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RULE ADOPTION

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION; CONDITIONAL ACCREDITATION; LICENSING EXAMINATION
PASS RATES; CONDITIONAL ACCREDITATION: SUBCHAPTER REQUIREMENTS; PROBATION

Adopted Repeals: N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17 and 1.18

Adopted Amendment: N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.3

Adopted New Rules: N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17, 1.18 and 1.19

Proposed: May 17, 2004 at 36 N.J.R. 2300(a).

Adopted: September 21, 2004 by the Board of Nursing, Maris Lown, President.

Filed: December 15, 2004 as R.2005 d.32, without change.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:11-24.

Effective Date: January 18, 2005.

Expiration Date: July 12, 2005.

Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:

The official comment period ended July 16, 2004. The Board received no comments.

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because there are no Federal laws or standards applicable to the adopted repeals, amendment and new rules.

Full text of the adopted amendment and new rules follows:

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.3 >>

13:37-1.3 Provisional accreditation

(a) (No change.)

(b) A nursing program that has been granted provisional accreditation shall not be granted accreditation until:

1. (No change.)

2. Seventy-five percent of students from the first or second graduating class, who have taken the licensing examination, pass the examination the first time it is taken by the student; and

3. (No change.)

(c)-(f) (No change.)

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.17 >>

13:37-1.17 Conditional accreditation: licensing examination pass rates

(a) If, for three successive years, less than 75 percent of a nursing program's graduating students pass the licensing examination the first time the examination is taken, the Board shall place the program on conditional accreditation. Conditional accreditation shall become effective upon the program's receipt of the written notification.

(b) The nursing program may, within 30 days of receiving written notification that the program has been placed on conditional accreditation, request in writing an appearance before the Board regarding its conditional accreditation status.

(c) Within 30 days of receiving written notification that the nursing program has been placed on conditional accreditation, the nursing program shall notify in writing the students enrolled in the program that the program has been placed on conditional accreditation.

(d) A nursing program that is placed on conditional accreditation shall submit to the Board, within 90 days of receiving written notification of being placed on conditional accreditation, an 18-month action plan with a time-line and measurable outcomes to correct any deficiencies. The outcomes identified in the action plan shall include that within the next calendar year at least 75 percent of its students who take the licensing examination shall pass the first time. The outcomes shall be met within 18 months.

(e) A nursing program on conditional accreditation which believes that it cannot accomplish its outcomes within 18 months may request an extension of the 18-month time period from the Board. A request for an extension shall set forth the reasons why the program needs an extension.

(f) If the outcomes of the action plan are met within the 18-month period, the program shall be restored to accreditation status.

(g) The eligibility of students to sit for the licensing examination shall not be affected in the event a program is placed on conditional accreditation.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.18 >>

13:37-1.18 Conditional accreditation: subchapter requirements

(a) If the Board receives information alleging that a program fails to meet the requirements of this subchapter, other than N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17, the Board shall evaluate the information and may send a field representative to investigate the program. The Board representative shall evaluate the program for compliance with this subchapter and report the results of the program evaluation to the Board.

(b) If the Board determines that the nursing program does not comply with the provisions of this subchapter, the Board shall place the program on conditional accreditation. Conditional accreditation shall become effective upon the program's receipt of the written notification.

(c) The nursing program may, within 30 days of receiving written notification that the program has been placed on conditional accreditation, request in writing an appearance before the Board regarding its conditional accreditation status.

(d) Within 30 days of receiving written notification that the nursing program has been placed on conditional accreditation, the nursing program shall notify in writing the students enrolled in the program that the program has been placed on conditional accreditation.

(e) A nursing program that is placed on conditional accreditation shall submit to the Board, within 90 days of receiving written notification of being placed on conditional accreditation, an 18-month action plan with a time-line and measurable outcomes to correct any deficiencies. The outcomes identified in the action plan shall be met within 18

months.

(f) A nursing program on conditional accreditation which believes that it cannot accomplish its outcomes within 18 months may request an extension of the 18-month time period from the Board. A request for an extension shall set forth the reasons why the program needs an extension.

(g) If the outcomes of the action plan are met within the 18-month period, the program shall be restored to accreditation status.

(h) The eligibility of students to sit for the licensing examination shall not be affected in the event a program is placed on conditional accreditation.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.19 >>

13:37-1.19 Probation

(a) A nursing program on conditional accreditation status that does not achieve the outcomes identified in the action plan required by N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17(d) or 1.18(e) in 18 months, or which has not been granted an extension pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17(e) or 1.18(f), shall be placed on probation. A nursing program that has been granted an extension shall be placed on probation if it does not achieve the outcomes identified in the action plan by the end of the extension. A nursing program that is placed on probation may request in writing an appearance before the Board.

(b) The nursing program shall, within 30 days of receiving written notification that it has been placed on probation, notify the students enrolled in the program in writing that the program is on probation.

(c) A program on probation shall not admit new students or transfer students.

(d) A nursing program that is placed on probation shall revise the action plan with outcomes to be achieved in one calendar year and submit the action plan to the Board. If a program is placed on probation due to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17, the program action plan outcomes shall include that within the next calendar year at least 75 percent of its students who take the licensing examination shall pass the first time.

(e) A program on probation which believes that it cannot accomplish its outcomes within one calendar year may request an extension of the one-year time period from the Board. A request for an extension shall set forth the reasons why the program needs an extension.

(f) A program that does not achieve the outcomes identified in the action plan within one calendar year, and which has not been granted an extension pursuant to (e) above, shall not be eligible for restoration to accredited status. A program that has been granted an extension and does not achieve the outcomes identified in the action plan by the end of the extension shall not be eligible for restoration to accredited status. A program that is not eligible for restoration of accredited status shall continue to operate under probationary status until the last student has graduated or has otherwise left the program. Once the last student has graduated or has otherwise left the program, the program shall no longer be accredited. A program that is no longer accredited may reapply for accreditation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.2.

(g) The eligibility of students to sit for the licensing examination shall not be affected in the event a program is placed on probation.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.20 >>

13:37-1.20 (No change in text.)

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