



Board Policy

Continuing Competence

Purpose:

To state the expectations of the Executive Director related to the requirements for continuing competence.

Policy:

The Executive Director will ensure that the Continuing Competence program for members will incorporate the following:

- 1) Continuing competence requirements for RNs and RN(EP)s will include:
 - a) Completion of a self-assessment
 - i) For RNs this will be based on the *Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses*
 - ii) For RN(EP)s this will be based on both the *Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses* and the *Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses on the Extended Practice Register*
 - b) A self-development plan, that includes:
 - i) Goal setting
 - ii) Identification and implementation of learning activities
 - iii) Discussion of the impact of learning on the member's practice
 - c) Annual completion of a jurisprudence learning module including the evaluation component
 - d) For RNs – 1125 practice hours in a registered nurse role in the five-year period or 450 hours in the two-year period prior to the year for which registration renewal on the register of practicing registered nurses is being sought.
 - e) For RN(EP)s – 900 practice hours in an extended practice role in the three-year period or 300 practice hours in an extended practice role in the year prior to the year for which registration renewal on the extended practice register is being sought.
 - f) Practice hours for the purpose of registration renewal or reinstatement for RN(EP)s must:
 - i) Be at the RN(EP) level of practice in a role that requires registration as a registered nurse (extended practice); and
 - ii) Be accrued in direct patient/client care within the regulated scope of RN(EP) practice. This means the practice must include ordering and receiving results of screening and diagnostic tests, prescribing drugs and devices, and performing minor surgical and invasive procedures; and
 - iii) Demonstrate the *Competencies for the Registered Nurse (Extended Practice) RN(EP) Register* and the *Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses on the Extended Practice Register*.
 - iv) Include a minimum of 100 hours each year for RN(EP) educators. These practice hours must be in direct clinical practice with patients in a role that requires registration as an RN(EP). RN(EP)s in the role of educators may claim practice hours accrued in teaching RN(EP) students.
- 2) Members who obtained initial registration, conversion or reinstatement on the practicing or the extended practice register in the last quarter of the current year are exempted from the completion of 1 a) and b), above, for that year.

- 3) Evidence of members' compliance with the continuing competence requirements will be obtained through an annual review.
- 4) Evidence of continuing competence submitted by members will not be used in matters related to complaints arising outside the College, shall not be released to the College's Investigation Committee, registered nurse investigators, or a panel of the College's Discipline Committee, or at an appeal arising under the Registered Nurses Act.