

**Georgia Board of Nursing Education Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 21, 2025**

**Attendees:** Lydia Watkins, Shea Walker, Jessica Willcox, Sara Helton, Carolyn Reilly, Jennifer Corner, Jennifer Parker, Wanda Allen, Darrell Thompson, Maura Schlairet, Troy Heidesch, Stevan Van Hook

**Absentees:** Cindy Summerlin

| <u>Item</u>                         | <u>Discussion/Outcome</u>  | <u>Action Needed</u>         | <u>Person(s) Responsible</u> | <u>Action Due</u>                              |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Call to Order</b>                | Meeting was called to order at 1:32 PM EST   |                              | Troy Heidesch                |  |
| <b>Administrative Announcements</b> | Stevan Van Hook, Nursing Education Consultant for the Georgia Board of Nursing, reminded the committee to complete the Microsoft forms for both PN and RN rules. An announcement was made to the public regarding submitting any discussion topics, meeting comments, questions, or overall feedback related to the meeting discussion to the nursing email address.   |                              |                              |  |
| <b>Approval of Meeting Minutes</b>  | Meeting minutes were approved for the October 7, 2025 meeting.<br>Motion #1: Sara Helton<br>Motion #2: Darrell Thompson  | <b>Post to Board website</b> | Stevan Van Hook              | <b>October 24, 2025</b>                        |
| <b>PN Rule Discussion</b>           | Rule 410-9-.09 (1) (i) (3)<br>The consensus reached was to remove this rule when amendments are made.  | <b>PN Microsoft Form</b>     | <b>Committee Members</b>     | <b>Microsoft Forms due as soon as possible</b> |
|                                     | Rule 410-9-.09 (1) (i) (4)<br>The committee members provided mixed feedback. Discussion began with the hospital setting requirement and associated definition. The suggestion was made to address direct patient care terminology in the amendment versus utilizing the term hospital setting. Discussion continued regarding the need to establish the standardized glossary with direct patient care defined. The NCSBN research regarding the requirement of 50% or more of clinical experience hours being conducted in direct patient care was also discussed as a suggestion for the rule amendment. |                              |                              |  |
|                                     | Request for Action Item- Policy modernization<br>The consensus reached was that the rules should be updated; however, removing prescriptive requirements should not result in the need to require accreditation of PN programs. Ongoing discussion will be maintained as the rule amendment process continues.   |                              |                              |  |
|                                     | Request for Action Item- Simulation integration<br>The committee members provided mixed feedback. The need for simulation regulations were discussed including a definition for high fidelity, mid-fidelity, and low-fidelity simulation.  |                              |                              |  |

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|             | <p>NCSBN model rules and research were discussed to include no more than 50% of clinical experience should be conducted via simulation. Discussion regarding regulations continued to include faculty credentialing for simulation as well as the requirements to obtain simulation center accreditation. Simulation regulations will be discussed as the overall rule amendment process is continued.</p>  |                      |                              |                   |
|             | <p>Request for Action Item- Streamlined preceptor utilization<br/>The consensus reached was the action item was addressed with previous discussions regarding preceptor ratio requirements. Preceptor ratios should not change.</p>   |                      |                              |                   |
|             | <p>Request for Action Item- Affiliate Approval Reform<br/>The consensus reached was the action item was addressed with previous discussions regarding clinical affiliate approval. The clinical affiliate approval requirement is overly prescriptive and limits programs' ability to adapt when clinical availability is challenged. Additional discussion was made regarding the preceptor approval requirement which was also discussed as being overly prescriptive causing challenges with preceptor assignments and adaptability.</p>   |                      |                              |                   |
|             | <p>Request for Action Item- Outcome-based faculty qualifications<br/>The consensus reached was the rule regarding faculty qualifications that will remain prescriptive and align with feedback given during the last meeting. The committee members provided mixed feedback during the last meeting. Some felt the mandated faculty experiential requirement of 3 years RN experience in the preceding 7 years was too prescriptive causing challenges with faculty recruitment and hiring. Others expressed experience is necessary and proposed the 3-year requirement be lessened to a 1-year requirement.<br/>Additionally, it was proposed the Program Director/Nurse Administrator and faculty be defined with regulatory requirements delineated accordingly.<br/>A consensus was reached regarding the Program Director requirements, affirming that they should remain unchanged, including the requirement of 1 year of teaching experience. Ongoing discussion will be held as the rule amendment process continues.</p> |                      |                              |                   |
|             | <p>Request for Action Item- Flexible supervision ratios<br/>The consensus reached was the action items were addressed with previous discussions regarding clinical and preceptor ratios. The ratios should not change.</p>  |                      |                              |                   |
|             | <p>Request for Action Item- Explore paid apprenticeship opportunities<br/>Discussion was held regarding the need for regulations for apprenticeship if apprenticeship was required in Georgia.</p>  |                      |                              |                   |
|             | <p>Request for Action Item- Standardized glossary<br/>The consensus reached was that there is a need for a standardized glossary in the rule amendments.</p>  |                      |                              |                   |
|             | <p>Request for Action Item- Faculty requirements</p>  |                      |                              |                   |

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|                           | <p>The consensus reached was the rule regarding faculty qualifications that will remain prescriptive and align with feedback given during the last meeting. The committee members provided mixed feedback during the last meeting. Some felt the mandated faculty experiential requirement of 3 years RN experience in the preceding 7 years was too prescriptive causing challenges with faculty recruitment and hiring. Others expressed experience is necessary and proposed the 3-year requirement be lessened to a 1-year requirement.</p> <p>Additionally, it was proposed the Program Director/Nurse Administrator and faculty be defined with regulatory requirements delineated accordingly.</p> <p>A consensus was reached regarding the Program Director requirements, affirming that they should remain unchanged, including the requirement of 1 year of teaching experience. Ongoing discussion will be held as the rule amendment process continues.</p>   |                          |                              |  |
| <b>RN Rule Discussion</b> | <p>Rule 410-8-.05 (6)<br/>The committee members provided mixed feedback. Feedback included removing the requirement for 75% of full-time faculty have a graduate degree in nursing while the vast majority felt it important to maintain the faculty requirement of a graduate degree. Institutional and programmatic accreditation requirements were discussed which outline specific faculty requirements. Discussion was held regarding the requirement of a baccalaureate degree in nursing but allow a graduate or higher degree in a discipline closely related to nursing. The committee requested to gather information from other jurisdictions regarding their requirements for faculty. The NCSBN National Database and the NCSBN quality indicator research were discussed.</p> <p>Rule 410-8-.05 (7)<br/>The committee's discussion regarding faculty qualifications continued as this rule was discussed. The consensus was that if amended, the amendments would affect other rules that must be considered. Additional information will be gathered related to other jurisdictions and the rule amendment discussion will continue.</p> <p>Rule 410-8-.05 (11)<br/>The consensus was maintained that the ratio requirement should not be changed as discussed during the PN rule discussion.</p> <p>Rule 410-8-.06 (9)<br/>The consensus was maintained that the ratio requirement should not be changed as discussed during the PN rule discussion.</p> <p>Rule 410-8-.05 (4)<br/>The committee members provided mixed feedback. The consensus was the requirement should remain the same; however, the verbiage related to teaching in a program leading to initial RN licensure was discussed. The committee discussed amending the rule to allow teaching in any nursing education program.</p> | <b>RN Microsoft Form</b> | <b>Committee Members</b>     | <b>Microsoft Forms due as soon as possible</b> |

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|                     | <p>Rule 410-8-.03 (7)</p> <p>The committee members provided mixed feedback. Some felt the ratio should either stay the same or decrease. Extensive discussion was held related to the rationale and justification for the overall enrollment ratio including some sharing the ratios are 1:18 or 1:24 for NLN and programmatic accreditors. Discussion was also made regarding differentiating classroom/didactic ratios from overall enrollment ratios when reviewing research. The committee members requested information be obtained regarding the overall enrollment ratio including when the rule was increased to 1:25 from 1:20. Additional information from meeting minutes and other jurisdictions will also be obtained for further discussion as the rule amendment process continues.</p> |                      |                              |                         |
| <b>Next Meeting</b> | Remaining RN rule discussions and request for action items will be discussed during the next Education Committee meeting.  |                      |                              |                         |
|                     | The next meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible to continue discussions. A doodle poll for availability will be sent to all members.  | <b>Doodle poll</b>   | <b>Committee Members</b>     | <b>October 10, 2025</b> |
| <b>Adjournment</b>  | Meeting was adjourned at 3:03 PM EST   |                      | <b>Troy Heidesch</b>         |                         |

