

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control 610 Department or Agency Alabama Board of Nursing  
Rule No. 610-X-4-.08  
Rule Title Renewal of License  
     New      X Amend      Repeal      Adopt by Reference     

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? Yes

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? Yes

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree? No

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? No

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? Yes

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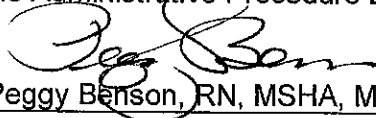
Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

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Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer  Peggy Benson, RN, MSHA, MSN, NE-BC

Date January 22, 2018

DATE FILED  
(STAMP)

APA-2  
11/96

**ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING**

**NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

**AGENCY NAME:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**RULE NO. & TITLE:** 610-X-4-.08, Renewal of License

**INTENDED ACTION:** The Alabama Board of Nursing proposes to amend the regulations related to licensure.

**SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:** The Alabama Board of Nursing proposes to amend Administrative Code, 610-X-4-.08, Renewal of License. A copy of the proposed rule may be found on the Board's web site, [www.abn.alabama.gov](http://www.abn.alabama.gov), under "laws" and then "proposed rule changes." The proposed changes eliminate the late renewal period and standardize continuing education for advanced practice nurses.

**TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:** Written or verbal comments will be received by the Board of Nursing until 4:30 P.M. on Wednesday, March 7, 2018. Verbal or written comments should be directed to Peggy Benson, Executive Officer, at P.O. Box 303900, Montgomery, AL 36130-3900 or via electronic mail at [Peggy.Benson@abn.alabama.gov](mailto:Peggy.Benson@abn.alabama.gov) or via telephone at 334-293-5210.

**FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:**  
The record closes at 4:30 P.M. on Wednesday March 7, 2018.

**CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:** Peggy Benson, Executive Officer.

  
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Executive Officer

**610-X-4-.08 Renewal of License.**

## (1) License Periods:

(a) The registered nurse license shall be valid for two years beginning January 1 of each odd-numbered year and expiring December 31 of each even-numbered year.

(b) The practical nurse license shall be valid for two years beginning January 1 of each even-numbered year and expiring December 31 of each odd numbered year.

(2) Continuing Education Earning Period: Two-year period of time during which contact hours shall be accrued. Same as the license period.

## (3) Renewal of License

(a) The renewal period shall be from September 1 to ~~November 30~~ December 31 of the year the license expires.

~~(b) Any licensed nurse who renews between December 1 and December 31 shall pay a late renewal fee.~~

(eb) Renewal notices may be mailed or transmitted electronically.

(ec) To be eligible for renewal, the applicant shall:

1. Hold a valid, active Alabama license.
2. Submit a completed and signed renewal application and required fee(s).
3. Meet continuing education requirements.

(i) A licensed nurse shall, for the first license renewal, earn four contact hours of Board-provided continuing education related to Board functions, the Nurse Practice Act, regulations, professional conduct, and accountability and one contact hour for each calendar month remaining in the earning period up to a maximum of 24 contact hours including the mandatory class.:

(ii) A licensed nurse shall earn in each earning period not less than 24 contact hours of Board-approved or Board-recognized continuing education as a condition for renewal of license for the subsequent license period.

(iii) Failure to meet the continuing

education requirement shall be cause for the license to lapse.

(4) An active license is required to practice nursing. The licensee shall have evidence of the active license available for employer inspection by January 1 of the new license period.

(5) Failure to receive the renewal application or notice shall not relieve the licensee of the responsibility of renewing the license by the expiration date.

(6) Any license not renewed as of December 31 of the renewal period shall lapse. Any individual who practices with a lapsed license shall be subject to penalties established under 610-X-8.

(7) Advanced practice nurses shall renew approval to practice at the time of RN renewal. Failure to meet the requirements of Chapter 610-X-5 or Chapter 610-X-9, as applicable, shall result in lapse of the advanced practice approval. The advanced practice license shall expire prior to the RN license if the advanced practice nurse's national certification expires during the license period.

(a) Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNPs) and Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) with prescriptive authority shall earn, as part of the required twenty-four (24) Board-approved or Board-recognized continuing education contact hours for license renewal, six contact hours of pharmacology content specific to prescriptive practice in the approved area for collaborative practice. Graduate pharmacology academic credit earned during the nurse practitioner or nurse midwife educational program prior to initial approval as a CRNP or CNM does not qualify as pharmacology continuing education for renewal of approval as a CRNP or CNM.

(b) Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) shall earn, as part of the required twenty-four (24) Board-approved or Board-recognized continuing education contact hours for license renewal, six contact hours of pharmacology. Graduate pharmacology academic credit earned during the nurse anesthetist educational program prior to initial approval as a CRNA does not qualify as pharmacology continuing education for renewal of approval as a CRNA.

(bc) Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs)  
shall earn, as part of the required twenty-four (24)  
Board-approved or Board-recognized continuing education contact

hours for license renewal, six contact hours of pharmacology. Graduate pharmacology academic credit earned during the clinical nurse specialist program prior to initial approval as a CNS does not qualify as pharmacology continuing education for renewal of approval as a CNS.

(ed) If one year or less remains in the license period at the time of initial approval, continuing education contact hours specific to pharmacology are not required for the first advanced practice renewal.

(de) If the applicant for advanced practice approval is granted approval during the renewal period for registered nurses, the approval will expire at the end of the next license period or the specialty certification period, whichever comes first.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-23; Act 89-243.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Amended:** Filed August 9, 1988; effective September 15, 1988. **Amended:** Filed February 15, 1991; effective March 22, 1991. **Repealed and New**

**Rule:** Filed May 29, 2001; effective July 3, 2001. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed September 29, 2004; effective November 1, 2004. **Amended:** Filed November 26, 2007; effective December 31, 2007. **Amended:** Filed May 16, 2008; effective June 20, 2008. **Amended:** Filed June 19, 2009; effective July 24, 2009. **Amended:** Filed

November 19, 2010; effective December 24, 2010. **Amended:** Filed April 22, 2016; effective June 6, 2016. **Amended:** Filed November 21, 2016; effective January 5, 2017. **Amended:** Filed January 22, 2018.