

Georgia Board of Nursing Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2025

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

Absentees: Cindy Summerlin, Wanda Allen

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion/Outcome</u>	<u>Action Needed</u>	<u>Person(s) Responsible</u>	<u>Action Due</u>
Call to Order	Meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM EST		Troy Heidesch	
Administrative Announcements	Stevan Van Hook, Nursing Education Consultant for the Georgia Board of Nursing, reviewed the proposed amendment excel document with the committee members.			
Approval of Meeting Minutes	Meeting minutes were approved for the November 3, 2025, meeting. Motion #1: Sara Helton Motion #2: Jennifer Parker	Post to Board website	Stevan Van Hook	December 5, 2025
PN Rule Amendment Discussion	The NCSBN enrollment ratio survey has been finalized as of November 12, 2025. The survey results will be shared during the RN rule discussion addressing the 1:25 overall enrollment ratio.	Discussion TBD	Stevan Van Hook	TBD based upon RN rule amendment discussion
	Rule 410-9-.06 (3) (a) (b) During the meeting conducted on October 7, 2025, committee members provided mixed feedback. Some felt the mandated program length was appropriate and any increased length would approach the timeline of associate degree programs or contribute to lower NCLEX pass rates. Others expressed concern that the 18-month requirement could disadvantage students who are still completing their coursework in that the most common program length is 12 months, which provides 8 months for students to complete coursework. Additional discussion was conducted to reach a consensus for proposed rule amendments. Program length requirements were discussed including the RN program length minimum requirements of 6 academic quarters or 4 academic semesters. Constraints and challenges surrounding the maximum PN program length were discussed with many voicing the need to establish a minimum requirement versus a maximum requirement to allow accessibility to courses for students pursuing coursework when unsuccessful.	Update Proposed Amendment Document; share with members	Stevan Van Hook	December 3, 2025

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion/Outcome</u>	<u>Action Needed</u>	<u>Person(s) Responsible</u>	<u>Action Due</u>
	<p>A consensus was reached which included updated rule verbiage to establish a minimum program length that aligns with the RN rule verbiage. The proposed rule amendment is as follows: "The minimum length of a nursing education program shall be five (5) academic quarters or three (3) academic semesters." Motion #1: Sara Helton Motion #2: Carolyn Reilly</p> <hr/> <p>Rule 410-9-.06 (5) During the meeting conducted on October 7, 2025, the consensus reached was to align the PN requirements for theoretical and clinical hours with the RN rules, which do not establish a minimum. Additionally, others expressed that programmatic accreditation should be required for PN programs if prescriptive mandates are removed. During the meeting conducted on October 21, 2025, the policy modernization action item was discussed, and 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. Additional discussion was conducted to address the prescriptive nature of the current rule verbiage versus the need to require programmatic accreditation if prescriptive requirements were removed. The PN program representatives shared the clinical hour requirement allows for justification for clinical assignments which assist with maintaining adequate clinical availability. PN program representatives also discussed the challenges surrounding programmatic accreditation for rural schools including fiscal resources. A consensus was reached which included maintaining the prescriptive theoretical and clinical requirement, as well as lowering the required number of clinical hours required. National statistics were reviewed which included clinical hour requirement ranges for PN programs across the nation, as well as NCSBN member boards. Some programs require over 1000 hours of clinical experience while others require less than 250. 62% of participating boards who completed the NCSBN education survey reported no minimum requirement. A consensus was reached to decrease the clinical hours from 485 to 400. The proposed rule amendment is as follows: "Minimum Curriculum Content. An approved program of instruction or its equivalent shall contain no less than six hundred eighty-five (685) clock hours of theoretical nursing and general education content, and no less than four hundred (400) clock hours of planned clinical practice for each student. Said program shall include the following subjects:" Motion #1: Sara Helton Motion #2: Jennifer Parker Abstention: Carolyn Reilly and Maura Schlairet</p> <hr/> <p>Rule 410-9-.06 (5) (a) (xxii-xxviii)</p>			

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion/Outcome</u>	<u>Action Needed</u>	<u>Person(s) Responsible</u>	<u>Action Due</u>
	<p>During the meeting conducted on October 7, 2025, the consensus reached was to require general education content, with the exception of Chemistry and Microbiology as these requirements are commonly required for degree level programs.</p> <p>NCSBN model rules which are derived from the quality indicator research were discussed including curricular requirements for PN programs.</p> <p>The consensus was maintained to remove Chemistry and Microbiology. The proposed rule amendment is as follows: "(a) Theoretical Content:</p> <p>1. Required Content - The curriculum must include, but is not limited to, the following theoretical content areas and must contain a total of no less than six hundred eighty-five (685) clock hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Anatomy and Physiology (ii) Medical Terminology (iii) Basic Nutrition (iv) Basic Pharmacology (v) Medication Administration (vi) Principles of IV Therapy (vii) Legal and Ethical Healthcare Issues (viii) Professional and Customer Relationships (ix) The Nursing Process and Critical Thinking Skills (x) Physical Assessment Techniques (xi) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (xii) Principles and Skills of Nursing Practice (xiii) Basic Emergency Care (ixv) Geriatric Nursing Care (xv) End of Life Nursing Care (xvi) Medical Surgical Nursing Care (xvii) Obstetrical Nursing Care (xviii) Pediatric Nursing Care (xix) Mental Health and Illness Nursing Care (xx) Community Health Nursing Care and Health Care Delivery Systems (xxi) Leadership and Management Skills (xxii) English (xxiii) Math (xxiv) Psychology (xxv) Sociology (xxvi) Computer Literacy (xxvii) National Practical Nursing Licensure Examination Preparation:" <p>Motion #1: Sara Helton Motion #2:Carolynn Reilly</p>			

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion/Outcome</u>	<u>Action Needed</u>	<u>Person(s) Responsible</u>	<u>Action Due</u>
	<p>Rule 410-9-.10 (2) (a) During the meeting conducted on October 7, 2025, the consensus reached was that 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. The consensus was maintained, and the proposed amendment includes removal of this rule subset. Motion #1: Sara Helton Motion #2: Jennifer Corner Subsequent discussion was conducted addressing Rule 410-9-.13 (1) which addresses reporting requirement for both clinical affiliates and preceptors. Based on previous discussions, preceptor approval was also discussed as being overly prescriptive and causes challenges for preceptorial learning activities. A consensus was reached which included removal of this rule subset. Motion #1: Sara Helton Motion #2: Jennifer Parker</p> <p>Rule 410-9-.07 (c) During the meeting conducted on October 7, 2025, the consensus reached was that the full-time faculty percentage for PN programs should align with RN program requirements, which establishes a majority requirement for didactic faculty offering more flexibility with hiring part-time/adjunct clinical faculty. Discussions continued including review of NCSBN model rules addressing evidence and the faculty quality indicator requirement of at least 35% of faculty, including all faculty, should be full-time. The RN rule addressing faculty percentages was reviewed in detail. The consensus reached was to align the verbiage with the RN rule requiring that the majority of faculty be full-time in didactic settings with the exception for clinical settings. The proposed rule amendment is as follows: "At any given point, the nursing education program must be able to provide evidence that at least the majority of faculty members are full time in didactic settings with an exemption for clinical settings." Motion #1: Sara Helton Motion #2: Carolyn Reilly</p> <p>Rule 410-9-.07 (1) and (2) During the meeting conducted on October 7, 2025, the committee members provided mixed feedback. 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>			

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion/Outcome</u>	<u>Action Needed</u>	<u>Person(s) Responsible</u>	<u>Action Due</u>
	<p>Discussion continued with feedback provided regarding the potential to decrease the 3-year experiential requirement, allowing LPN experience to count toward experiential requirement, as well as maintaining the current requirement.</p> <p>A consensus was reached to maintain the 3-year experiential requirement but allow for experience as a licensed practical nurse and/or licensed registered nurse.</p> <p>The proposed rule amendment is as follows: "Shall have had a minimum of three (3) years of practice as a licensed registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse within the preceding seven (7) years."</p> <p>Motion #1: Jennifer Parker Motion #2: Jennifer Comer</p> <p>Discussion addressing the Program Director/Nurse Administrator requirements will continue during the next meeting.</p>			
Next 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.	Doodle poll	Committee Members	December 10, 2025
	Proposed amendment discussions will continue in subsequent meetings.		Stevan Van Hook	Next scheduled meeting- TBD
Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 2:28 PM EST		Stevan Van Hook	

