) months in length, which includes theoretical and practical components and evidence of advanced pharmacology within the curriculum or as a separate course.

(b) A nurse practitioner holds current certification from the certifying organization of the American Nurses Association (ANA), National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners (NAPNAP), the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, And Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN, formerly NAACOG), or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and is authorized to practice by the Board.

(2) Scope and Standards of Practice for the Nurse Practitioner:

(a) The nurse practitioner provides primary nursing and medical services to individuals, families and groups, emphasizing health promotion and disease prevention as well as the diagnosis and management of acute and chronic diseases. The nurse practitioner collaborates as necessary with a variety of individuals to diagnose and manage clients' health care problems. The nurse practitioner must practice in a manner that is not inconsistent with the standards of practice of the Board-approved organization by which he/she is certified:

(b) American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Standards of Practice; National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners Standards of Practice for PNP/As; American Nurses Association Standards of Practice for the Primary Care Nurse Practitioner; or Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses Standards for the Nursing Care of Women and Newborns.

(3) Requirements to Practice as a Nurse Practitioner:

(a) Prior to January 1, 1999, an applicant who submits the following items may be authorized to practice as a nurse practitioner:

1. evidence of current licensure as a registered professional nurse in Georgia.
2. a completed Board application with required fee;
3. official transcript which verifies completion/graduation from a post-basic educational program for nurse practitioners, at least nine (9) months in length which includes theoretical and practical components and evidence of advanced pharmacology within the curriculum or as a separate course; and
4. verification of current national certification from the respective certifying organization.

(b) Beginning January 1, 1999, for initial authority to practice as a nurse practitioner, an applicant must submit an official transcript which verifies completion/graduation with a master's or higher degree in nursing for the respective nurse practitioner specialty and evidence of advanced pharmacology within the curriculum or as a separate course, in addition to the requirements stated in 410-12-.03 (3)(a) 1., 2. and 4.

(4) Biennial Renewal of Board Authorization to Practice as a Nurse Practitioner:

(a) The date for renewal of Board authorization as a nurse practitioner will coincide with the renewal of the registered professional nurse license.

(b) Authorization to practice as a nurse practitioner shall expire on January 31 of odd-numbered years and shall be administratively revoked if not renewed.

(c) For continued authority to practice, the nurse practitioner must submit:

1. a completed renewal application for advanced nursing practice;
2. a copy of current national certification which bears the expiration date; and
3. payment of the renewal fee.

(d) A renewal application, received with a postmark date after January 31 of odd-numbered years, will be returned to the applicant. Thereafter, the applicant must apply to reinstate the authorization.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-4, 43-26-2, 43-26-3(1), 43-26-5(a)(c)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Rules for Certified Nurse-Midwives" was filed on August 6, 1984; effective August 26, 1984. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 31, 1992; eff. Apr. 20, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Scope and Standards of Practice" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Rules for Nurse Practitioners" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997. **Amended:** F. Jan. 27, 1999; eff. Feb. 16, 1999.

410-12-.04 Rules for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists. Amended.

(1) Definition

(a) A certified registered nurse anesthetist is a registered professional nurse who has completed/graduated from a post-basic educational program for nurse anesthetists which includes theoretical and practical components and evidence of advanced pharmacology, is currently certified/recertified by the Council on Certification/Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists, and is authorized to practice by the Board.

(2) Scope and Standards of Practice for the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

The certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) provides anesthesia and related care services in four general categories:

(a)preanesthetic preparation and evaluation;

- (b) anesthesia induction, maintenance, and emergence;
- (c) perianesthetic and clinical support functions; and
- (d) postanesthesia care.

The certified registered nurse anesthetist must practice in accordance with Board-approved American Association of Nurse Anesthetists' current *Guidelines and Standards for Nurse Anesthesia Practice*.

(3) Requirements to practice as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.

(a) An applicant who has graduated from an approved nurse anesthesia educational program prior to January 1, 1999, who submits the following items may be authorized to practice as a certified registered nurse anesthetist:

1. evidence of current licensure as a registered professional nurse in Georgia;
2. a completed Board application with required fee;
3. official transcript which verifies completion/graduation from a post-basic educational program for certified registered nurse anesthetists which includes theoretical and practical components and evidence of advanced pharmacology; and
4. verification of current national certification/recertification from the Council on Certification/Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists.

(b) An applicant who graduates from an approved nurse anesthesia education program on or after January 1, 1999, who submits the following items may be authorized to practice as a certified registered nurse anesthetist:

1. evidence of current licensure as a registered professional nurse in Georgia;
2. a completed Board application with required fee;
3. official transcript which verifies completion/graduation with a master's or higher degree in nursing with a concentration in anesthesia and evidence of advanced pharmacology or a graduate degree with a concentration in anesthesia and evidence of advanced pharmacology; and
4. verification of current national certification/recertification from the Council of Certification/Recertification of Nurse Anesthetist

(4) Biennial Renewal of Board authorization to practice as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.

(a) The data for renewal of Board authorization as a certified registered nurse anesthetist will coincide with the renewal of the registered professional nurse license.

(b) Authorization to practice as a certified registered nurse anesthetist shall expire on January 31st of odd-numbered years and shall be administratively revoked if not renewed.

(c) For continued authority to practice, the certified registered nurse anesthetist must submit:

1. a completed renewal application for advanced nursing practice;
2. a copy of current national certification/recertification as a certified registered nurse anesthetist which bears the expiration date; and
3. payment of the renewal fee.

(d) A renewal application, received with a postmark date after January 31 of odd-numbered years, will be returned to the applicant. Thereafter, the applicant must apply to reinstate the authorization.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-4, 43-26-2, 43-26-3(1); 43-26-5(a)(c). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Rules for Clinical Nurse Specialists, Psychiatric/Mental, Health" was filed on August 5, 1987; effective August 25, 1987. **Repealed:** Authority, repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990, eff. May 28,

1990. **Amended:** F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Requirements to Practice as a Certified Nurse-Midwife, Certified Nurse Practitioner or Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1996; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule, entitled, "Rules for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists" adopted. f. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997. **Amended:** F. Jan. 27, 1998; eff. Feb. 16, 1998. **Amended:** F. Jan. 27, 1999; eff. Feb. 16, 1999.

410-12-.05 Rules for Clinical Nurse Specialists, Psychiatric/Mental Health. Amended.

(1) Definition

(a) A clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health, is a registered professional nurse who has graduated from a program of graduate study and supervised practice; has demonstrated depth and breadth of knowledge, competence and skill in the advanced practice of psychiatric/mental health nursing; and is authorized to practice by the Board.

(2) Scope and Standards of Practice for the Clinical Nurse Specialist, Psychiatric/Mental Health.

(a) The clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health, (CNS,PMH), is an advanced practice registered nurse who provides a full range of nursing services from mental health promotion to mental illness rehabilitation. As a primary mental health care provider, the clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health, provides psychotherapy, clinical supervision, consultation, and liaison services. The clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health, must practice in accordance with the Board-approved current standards of the American Nurses Association's *A Statement on Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nursing Practice and Standards of Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nursing Practice*.

(3) Requirements to Practice as a Clinical Nurse Specialist, Psychiatric/Mental Health.

(a) Prior to January 1, 1999, an applicant who submits the following items may be authorized to practice as a clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health:

1. evidence of current licensure as a registered professional nurse in Georgia;
2. completed Board application with required fee; and
3. official transcript which verifies a master's or higher degree in nursing with specialization in psychiatric/mental health nursing which includes a minimum of two (2) graduate courses in psychiatric/mental health nursing, supervised practice for each of the two (2) graduated courses and evidence of advanced pharmacology within the curriculum or as a separate course; or verification of current national certification as a clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health from the American Nurses Credentialing Center and evidence of advance pharmacology.

(b) Beginning January 1, 1999, an applicant requesting initial authority to practice as a clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health must submit the following:

1. evidence of current licensure as a registered professional nurse in a Georgia;
2. a completed Board application with required fee;
3. official transcript which verifies a master's or higher degree in nursing with specialization in psychiatric/mental health nursing which includes a minimum of two (2) graduate courses in psychiatric/mental health nursing, supervised practice for each of the two (2) graduate courses and evidence of advanced pharmacology within the curriculum or as a separate course; and

4. verification of current national certification as a clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

(4) Biennial renewal of Board Authorization to Practice as a Clinical Nurse Specialist, Psychiatric/Mental Health:

(a) The date for renewal of Board Authorization as a clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health, will coincide with the renewal of the registered professional nurse license.

(b) Authorization to practice as a clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health, shall expire on January 31 of odd-numbered years and shall be administratively revoked if not renewed.

(c) For continued authority to practice, the clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health, must submit:

1. a completed renewal application for advanced nursing practice;

2. a copy of current national certification as a clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health which bears the expiration date, if initial authorization was based on national certification; and

3. payment of the renewal fee.

(d) A renewal application, received with a postmark date after January 31 of odd-numbered years, will be returned to the applicant. Thereafter, the applicant must apply to reinstate the authorization.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Requirements to Practice as a Clinical Nurse Specialist, Psychiatric/Mental Health" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Rules for Clinical Nurse Specialists, Psychiatric/Mental Health" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997. **Amended:** F. Jan. 27, 1999; eff. Feb. 16, 1999.

410-12-.06 Provisional Authority to Practice. Amended.

(1) Provisional authority to engage in advanced nursing practice may be issued to a graduate nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist who applies to the Board and who is eligible to take or has taken the first available certification examination following graduation. Eligibility to write a Board recognized national certification examination must be received from the certifying organization on a form provided by the Board.

(2) Provisional authority to engage in advance nursing practice may be issued to a graduate clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric/mental health who applies to the Board in order to meet the clinical and supervision hours required by the Board recognized national certification organization for national certification examination eligibility.

(3) Provisional authority is not renewable and shall expire at one of the following times, whichever occurs first:

(a) six (6) months after the date of the certification examination, or for graduate clinical nurse specialists, psychiatric/mental health, two years after the date provisional authority was granted;

(b) upon notification of failing the certification examination; or

(c) upon failure to write the scheduled certification examination.

(4) An applicant who is granted provisional authority for advanced nursing practice must upon receipt of passing results, request the respective certification organization to verify their certification on a form provided by the Board.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Board Authorization" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Provisional Authority to Practice" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Dec. 1, 1998; eff. Dec. 21, 1998.

410-12-.07 Failure of the Examination.

An applicant who fails the national certification examination shall not engage in advanced nursing practice until such time as all requirements are met and written authorization to practice as a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist or clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health is issued by the Board.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Provisional Authority to Practice" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Failure of the Examination" adopted F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997.

410-12-.08 Temporary Authority to Practice.

(1) Temporary authority to practice as a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist or clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health may be issued to a registered nurse who is an applicant for authorization for advanced practice nursing under the following circumstances:

- (a) The Applicant has met all requirements for Board authorization but the Board review of the application is delayed due to an investigation of a possible period of questionable unauthorized nursing practice; or
- (b) The Applicant has met all the requirements for Board authorization except current national certification because such certification has expired, and the applicant must meet specific practice requirements for recertification.

(2) Temporary authorization may be issued for a period of up to six (6) months, and may be renewable once for a period of up to six (6) months.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Failure of the examination" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Temporary Authority to Practice" adopted. F. Sept 30, 1997; eff Oct. 20, 1997.

410-12-.09 Unauthorized Practice.

An applicant who is employed or engaged in advanced nursing practice as a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist or clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health in Georgia prior to Board authorization for such practice shall be in violation of 410-12-.01 (4). Such conduct may result in action taken by the Board which may include a reprimand and fine as follows:

(a) a public reprimand and

(b) a fine:

1. of \$50.00 per month (up to \$250.00) for practice between two (2) and six (6) months, or any portion thereof;
2. of \$75.00 per month each additional month, or portion thereof, between seven (7) and twelve (12) months;
3. at the Board's discretion for unauthorized practice extending over one (1) year.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Renewal" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Renewal of Advanced Nursing Practice Authorization" adopted. F. May 16, 1996; eff. Jun. 5, 1996. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Unauthorized Practice" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997.

410-12-.10 Revocation or Suspension.

As provided on O.C.G.A. 43-1-19 and 43-26-11, the Board may revoke, suspend, or otherwise discipline the registered professional nurse license and/or the authority to practice as a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist, clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health, or anyone so authorized who demonstrates unprofessional conduct according to 410-11-.02, fails to comply with current scope and standards of practice according to 410-12-.02 (2), 410-12-.03 (2), 410-12-.04 (2), or 410-12-.05 (2), or who fails to maintain national certification and/or continuing competency requirements.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Exceptions to the Practice Requirements" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Revocation or Suspension" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997.

410-12-.11 Reinstatement of Authorization.

- (1) An advanced practice registered nurse whose authorization has expired may be eligible for reinstatement of authorization.
- (2) The applicant must:
 - (a) submit a completed reinstatement application, photograph and required fee;
 - (b) request the appropriate national certifying organization to verify current certification on a form provided by the Board; and
 - (c) be able to document three (3) months or 500 hours of licensed practice as a registered nurse (or advanced practice registered nurse) during the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of current application.
- (3) An applicant who is unable to meet the requirement of 410-12- (2)(c) must comply with similar requirements of 410-6-.02 (2) (f) 1 through 7 for an advanced practice registered nurse.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Unauthorized Practice" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Reinstatement of Authorization" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997.

410-12-.12 Recognition of National Certifying Organizations for Advanced Nursing Practice.

- (1) The Board recognizes certification by: American College of Nurse-Midwives Certification Council (or American College of Nurse-Midwives); American Academy of Nurse Practitioners; National Certification Corporation for the Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing Specialties; National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Nurses; Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists; Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists; and American Nurses Credentialing Center (for nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists, psychiatric/mental health).
- (2) The Board shall biennially review and evaluate the certification process of Board-recognized certifying organizations.

(3)The Board may discontinue recognition of a certifying organization if it deems that the respective certification process does not provide an accurate evaluation of the individual's ability to engage in advanced nursing practice.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21) **History.** Original Rule entitled "Revocation or Suspension" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F, Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. Repealed: New Rule entitled "Recognition of National Certifying Organizations for Advanced Nursing Practice" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997

410-12-.13 Repealed.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-4, 43-26-5(a)(2)(11)(21). **History.** Original Rule entitled "Recognition of National Certifying Agents for Advanced Nursing Practice" adopted. F. Nov. 22, 1994; eff. Dec. 12, 1994. **Repealed:** New Rule, same title, adopted. F. Mar. 29, 1995; eff. Apr. 18, 1995. **Repealed:** F. Sept. 30, 1997; eff. Oct. 20, 1997.

CHAPTER 410-13

REGULATION OF PROTOCOL USE BY REGISTERED NURSES

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410-13-.01 Regulation of Protocol Use By Registered Nurses

410-13-.01 Regulation of Protocol Use By Registered Nurses. Amended.

(1) The general purpose of these rules is to assist in protecting and safeguarding the public by regulating the practice of registered nurses who use protocols as authorized by O.C.G.A. 43-34-26.1.

(2) A registered Professional Nurse who uses a protocol must:

- (a) hold a current license to practice as a registered nurse in Georgia;
- (b) document preparation and performance specific to each medical act authorized by protocol including ordering dangerous drugs, medical treatments or diagnostic studies;
- (c) adhere to a written document (protocol) mutually agreed upon and signed by the nurse and licensed physician which specifies delegated medical acts and provides for immediate consultation with the delegating physician or a physician designated in his or her absence.

(3) A registered Nurse may only be authorized to practice by use of a protocol if it adheres to the following criteria:

- (a) must bear a current review date; be available upon request; and specify parameters under which delegated medical acts may be performed;
- (b) must include a schedule for periodic review of patient records by the delegating physician;
- (c) must be reviewed, revised or updated annually;
- (d) must include a provision for immediate consultation with the delegating physician designated in his or her absence.

(4) A registered nurse who dispenses dangerous drugs must:

- (a) hold a current license to practice as a registered nurse in Georgia;
- (b) document preparation and performance specific to dispensing dangerous drugs based on a written dispensing procedure;
- (c) adhere to a written dispensing procedure when dispensing dangerous drugs as defined in O.C.G.A. 43-34-26.1(a)(3.1).

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-5(a)(c). **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Procedural Rules" was adopted as Rule 410-11-.01 and renumbered as Rule 410-13-.01 on February 6, 1987; effective February 26, 1987. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Regulation of Protocol Use by Registered Nurses" adopted F. Oct. 3, 1989; eff. Oct. 23, 1989. **Amended:** F. Dec. 13, 1989; eff. Jan. 2, 1990. **Repealed:** Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990, eff. May 28, 1990.

CHAPTER 410-14

PROCEDURAL RULES

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410-14-.01 Procedural Rules

410-14-.01 Procedural Rules.

The Georgia Board of Nursing hereby adopts by reference as its permanent rules Chapter 295-3 through 295-13, and any future amendments thereto, Rules and Regulations of the Office of Joint Secretary, State Examining Boards, relating to Procedure for Hearings before the several State Examining Boards.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-26-5(a)(c). **Administrative History.** Original Rule entitled "Procedural Rules" was adopted as 410-13-.01 and renumbered 410-14-.01. F. Oct. 3, 1989; eff. Oct. 23, 1989.

Repealed: Authority repealed, new authority adopted. F. May 8, 1990; eff. May 28, 1990.