

	RECOGNITION OF NURSING PRACTICE HOURS POLICY
	Date Effective: September 15, 2015
	Revised: September 15, 2023; September 17, 2024; December 4, 2025
	Next Review Due: September 2027

Background

Nursing is defined in the Registered Nurses and Registered Psychiatric Nurses Regulations as “the health profession in which a person applies specialized and evidence-based knowledge of nursing theory and health and human sciences, skills and judgment in providing professional services to another person, including

- (i) the promotion, maintenance and restoration of health, and
- (ii) the prevention, treatment and palliation of illness and injury, primarily by
 - a. assessing health status,
 - b. planning, implementing and evaluating interventions, and
 - c. coordinating health services, and
- (iii) the research, education, management or administrative activities incidental to performing the services referred to in subclauses (i) and (ii).

Psychiatric nursing is defined in the Registered Nurses and Registered Psychiatric Nurses Regulations as “the health profession in which a person applies specialized and evidence-based knowledge of psychiatric nursing theory and health and human sciences, skills and judgment in providing services to another person, including

- (i) the promotion of mental health,
- (ii) the prevention, management and treatment of mental illness or developmental challenges,
- (iii) the assistance of individuals, families, groups and communities to achieve an optimal state of health, and
- (iv) the research, education, management, or administrative activities incidental to performing the services referred to in subclasses (i) to (iii).

Registered Nurses, Registered Psychiatric Nurses and Nurse Practitioners are required to maintain currency of professional knowledge and skill to assist in meeting registration renewal requirements. Practicing for a minimum of 450 hours in three years, is one method used to determine a nurse’s currency.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to assist College staff in evaluating requests for recognition of practice hours to maintain registration with CRNMPEI. This policy does not apply to assessment of currency of practice hours for the purpose of application.

1.0 Policy

- 1.1 A registrant must submit a request, in writing, to the Registrar asking to have practice hours recognized as “nursing” practice for the purpose of maintaining registration.
- 1.2 The registrant must provide a detailed description of the activities to be considered as well as the number of hours worked.
- 1.3 Supporting documentation such as a job description/role description should be submitted with the written request.
- 1.4 The registrant must have a current registration with CRNMPEI for the request to be considered.
- 1.5 For the activities to be considered, they must require the application of nursing knowledge, skill and judgement.
- 1.6 The activities must involve a process of assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation based on the application of nursing knowledge, skill, and judgement.
- 1.7 Activities may be shared functions with other health care professionals (e.g. health teaching, counseling).
- 1.8 Activities are taught in basic, post-basic or continuing nursing education programs.
- 1.9 Previous education and experience in nursing are relevant to current activities.
- 1.10 The nurse must be able to apply the CRNMPEI Standards and the Code of Ethical Conduct while performing the activities to be considered.
- 1.11 Activities that are narrow in scope or those that may be performed by non-nurses, may count for no more than 10% of the minimum hour requirement.. These activities supplement nursing practice and are not intended as the sole means of maintaining registration.

- 1.12 The participation on committees (College, professional nursing associations, Union) support nursing practice and nursing care delivery. Such activities supplement hours of nursing practice and are not intended as the sole means of maintaining registration. A maximum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the current hour requirement may be credited for these activities.
- 1.13 The teaching of health-related subjects to students of health care programs may count for the actual number of teaching hours plus three (3) hours of preparation for each hour of class time.
- 1.14 Full-time faculty hours of work are counted as practice hours.
- 1.15 The teaching of short-term health related courses to the public may count for the actual teaching hours plus one (1) hour preparation time for each hour of class taught.
- 1.16 Education towards a degree (either undergraduate or graduate) in nursing may be counted as hours of nursing practice to a maximum of full-time hours (1950 hours). All hours are contingent upon the RN maintaining registration with the CRNMPEI. One 3 credit-hour course is equal to 180 practice hours.
- 1.17 Nursing Certificate/Certification Courses - Post-Basic Non-Degree Course/Program may count towards practice hours and may be granted up to 300 practice hours.