

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control 610 Department or Agency Alabama Board of Nursing

Rule No. 610-X-3-.03 Outcome Standards

Rule Title: 610-X-3-.03 Outcome Standards

         New   ✓   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        

Does the proposed action relate to or affect in any manner any litigation which the agency is a party to concerning the subject matter of the proposed rule?         No        

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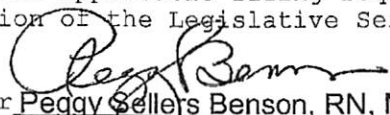
Does the proposed rule have an economic impact?         No        

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 Sellers Benson, RN, MSHA, MSN, NE-BC

Date March 11, 2022

(DATE FILED)  
(STAMP)

REC'D & FILED

MAR 11 2022

LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

APA-2  
11/96

**ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING**

**NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

**AGENCY NAME:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**RULE NO. & TITLE:** 610-X-3-.03 Outcome Standards

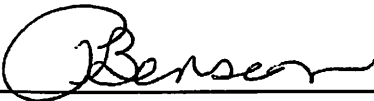
**INTENDED ACTION:** The Alabama Board of Nursing proposes to amend a rule relating to education.

**SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:** The Alabama Board of Nursing proposes to promulgate ABN Administrative Code § 610-X-3-.03, to provided for more comprehensive evaluation of nursing education programs. A copy of the proposed rule may be found on the Board's web site, www.abn.alabama.gov, under "laws" and then "proposed rule changes."

**TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:** Written or verbal comments will be accepted until Thursday, May 5, 2022. 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 or via telephone at 334-293-5210.

**FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:**  
The record closes at 4:30 P.M. on Thursday, May 5, 2022.

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



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Executive Officer

610-X-3-.03 Outcome Standards.

(1) Graduates shall demonstrate theoretical and clinical competence for entry into practice.

~~(2) The Board-calculated prelicensure annual pass rate for each prelicensure program shall be published by the Board annually. The pass rate for prelicensure nursing education programs shall be calculated on a calendar year basis (January 1 to December 31). Graduates of an approved prelicensure program, as a composite of first-time writers, taking the Board selected national licensure exam within six (6) months of program completion, shall achieve a three year rolling average pass rate of no less than 80% on the national licensure exam.~~

(3) Programs shall develop, maintain, and adhere to their written plan for the systematic evaluation of the program that is comprehensive, demonstrates ongoing evaluation, is based on program outcomes, and incorporates continuous improvement. The systematic evaluation plan shall include:

(a) Collection, aggregation, analysis and trending of data.

(b) Programmatic outcomes, levels of achievement, evaluative criteria, assignment of responsibility, frequency of assessment, methods of assessment, actions taken, and quantitative data collected.

(c) Ongoing evaluation and revisions based on the evaluation.

(d) A mechanism for accountability for academic integrity.

(4) Programs shall maintain and produce, at the Board's request:

(a) An articulation plan for program graduates.

(b) A plan for accepting new or transfer students that ensures that due consideration is given to all prior general and nursing coursework that an incoming student has completed successfully with other accredited institutions.

(5) Approved Nursing Education Programs shall be evaluated for continuing approval by the Board not less than every five (5) years, but may be evaluated more frequently based on deficiencies, identified areas of concern, or receipt of a complaint.

(a) Additional oversight of new programs shall take place

throughout the first five (5) years of operation. This may include progress reports every 6 months on program, leadership, consistency of faculty, numbers of students, and trends of NCLEX pass rates, as well as the regularly collected annual reports.

(6) Nursing programs shall complete the Nursing Education Annual Report in a format specified by the Board within the time specified.

(7) The Board may review and analyze various sources of information regarding program performance, including, but not limited to:

(a) Periodic Board survey visits, as necessary.

(b) Board-recognized national nursing accreditation site visit reports, to include results of findings, pass rates, and other pertinent documents. The Board may accept all or partial evidence prepared by a program to meet national nursing accreditation requirements. The nursing program shall:

(1) Submit to the Board copies of accreditation related correspondence from the national nursing accrediting agency within 30 days of receipt.

(c) Results of ongoing program evaluation.

(d) Other sources of evidence regarding achievement of program outcomes, including, but not limited to:

1. Student retention, attrition, and on-time program completion rates.

2. Sufficient type and number of faculty, to include retention and turnover.

3. Clinical learning experiences that are sufficient to achieve program outcomes (goals and course objectives) through the practice of nursing care or observational experiences.

4. Degree of compliance with nursing program accrediting body requirements for national licensure examination pass rates ~~Annual NCLEX pass rates as calculated and determined by the nursing program accrediting body, which are at least 80% for graduates taking the examination for the first time within 6 months of program completion.~~

5. Trend data/action planning related to overall NCLEX performance and advanced practice certification exam performance.

6. Performance improvement initiatives related to program outcomes.

7. Program complaints/grievance review and resolution.

(8) Education Program Annual Report.

(9) Continuing approval will be granted upon the Board's verification that the program is in compliance with the Board's nursing education administrative rules in Chapter 610-X-3.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-5.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Amended:** Filed September 21, 1984; effective October 29, 1984. **Amended:** Filed July 23, 1997; effective August 27, 1997. **Repealed and New**

**Rule:** Filed July 22, 2002; effective August 26, 2002. **Amended:** Filed September 25, 2006; effective October 30, 2006. **Amended:** Filed September 21, 2007; effective October 26, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 19, 2010; effective December 24, 2010. **Amended:** Filed June 25, 2012; effective July 30, 2012. **Amended:** Filed April 21, 2015; effective May 26, 2015. **Amended:** Filed November 21, 2016; effective January 5, 2017. **Amended:** Published November 30, 2020; effective January 14, 2021. **Amended:** Published September 30, 2021; effective November 14, 2021.

**Ed. Note:** Rule 610-X-3-.02 was renumber to .04 as per certification filed September 25, 2006; effective October 30, 2006. Rule .04 was renumbered to .05 and replaced by new .04 as per certification filed November 19, 2010; effective December 24, 2010. Rules **610-X-3-.03, Distance Education, and 610-X-3-.04, Out of State Programs Conducting Clinical Experience in Alabama,** are repealed and Rule 610-X-3-.05 renumbered .03 per certification published November 30, 2020; effective January 14, 2021.