

**NEW JERSEY REGISTER
VOLUME 35, NUMBER 8
MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2003
RULE ADOPTION
LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING
PROGRAMS IN NURSING EDUCATION**

Adopted Repeals: N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.7 and 1.8 through 1.19

Adopted New Rules: N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.1 through 1.16 and 1.19

Adopted Recodification: N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.4 and 1.6 as 13:37-1.17 and 1.18

Adopted Amendment: N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.5

Proposed: April 1, 2002 at 34 N.J.R. 1317(a).

Adopted: September 24, 2002 by the Board of Nursing, Maris Lown, President.

Filed: March 28, 2003 as R.2003 d.167, with substantive and technical changes not requiring additional public notice and comment (see N.J.A.C. 1:30- 6.3), the repeal of N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.4 and 1.6 not adopted, N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.4 and 1.6 recodified as N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17 and 1.18 but proposed new rules N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17 and 1.18 not adopted.

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

Effective Date: April 21, 2003.

Expiration Date: January 13, 2005.

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because the adopted repeals, new rules and amendment are governed by N.J.S.A. 45:11-23 et seq., and are not subject to any Federal requirements or standards.

Full text of the adoption follows:

SUBCHAPTER 1. PROGRAMS IN NURSING EDUCATION

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.1 >>

13:37-1.1 Eligibility for accreditation

(a) For purposes of this subchapter, the term "accreditation" shall include the accreditation of professional nursing programs and the approval of practical nursing programs.

(b) The following educational institutions are eligible for accreditation to provide nursing programs:

1. A school, division or department of nursing authorized to operate by its own charter, articles of incorporation or resolution of the governing board of its sponsoring institution; or

2. Degree granting institutions licensed by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

(c) The following educational programs, when offered by an institution that meets the requirements of (b) above, shall be considered eligible for accreditation by the Board as nursing programs:

1. Generic doctoral degree programs: For purposes of this subchapter, a generic doctoral degree program means a program conducted by an educational institution with a program in nursing, which leads to a doctoral degree in nursing. The educational institution shall be licensed by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education for the purpose of granting doctoral degrees;
2. Generic masters degree programs: For purposes of this subchapter, a generic masters degree program means a program conducted by an educational institution with a program in nursing, which leads to a masters degree in nursing. The educational institution shall be licensed by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education for the purpose of granting masters degrees;
3. Baccalaureate degree programs: For purposes of this subchapter, a baccalaureate degree program is a program conducted by an educational institution with a program in nursing, which leads to a baccalaureate degree in nursing. The educational institution shall be licensed by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education for the purpose of granting baccalaureate degrees. Registered professional nurse completion programs, which are educational programs that provide licensed registered nurses who do not have a baccalaureate degree the opportunity to complete their baccalaureate degrees, shall be considered baccalaureate degree programs.
4. Associate degree programs: For purposes of this subchapter, an associate degree program means a program conducted by an educational institution with a program which leads to an associate degree in nursing. The educational institution shall be licensed by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education for the purpose of granting associate degrees;
5. Diploma programs: For purposes of this subchapter, a diploma program means a program conducted by a nursing school under the sponsorship of a hospital or consortium of hospitals in the State of New Jersey, that leads to a diploma in nursing or, in collaboration with a college or university, grants an Associate in Applied Science degree or Associate in Science degree; and
6. Practical nursing programs: For purposes of this subchapter, a practical nursing program means a program conducted for the purposes of providing education in practical nursing, that leads to a diploma or certificate in practical nursing, and which is not operated by any local, county or State Board of Education in this State. A practical nursing program that is operated by a board of education is not under the jurisdiction of the Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:11-24 and is not required to meet the requirements of this subchapter.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.2 >>

13:37-1.2 Application for establishment of a new program in nursing

(a) An educational institution seeking to establish a new program in nursing shall submit in writing to the Board an application consisting of the following items:

1. The type of program, for example, generic doctoral degree program or baccalaureate degree program;
2. The <<-organizing framework,->> philosophy, <<+organizing framework,+>> objectives and outcomes of the program in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.5;
3. Evidence of financial resources adequate for the planning, implementation and continuation of the program, including a projected five-year budget;
4. A table of organization describing the lines of authority and the administrative structure of the program;
5. Curricula vitae for all faculty and consultants responsible for the development and administration of the program; and

6. A letter from the chief executive officer which reflects that he or she has secured initial and continued financial support for the program.

(b) An application to establish a new program in nursing shall be submitted to the Board no later than eight months prior to the proposed establishment of a new program.

(c) After reviewing the application, the Board shall either:

1. Grant permission to pursue the development of the proposed program. However, such permission does not ensure that provisional accreditation will be granted by the Board;

2. Require revisions to the proposed program or to the materials submitted as required by (a) above or the submission of additional information. Revisions to the proposed program or to the application materials does not ensure that provisional accreditation will be granted by the Board; or

3. Deny permission to establish a new program.

(d) The educational institution may request in writing an appearance before the Board for reconsideration of the revisions or denial based upon (c)2 or 3 above within 30 days of written notification of the required revisions or denial.

(e) After receiving permission to pursue the development of a new program, the educational institution shall submit to the Board the following items no later than four months prior to the anticipated start date of the program:

1. The number of students to be admitted to each of the first four classes after establishment of the program;

2. The projected maximum student enrollment;

3. Admission, progression, retention and dismissal policies;

4. Appeals policy for any disciplinary matter;

5. A description of student services;

6. A plan for increases in faculty commensurate with increased student enrollment;

7. The curriculum plan, including course objectives for all nursing courses;

8. A written statement describing the support staff; and

9. A written Systematic Plan for Program Evaluation of the effectiveness of the curriculum. The Plan shall identify the communities of interest, which include any person or group who is interested in the quality of graduates from a nursing program, and shall include:

i. The components being evaluated;

ii. The responsible party for evaluating the components;

iii. Outcomes that reflect program objectives;

iv. Methods for evaluating components; and

v. Actions resulting from the collection and analysis of data.

(f) After reviewing the materials required by (e) above, the Board shall either:

1. Grant provisional accreditation to the program;

2. Require revisions to the program or the program materials required by (e) above or the submission of additional information. Revisions to the program or program materials do not ensure that provisional accreditation will be granted by the Board; or

3. Deny permission to establish a new program.

(g) The educational institution may request, in writing, an appearance before the Board for reconsideration of the revisions or denial based upon (f)2 or 3 above within 30 days of written notification of the required revisions or denial.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.3 >>

13:37-1.3 Provisional accreditation

(a) A nursing program that has been granted provisional accreditation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.2 may admit students.

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

1. The first class has graduated;

2. Eighty percent of students from the first graduating class, who have taken the licensing examination, pass the first time they take it; and

3. A self-study report is submitted to the Board that shows the nursing program is in compliance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.4 through 1.11.

(c) A registered professional nurse completion program, as defined in N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.1(b)3, shall be granted accreditation once it has graduated its first class and has submitted a self-study report to the Board.

(d) The Board may conduct a survey of the program, through its designee, to assure compliance with N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.4 through 1.11.

(e) A program that does not meet the requirements of (b) above shall remain on provisional accreditation status. A program may remain on provisional accreditation status for no more than two years from the date the first class graduates. A program that has not met the requirements of (b) above in that two-year period shall cease to admit students and shall be placed on probation until the last student enrolled in the program graduates or otherwise leaves the program. Once the last student has left the program, the program shall lose its provisional accreditation. A program that has lost provisional accreditation pursuant to this subsection may reapply for accreditation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.2.

(f) A program, or an institution that offers a program, that does not provide its students an opportunity to complete their education and graduate as required by (e) above, may not reapply for accreditation for 10 years from the date the program ended.

(Agency Note: Current N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.4 is recodified as N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17.)

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.4 >>

13:37-1.4 Maintaining accreditation: organization and administration of a nursing program

(a) A nursing program shall have:

1. A written organizational and administrative plan describing the internal organization of the program, lines of authority, procedures for providing communication with the governing body and clinical agencies, and the role of any advisory committee associated with the program;

2. Stable financial resources which are allocated to adequately support the program's educational activities;
3. A program administrator who meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:37- 1.6 and has direct authority for the fiscal and academic administration of the program. The administrator shall be responsible to the governing body of the sponsoring institution;
4. Written criteria for faculty promotion and faculty retention;
5. Written criteria for student admission, promotion, retention, and completion of the program; and
6. Written policies on grading and graduation requirements.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.5 >>

13:37-1.5 Maintaining accreditation: <<-organizing framework,->> philosophy, <<+organizing framework,+>> objectives and outcomes

- (a) The faculty shall develop, and revise as necessary, <<-a written description or model of the organizing framework,->> a statement of philosophy, <<+a written description or model of the organizing framework,+>> program objectives and program outcomes which are consistent with the definition of nursing as set forth in N.J.S.A. 45:11-23(b).
- (b) The philosophy of the nursing program shall include the faculty's beliefs about the following:
 1. Nursing;
 2. Humans;
 3. Health;
 4. Environment; and
 5. The teaching-learning process.
- (c) The nursing program objectives shall identify those competencies required for the successful entry of the nursing graduate into practice.
- (d) The faculty shall develop and maintain the written Systematic Plan for Program Evaluation.
- (e) The faculty shall be able to show that the <<-organizing framework,->> philosophy, <<+organizing framework,+>> program objectives and program outcomes have been integrated into the total program of learning.
- (f) The <<-organizing framework,->> philosophy, <<+organizing framework,+>> program objectives and program outcomes shall be communicated to students, cooperating affiliates, advisory committees and communities of interest as outlined in the Systematic Plan for Program Evaluation.
- (g) If the faculty determines that the nursing program needs admission requirements in addition to those required by the institution, the faculty shall develop those additional requirements.
- (h) The faculty shall develop any additional policies on grading or educational requirements for graduation which the faculty deems necessary.
- (i) The faculty, in collaboration with the program administrator, shall construct, implement, teach and evaluate the curriculum. The administrator shall maintain records that indicate the curriculum has been evaluated pursuant to the Systematic Plan for Program Evaluation.

(Agency Note: Current N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.6 is recodified as N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.18.)

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.6 >>

13:37-1.6 Maintaining accreditation; qualifications of program administrators

- (a) Every nursing program shall have a program administrator.
- (b) An administrator of a generic doctoral degree program, a generic masters degree program, or a baccalaureate degree program shall, in addition to the qualifications contained in N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.7, hold a doctoral degree in nursing or a masters degree in nursing with an earned doctoral degree.
- (c) An administrator of an associate degree program or a diploma program shall, in addition to the qualifications contained in N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.7, hold a masters degree in nursing.
- (d) An administrator of a practical nursing program shall, in addition to the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.7, hold a masters degree in nursing. An administrator for a practical nursing program who began his or her employment prior to (the effective date of these rules) shall not be required to hold a masters degree in nursing but shall be required to hold a bachelors degree in nursing with additional courses in the field of education.
- (e) If an administrator of a nursing program is replaced, for any reason, the program shall notify the Board in writing within 30 days of the change.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.7 >>

13:37-1.7 Maintaining accreditation: faculty qualifications

- (a) For purposes of this subchapter, the term "faculty" shall include full- time and part-time teachers as well as individuals who are responsible for teaching students in a clinical agency located in New Jersey.
- (b) Faculty members shall:
 1. Have current licensure in New Jersey as a registered professional nurse;
 2. Have documentation that shows that the nurse has taken courses in, or has professional or clinical experience in, the specific area of teaching responsibility;
 3. For faculty in baccalaureate degree programs, associate degree programs and diploma programs who began their current employment position after September 1, 1981, have graduated from a masters degree program with a major in nursing; and
 4. For faculty in licensed practical nursing programs who began their current employment position after September 1, 1981, hold a bachelors degree with a major in nursing.
- (c) The educational institution shall maintain on file a record of professional preparation and experience for all faculty.
- (d) Faculty shall develop an individual plan to maintain competency in the theoretical and practice areas directly related to their area of teaching responsibility. These plans shall be approved by the program administrator.
- (e) Faculty members shall supervise no more than 10 students in a clinical setting.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.8 >>

13:37-1.8 Maintaining accreditation: curriculum organization and content

- (a) The curriculum of all nursing education programs shall enable students to develop the knowledge, skills and

competencies necessary for the level of nursing practice as defined in N.J.S.A. 45:11-23 et seq.

(b) Nursing courses shall only be taught by nursing faculty, except that nutrition courses may be taught by a dietician with a masters degree in nutrition and pharmacology courses may be taught by a licensed pharmacist with a masters degree in pharmacology.

(c) The nursing curriculum shall be based on the <<-organizing framework,->> philosophy, <<+organizing framework,+>> program objectives and program outcomes that the faculty have developed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.5.

(d) Faculty shall select clinical experiences for students that correlate with course objectives and/or competencies.

(e) All nursing courses and clinical experiences shall reflect participation by the community of interest which has been identified in the Systematic Plan for Program Evaluation required by N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.2(e).

(f) The nursing curriculum of all professional nursing education programs shall include:

1. Content in the sciences, social sciences and humanities; and

2. Nursing courses and clinical experiences in a variety of settings that include:

i. The promotion, restoration and maintenance of health across the lifespan;

ii. Critical thinking;

iii. The nursing practice act, N.J.S.A. 45:11-23 et seq., and Board rules, N.J.A.C. 13:37;

iv. Legal and ethical issues;

v. Cultural implications for practice;

vi. The structure and economics of the health care delivery system;

vii. Delegation to, and supervision of, licensed practical nurses and unlicensed assistive personnel;

viii. Management and leadership;

ix. Interdisciplinary collaboration;

x. Pain management and end of life issues; and

xi. Socialization to the role of the professional nurse.

(g) The curriculum of a practical nursing education program shall:

1. Include content in the sciences and social sciences;

2. Contain nursing courses and clinical experiences that include:

i. The provision of supportive and restorative care under the direction of a registered professional nurse;

ii. Critical thinking;

iii. The nursing practice act, N.J.S.A. 45:11-23 et seq., and Board rules, N.J.A.C. 13:37;

iv. Legal and ethical issues affecting licensed practical nursing practice and responsibilities;

- v. Delegation from a registered professional nurse pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-6.2, and delegation from a licensed physician or licensed dentist;
 - vi. Cultural implications of practice;
 - vii. Pain management and end of life issues; and
 - viii. Interdisciplinary collaboration at the level of practice of the licensed practical nurse;
3. Be at least 44 weeks long, excluding holidays and vacations;
 4. Offer theory and clinical experience concurrently throughout the entire program; and
 5. Equally distribute time between theoretical and clinical work.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.9 >>

13:37-1.9 Maintaining accreditation: required educational and administrative resources

- (a) The nursing education program shall provide:

1. Classrooms and laboratories to meet the needs of the students and faculty;
2. Office space, conference rooms and equipment for the administrator, faculty and clerical staff;
3. Furnishings, supplies and equipment to achieve the program's objectives and outcomes; and
4. Access to current reference resources.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.10 >>

13:37-1.10 Maintaining accreditation; clinical agencies

- (a) Every nursing program shall provide clinical experiences through an affiliation with a clinical agency or agencies that are licensed by a governmental agency or accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting body.

- (b) There shall be a written agreement between the nursing program and the clinical agency. The agreement shall be signed and adhered to by the parties and shall include provisions for:

1. Review of the terms of the agreement;
2. Notice of termination of the agreement by either party at least 120 days prior to termination;
3. Faculty responsibility for student education;
4. Collaboration between faculty and clinical agency personnel in selecting clinical experiences;
5. Joint annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the clinical experience, with input from students; and
6. A faculty to student ratio of at least one faculty member for every 10 students.

- (c) Clinical agencies located outside the State of New Jersey shall meet the requirements established by the state board of nursing in that other state.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.11 >>

13:37-1.11 Maintaining accreditation: criteria for student admission, promotion and completion of the program

(a) Every nursing program shall:

1. Have written policies for admission, readmission, promotion, graduation and transfer of students;
2. Have written criteria for granting course credit for programs admitting students with advanced standing;
3. Have written policies governing payment and refund of tuition and other fees;
4. Set dates for the beginning and ending of each term;
5. Establish and make available to students an appeals process;
6. Require individual liability insurance for each student;
7. Establish and distribute to students written policies regarding health and guidance services;
8. Distribute information about the school to students and applicants for admission which shall include:
 - i. A general description of the program;
 - ii. The accreditation status of the program with the Board;
 - iii. The name and address of any organization the program is accredited by;
 - iv. Admission, promotion and graduation requirements;
 - v. Curriculum plan and course descriptions;
 - vi. Statement of tuition fees and refund policies;
 - vii. An appeals process; and
 - viii. The address and telephone number of the Board; and
9. Inform the students and applicants for admission that complaints regarding the program may be sent to the Board.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.12 >>

13:37-1.12 Maintaining accreditation: surveys of nursing programs

(a) The Board may conduct a survey of any program at any time in order to ensure compliance with the requirements of this subchapter. A survey shall consist of an on-site visit and an evaluation of all program documents required by N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.4 through 1.11. If the survey indicates that a program is not in compliance with this subchapter, the Board shall place the program on conditional accreditation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-<<- 1.16->><<+1.17+>>.

(b) The Board shall conduct a survey and an on-site visit for every accredited nursing program every eight years pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.13 <<+ unless the on-site visit is waived pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.14+>>.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.13 >>

13:37-1.13 Renewing accreditation

(a) Certificates of accreditation issued by the Board prior to <<-(the effective date of these rules)->> <<+April 21, 2003+>> shall expire five years from the date of issue or last renewal. Programs holding such certificates shall renew

accreditation pursuant to (b) through (e) below.

(b) A program shall be accredited for eight years. Prior to the expiration of the accreditation period, the Board shall send to the nursing program an accreditation renewal form and notification of date for an on-site visit. The form shall be sent to the program 90 days prior to the scheduled date of the on-site visit.

(c) A program that meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.14 may request a waiver of the on-site visit. If the Board grants the waiver, the program shall submit to the Board:

1. The completed accreditation renewal form; and
2. The accreditation renewal fee required by N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.5(d)3.

(d) If a program does not apply or qualify for a waiver of the on-site visit, the program administrator shall submit to the Board, 30 days prior to the scheduled date of the on-site visit, the following:

1. The completed accreditation renewal form;
2. The most recent institutional regional accreditation report;
3. The nursing student handbook;
4. Course outlines for all nursing courses;
5. Description and location of clinical facilities;
6. The Systematic Plan <<-of->> <<+for Program+>> Evaluation;
7. The program's bylaws;
8. The program's organizational chart;
9. The program's insurance policy;
10. A list of the nursing journals subscribed to by the program's library; and
11. The renewal fee required by N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.5(d)2.

(e) After the Board has reviewed the renewal form and the results of the on- site visit, the Board shall decide whether the program conforms to the rules of this subchapter and whether to renew the program's accreditation. The Board shall either send the program written notice that its accreditation has been renewed or a notice that accreditation has not been renewed and that the program is being placed on conditional accreditation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.14 >>

13:37-1.14 Waiver of on-site visits for accreditation renewal

(a) The on-site visit required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.12(b) and 1.13 may be waived if the program requests a waiver of the site visit in writing. The waiver request shall include:

1. Documentation that the nursing program is accredited by either the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE);
2. A self-study by the nursing program which evaluates its compliance with the accreditation standards of the Board and either the NLNAC or CCNE;

3. The site survey report from either the NLNAC or CCNE that has reviewed and evaluated the program; and
 4. The final report from either the NLNAC or CCNE.
- (b) A program that has been granted a waiver of the on-site visit pursuant to (a) above shall notify the Board <<+within 30 days of the change+>> if the NLNAC or CCNE accreditation status changes.
- (c) If the Board is notified that a program's NLNAC or CCNE accreditation status has changed, the Board shall send a representative to conduct an on-site visit of the program to verify that the program conforms to the rules of this subchapter. A program that does not conform to the rules of this subchapter shall be placed on conditional accreditation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37- 1.17.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.15 >>

13:37-1.15 Maintaining accreditation: program recordkeeping and reporting requirements

- (a) Any record that a nursing program maintains pursuant to the requirements of this subchapter shall be made available to the Board upon request.
- (b) Every nursing program shall maintain a record of nursing department committee minutes for a minimum of three years.
- (c) Every nursing program shall ensure that records are maintained so that such records provide accurate recording of student academic data. Records shall be stored in a manner to prevent loss by destruction and unauthorized use.
- (d) A copy of the current contracts with clinical agencies shall be maintained by the administrator.
- (e) An annual report of the school of nursing shall be submitted each year to the Board on forms supplied by the Board.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.16 >>

13:37-1.16 Changes to a nursing program

- (a) A nursing program shall notify the Board 30 days prior to any changes in ownership or the program's dean, director, chair or program administrator.
- (b) A nursing program shall not institute a major curriculum change, as outlined in (d) below, without prior Board approval.
- (c) A nursing program that wishes to make any major curriculum changes shall submit the requested change to the Board in writing and provide the information required in (e) below. The Board shall review the request to determine whether the requested change is in compliance with this subchapter.
- (d) Major curriculum changes are:
 1. Changes in the <<-organizing framework or->> philosophy <<+or organizing framework+>>;
 2. Reorganization of the credit allocation within the program;
 3. An increase or decrease in the number of required credits; or
 4. An increase or decrease in the length of the nursing program.
- (e) A request for a change in the curriculum shall include:

1. The rationale for the proposed change in the curriculum;
2. A presentation of the differences between the current status of the program and the proposed change;
3. A timetable for implementation of the change; and
4. A plan for the evaluation of the change which shall include outcomes.

(f) After reviewing the request the Board shall:

1. Grant approval of the curriculum change;
2. Require revisions to the request. If the Board requires a revision, the nursing program shall submit the revised request within 30 days of receiving notification; or
3. Deny approval for the curriculum change.

(g) The nursing program may, within 30 days of notification of the denial, request in writing an appearance before the Board asking for a reconsideration of the denial of the curriculum change.

(h) If the Board denies a curriculum change, the nursing program may not resubmit another request for the same curriculum change for six months from the date of notification of the denial.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.17 >>

13:37-1.17 Conditional accreditation

<<-(a) Between (effective date of this rule) and (three years from the effective date of this rule), a program that has had less than 80 percent of its graduates pass the licensing examination in one year shall be placed on conditional accreditation.->>

<<-(b) Three years after (the effective date of this rule), if a nursing program has, averaged over the last three-year period, a pass rate of less than 80 percent of students who take the licensing examination the first time, the Board shall place the program on conditional accreditation.->>

<<-(c) If the Board receives information alleging that a program fails to meet the requirements of this subchapter, 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.->>

<<-(d) 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.->>

<<-(e) 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.->>

<<-(f) The nursing program shall notify the students enrolled in the program in writing that the program has been placed on conditional accreditation within 30 days of receiving written notification that it has been placed on conditional accreditation.->>

<<-(g) A 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 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. If a program is placed on conditional accreditation because of (a) or (b) above, the program outcomes shall include that

within the next calendar year 80 percent of its students who take the licensing examination shall pass the first time.->>

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

<<-(i) Once a program that was on conditional accreditation due to (a) or (b) above has had its accreditation restored, the program shall not be placed on conditional status due to (a) or (b) above again any sooner than three years from the restoration of accreditation.->>

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

<<+(a) The Board shall place an accredited program on conditional accreditation if:+>>

<<+1. The program fails to meet or maintain the standards and requirements for accreditation contained in this subchapter; or+>>

<<+2. Less than 80 percent of its graduates achieve passing grades in the licensing examination.+>>

<<+(b) The Board may limit the number of students enrolled in a program placed on conditional accreditation. The institution shall be given the opportunity for a hearing to appeal this decision.+>>

<<+(c) The program shall be notified by letter of conditional accreditation by the Board including any conditions which must be corrected within a specific time period established by the Board.+>>

<<+(d) The Board may, upon request, remove a program from conditional accreditation if it can be demonstrated that the standards and requirements contained in this subchapter have been met.+>>

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.18 >>

13:37-1.18 Probation

<<-(a) A nursing program on conditional status pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17(a) or (b) shall be placed on probation if it does not have 80 percent of students who take the licensing examination pass the first time within the next calendar year. A nursing program that is placed on probation may request in writing an appearance before the Board.->>

<<-(b) A nursing program on conditional status pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17(c) that does not achieve the outcomes identified in the action plan at N.J.A.C. 13:37-1.17(g) in 18 months shall be placed on probation. A nursing program that is placed on probation may request in writing an appearance before the Board.->>

<<-(c) 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.->>

<<-(d) A program on probation shall not admit new students or transfer students.->>

<<-(e) A nursing program that is placed on probation due to (a) above shall be restored to accreditation status only if, within one calendar year of being placed on probation, 80 percent of students who take the licensing examination pass the first time. A program that does not have 80 percent of its students pass the licensing examination the first time within one calendar year of being placed on probation shall not be eligible for restoration to accredited status and shall continue to operate under probationary status until its last student has graduated or has otherwise left the program. Thereafter, 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.->>

<<-(f) A nursing program that is placed on probation due to (b) above shall revise the action plan with outcomes to be achieved in one calendar year and submit the action plan to the Board. A program that does not achieve the outcomes

identified in the action plan within the year shall not be eligible for a restoration to accredited status and shall continue to operate under probationary status until the last student has graduated or has otherwise left the program. Thereafter, 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.->>

<<+A program may be placed on probation when its graduates fail to achieve 80 percent passing on the licensing examinations for two consecutive years. A program placed on probation shall not admit new or transfer students into the program. The institution shall be given the opportunity for a hearing to appeal this decision.+>>

<< NJ ADC 13:37-1.19 >>

13:37-1.19 Program termination

(a) Programs that voluntarily terminate shall provide for their enrolled students by either:

1. Phasing out the students. The students enrolled may continue with their studies until they complete the program; no new students may be admitted or accepted by transfer; qualified faculty remain with the program and compliance with this subchapter continues; or
2. Transference of students to other schools.

(b) The eligibility of students enrolled in a program to sit for the licensing examination shall not be affected in the event a program terminates.

(c) The individual responsible for an educational institution or hospital, which plans to terminate a program in nursing or to suspend any essential part of its program, shall so advise the Board in writing. The written notification shall include the reasons for terminating the program and the specific plans for students enrolled.

(d) Programs that voluntarily terminate or which terminate due to loss of accreditation shall provide for safekeeping of records. The program shall notify the Board of the name, address and telephone number of the site where records are to be stored at least ten days prior to the date of termination. The date of termination shall be the date on which the last student is properly transferred or completes the program.

<< NJ ADC 13:37-5.5 >>

13:37-5.5 Fee schedule

(a)-(c) (No change.)

(d) The following fees shall be charged by the Board in connection with accreditation of nursing programs:

1. Initial accreditation application \$1,000
2. Renewal of accreditation without waiver 1,000
3. Renewal of accreditation with waiver 400.00