

TITLE 16. BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Registered Nursing (hereinafter referred to as “Board”) is proposing to take the action described in the Informative Digest. Any person interested may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the action proposed at a hearing to be held at:

**Board of Registered Nursing
1747 N. Market Blvd.
Sapphire Room, #285
Sacramento, CA 95834**

**September 19, 2016
9:00 a.m.**

Written comments, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or e-mail to the addresses listed under Contact Person in this Notice, must be received by the Board at its office not later than 5:00 p.m. on September 19, 2016. The Board, upon its own motion or at the instance of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposals substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal will be available for 15 days prior to its adoption from the person designated in this Notice as contact person and will be mailed to those persons who submit written or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

Authority and Reference: Pursuant to the authority vested by Section 2715, 2718, 2725(c), 2725.5, 2835.5, 2835.7, 2836 and 2836.1 of the Business and Professions Code (Code), and to implement, interpret or make specific Section 2729, 2785, 2786, 2786.5, 2786.6, 2788, 2798, 2815, 2834, 2835, 2835.5, 2835.7, 2836, 2836.1, 2836.2, 2836.3 and 2837 of said Code, the Board is considering changes to Division 14 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations as follows:

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Amend 1480 – Definitions

Existing law sets forth definitions relating to nurse practitioners. The Board is proposing regulations that will add and update definitions in these regulations. The purpose of the amendment is to update and add definitions for clarification.

Amend 1481 – Categories of Nurse Practitioners

Existing law sets forth requirements for registered nurses who have met the requirements of Section 1482 of the Business and Professions Code to hold out as a nurse practitioner that would allow the registered nurse to place the letters “R.N., N.P.” after their name along with identifying categories of specialization. The Board is proposing regulations that will identify the different types of categories for nurse practitioners.

Amend 1482 – Requirements for Holding Out as a Nurse Practitioner

Existing law sets forth the requirements for holding oneself out as a nurse practitioner. The Board is proposing to update these requirements to keep up with current practices.

Amend 1483 – Evaluation of Credentials

Existing law states that there is an application for evaluation of a registered nurse's qualifications to hold out as a nurse practitioner. The Board is proposing regulations to specify the submission of information for the applicant to be qualified as a Certified Nurse Practitioner.

Adopt 1483.1 – Requirements for Nurse Practitioner Education Programs in California

Existing law sets forth the requirements for education for prelicensure programs based in California.

Existing regulations do not set forth the requirements for Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner (APRN-NP) Education Programs based in California.

The Board is proposing regulations that will set forth requirements for APRN-NP Education Programs based in California.

This section is necessary for consumer protection to ensure that APRN-NP Education Programs based in California meet the minimum requirements for training and competence of nurse practitioners.

Adopt 1483.2 – Requirements for Reporting Nurse Practitioner Education Program Changes

Existing law sets forth the requirements for reporting program changes for Board approved prelicensure programs.

Existing regulations do not set forth the requirements for reporting APRN-NP program changes.

The Board is proposing regulations that will set forth requirements for reporting an APRN-NP Education Program change. This section is necessary for consumer protection to ensure that APRN-NP Education Programs keep the Board informed of changes to their program, so that the Board may ensure the programs continue to meet the minimum requirements to be an APRN-NP Education Program.

Amend 1484 – Standards of Education

Existing law sets forth the standards of education for the program of study preparing a nurse practitioner. The Board is proposing regulations to update these standards of education. This section is necessary for consumer protection to ensure that nurse practitioners are properly trained.

Adopt 1486 – Requirements for Clinical Practice Experience for Nurse Practitioner Students Enrolled in Out of State Nurse Practitioner Education Programs

The Board is proposing regulations that will set forth requirements for clinical practice experience for nurse practitioner students enrolled in out of state APRN-NP Education Programs.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE:

Section 1483 – Evaluation of Credentials

- Application for Nurse Practitioner Certification (rev 5/2014)
- Nurse Practitioner Furnishing Number Application (rev 10/2012)

ANTICIPATED BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSED REGULATION:

The anticipated benefits of these proposed rulemaking will further define Code section 2836 to make specific requirements for nurse practitioners, the administration of training of nurse practitioners, and the requirements for clinical practice experience for nurse practitioner students enrolled in out of state APRN-NP Education Programs. The minimum requirements set forth in the proposed regulations are necessary to further the Board's mission of consumer protection by ensuring that nurse practitioners have the proper training and supervision.

DETERMINATION OF INCONSISTENCY/INCOMPATIBILITY WITH EXISTING REGULATION:

During the process of developing these regulations and amendments, the Board of Registered Nursing has conducted a search of any similar regulations on this topic and has concluded that these regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES

Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None

Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None

Local Mandate: None

Cost to Any Local Agency or School District for Which Government Code Sections 17500 – 17630 Require Reimbursement: None

Business Impact: The Board has made an initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

Results of the Economic Impact Assessment: The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have any impact on the creation of jobs or new businesses or the elimination of jobs or existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in the State of California.

Benefits of the Proposed Action: The proposed regulation will benefit California residents by having properly trained and competent nurse practitioners to give them appropriate treatment. It also allows the nurse practitioner to easily be recognized by category, the type of nurse practitioner they are for easier identification. Being that the requirements for nurse practitioners will be updated with today's standards, they would be able to further protect the consumer.

Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business:

The proposed regulations will not affect nurses wanting to become nurse practitioners. They already incur costs from a school program for education; these regulations will only set forth updated requirements for nurse practitioner standards and APRN-NP Education Programs. They should not incur any further costs than what they already have to pay. The Board is not aware of any cost impacts a business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Effect on Housing Costs: None

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS

The Board has determined that the proposed regulations would not adversely affect small businesses, since as proposed regulations are updating existing regulations with today's standards.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The Board must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would either be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice, or would be more cost effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

Any interested person may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the above determinations at the above-mentioned hearing.

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND INFORMATION

The Board has prepared an initial statement of the reasons for the proposed action and has available all the information upon which the proposal is based.

TEXT OF PROPOSAL

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained at the hearing or prior to the hearing upon request from the person designated in the Notice under Contact Person or by accessing the Board's website, www.rn.ca.gov.

AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file, which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below. You may obtain a copy of the final statement of reasons once it has been prepared, by making a written request to the contact person named below or by accessing the website listed below.

CONTACT PERSON

Inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Name:	Ronnie Whitaker
Address:	1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 150 Sacramento, CA 95834
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E-Mail Address:	ronnie.whitaker@dca.ca.gov

The backup contact person is:

Name:	Alcidia Valim
Address:	1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 150 Sacramento, CA 95834
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Website Access: Materials regarding this proposal can be found at www.rn.ca.gov.