

<h1 style="text-align: center;">Regulatory Analysis Form</h1>		<p>This space for use by IRRC</p> <p>2021-12-02 10:11:25</p> <p>IRRC Commission</p>
<p>(1) Agency</p> <p>Department of State, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, State Board of Nursing</p>		<p>IRRC Number: 2426</p>
<p>(2) I.D. Number (Governor's Office Use)</p> <p>16A-5119</p>		
<p>(3) Short Title</p> <p>CRNP Program Approval</p>		
<p>(4) PA Code Cite</p> <p>49 Pa. Code §§ 21.360 - 21.376</p>	<p>(5) Agency Contacts & Telephone Numbers</p> <p>Primary Contact: Teresa Lazo-Miller - (717)783-7200 Secondary Contact: Joyce McKeever, Deputy Chief Counsel, Department of State (717) 783-7200</p>	
<p>(6) Type of Rulemaking (check one)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposed Rulemaking <input type="checkbox"/> Final Order Adopting Regulation <input type="checkbox"/> Final Order, Proposed Rulemaking Omitted</p>	<p>(7) Is a 120-Day Emergency Certification Attached?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes: By the Attorney General <input type="checkbox"/> Yes: By the Governor</p>	
<p>(8) Briefly explain the regulation in clear and nontechnical language.</p> <p>Section 21.271(b) of the regulations of the State Board of Nursing and section 18.41(b) of the regulations of the State Board of Medicine provide that a registered nurse may obtain the status of a certified registered nurse practitioner by completing a course of study in a program administered by nursing and approved by the Boards. The regulation was approved by the State Board of Medicine prior to the enactment of Act 206 of 2002, which gave the State Board of Nursing exclusive authority to regulate C.R.N.P. programs. This proposed rulemaking sets forth criteria that must be met by educational institutions seeking approval for courses of study for certified registered nurse practitioner programs. The regulation sets criteria for the institution, faculty and program content.</p>		
<p>(9) State the statutory authority for the regulation and any relevant state or federal court decisions.</p> <p>The regulation is authorized by section 8.1(b) of the Professional Nursing Law, Act of May 22, 1951 (P.L. 317, No. 1), <u>as amended</u>, which authorizes the Board to approve nurse practitioner education programs.</p>		

Regulatory Analysis Form

(10) Is the regulation mandated by any federal or state law or court order, or federal regulation? If yes, cite the specific law, case or regulation, and any deadlines for action.

Although the regulation is not mandated by federal or state law, the Professional Nursing Law requires that programs for the training of nurses be approved by the Board, and the Board has not yet published regulations setting forth the criteria under which it will approve CRNP programs.

(11) Explain the compelling public interest that justifies the regulation. What is the problem it addresses?

The Board's current regulations do not address approval of CRNP programs, and program approval is done on a case-by-case basis. Because the Board does not have regulations addressing its criteria for CRNP programs, the approval process is often lengthy and involves an excessive amount of back and forth communication between the program sponsor and the Board. The regulation will inform educational institutions of the criteria employed by the Board in approving programs, and will standardize the education of CRNPs in the Commonwealth.

(12) State the public health, safety, environmental or general welfare risks associated with nonregulation.

Nonregulation could threaten public health because no standardized set of minimum qualifications exist regarding CRNP education in the Commonwealth. CRNPs practice at an advanced level of health care practice, so standardization of these educational programs is especially important.

(13) Describe who will benefit from the regulation. (Quantify the benefits as completely as possible and approximate the number of people who will benefit.)

The regulation will benefit the administrators and faculty of institutions wishing to offer CRNP programs by setting out the criteria that will qualify a program for approval. The regulation will benefit prospective students by ensuring that the programs are offering the same minimum of education so that graduates are competitive across the Commonwealth. The regulation will benefit the general public by ensuring excellent educational programs for CRNPs.

Regulatory Analysis Form

(14) Describe who will be adversely affected by the regulation. (Quantify the adverse effects as completely as possible and approximate the number of people who will be adversely affected.)

The Board has identified no group that will be adversely affected by the regulation.

(15) List the persons, groups or entities that will be required to comply with the regulation. (Approximate the number of people who will be required to comply.)

All educational institutions wishing to offer CRNP programs in the Commonwealth will be required to comply with the regulation. The Board does not know how many CRNP programs may wish to be approved in accordance with the amendments. However, currently approximately 50 CRNP programs have been approved by the boards under prior law and are operating in the Commonwealth.

(16) Describe the communications with and input from the public in the development and drafting of the regulation. List the persons and/or groups who were involved, if applicable.

Pursuant to the requirements of Executive Order 1996-1, input was requested from state and regional nursing associations and schools of nursing in the Commonwealth. Pre-draft input was requested from the following: American Association of Neuroscience Nurses, Emergency Nurses Association, GPC – Oncology Nursing Society, The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, Intravenous Nurse Society, Licensed Practical Nurses Association of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Association of Home Health Agencies, Pennsylvania Association of Private School Administrators, Pennsylvania Association of Non-Profit Homes for the Aging, Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Pennsylvania Association of Practical Nursing Program Administrators, Pennsylvania Coalition of Nurse Practitioners, Pennsylvania College of Associate Degree Nursing, Pennsylvania Council of Operating Room Nurses, Pennsylvania Department of Health-Bureau of CH Systems, Pennsylvania Health Care Association, Pennsylvania Higher Education Nursing Schools Association, Pennsylvania League for Nursing, Inc., Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders, Pennsylvania Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates, Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, School Nurse Section, Southwestern Pennsylvania Organization for Nurse Leaders, Pennsylvania Medical Society, Nurses of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners, Pennsylvania Nurses Association, and Professional Nursing Resources, Inc.

(17) Provide a specific estimate of the costs and/or savings to the regulated community associated with compliance, including any legal, accounting or consulting procedures which may be required.

There are no costs or savings to the regulated community (nurses) because the regulation is directed at institutions that offer CRNP educational programs. Some CRNPs who teach in programs may experience the cost of maintaining national certification; however, it is anticipated that the institution employing these CRNPs as professors will pay these costs. The CRNP programs will incur some costs in preparing the application for approval of a new program. The Board estimates this cost at \$675, which includes the \$475 application fee set forth in §21.5. The Board anticipates approximately two to three new programs will ask for approval over the next five years.

In addition, the approximately 50 currently operating programs will incur costs of approximately \$1,250.00 for the annual report and approximately \$1,500.00 for the triennial compliance review.

Regulatory Analysis Form

(18) Provide a specific estimate of the costs and/or savings to local governments associated with compliance, including any legal, accounting or consulting procedures which may be required.

There are no known costs or savings to local governments associated with compliance.

(19) Provide a specific estimate of the costs and/or savings to state government associated with the implementation of the regulation, including any legal, accounting, or consulting procedures which may be required.

There are no costs or savings anticipated to state government in implementing the regulation.

Regulatory Analysis Form

(20) In the table below, provide an estimate of the fiscal savings and costs associated with implementation and compliance for the regulated community, local government, and state government for the current year and five subsequent years.

	Current FY Year	FY +1 Year	FY +2 Year	FY +3 Year	FY +4 Year	FY +5 Year
SAVINGS:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulated Community						
Local Government						
State Government						
Total Savings						
COSTS:						
Regulated	\$1,250.00	\$2,937.50	\$2,937.50	\$4,437.50	\$2,937.50	\$2,937.50
Local Government						
State Government						
Total Costs	\$1,250.00	\$2,937.50	\$2,937.50	\$4,437.50	\$2,937.50	\$2,937.50
REVENUE LOSSES:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Regulated						
Local Government						
State Government						
Total Revenue Losses						

(20a) Explain how the cost estimates listed above were derived.

50 current programs x \$25.00 (estimated annual report cost) = \$1,250.00 (cost per year) This cost is derived from the conclusion that all the information required to complete the annual report is already maintained by the CRNP educational programs and the only expense is transferring the information to the form provided by the Board.

50 current programs x \$30.00 (estimated triennial compliance review cost) = \$1,500.00 (every 3 yrs.) This cost is derived from the conclusion that all the information required to complete the triennial compliance review is already maintained by the CRNP educational programs and the only expense is transferring the information to the form provided by the Board.

2 to 3 new programs seeking approval per year x estimated cost of application and cost to prepare documents for Board review, including copying and mailing or $2.5 \times \$675 = \1687.5 annually.

The cost to the Board for reviewing the reports and monitoring the program's compliance with the regulation is estimated at \$1,100.00 per year for the annual report and \$1,100.00 every three years for the compliance review. This operating cost of the Board is paid in fees remitted to the Board by the Board's approximately 250,000 licensees and therefore not included above.

Regulatory Analysis Form

(20b) Provide the past three year expenditure history for programs affected by the regulation.

Program	FY -98-99	FY -99-00	FY -00-01 AS OF 12/31/01	BUDGETED FY 01-02
State Board of Nursing	\$3,922,622.16	\$4,514,839.67	\$4,934,157.00	\$4,827,000.00

(21) Using the cost-benefit information provided above, explain how the benefits of the regulation outweigh the adverse effects and costs.

The costs of the regulation are borne by the institutions wishing to open new CRNP educational programs and these programs obtain economic benefit from operating the program. The Commonwealth has seen an increase in new nursing programs at the LPN and RN level. As these programs incur similar costs in complying with almost identical regulations, the Board believes that the programs themselves believe that the costs of compliance are outweighed by the benefits of the regulation in leveling the playing field between different programs. In addition, there are immeasurable benefits to the public in assuring a standard of competence in the education of nurses in the Commonwealth, most of who stay and practice nursing in the Commonwealth.

(22) Describe the nonregulatory alternatives considered and the costs associated with those alternatives. Provide the reasons for their dismissal.

Because the Professional Nursing Law mandates that the Board implement binding standards of conduct through the promulgation of regulations, no non-regulatory alternatives were considered.

(23) Describe alternative regulatory schemes considered and the costs associated with those schemes. Provide the reasons for their dismissal.

Extensive input regarding this regulation was received from the Board's educational consultants, and this input was considered and incorporated in the proposed regulation.

One of the most debated requirements of the proposed regulation was whether the program director must have an earned doctorate degree at the time the program is established. In order to allow institutions greater flexibility in hiring a director, and give currently-approved institutions adequate time to comply with the regulation, the Board determined that a director with a specific plan to complete doctoral preparation could serve as the director of the program. See § 21.364(b).

Regulatory Analysis Form

(24) Are there any provisions that are more stringent than federal standards? If yes, identify the specific provisions and the compelling Pennsylvania interest that demands stronger regulation.

No federal standards exist for the training of CRNPs.

(25) How does this regulation compare with those of other states? Will the regulation put Pennsylvania at a competitive disadvantage with other states?

Sixteen state boards of nursing, including those in Maryland and Delaware, approve educational programs for nurse practitioners. Pennsylvania has, by far, the largest number of nurse practitioner programs, 52, followed by New York, 45, Michigan, 25 and Connecticut, 9. Twenty states require the MSN for nurse practitioners, including New Jersey, New York, Ohio and West Virginia.

The Board's proposed regulation is consistent with the regulations in Maryland, Delaware and New York and will not put Pennsylvania at a competitive advantage. The regulations all provide for minimum faculty qualifications, student-faculty ratios, surveys of programs, provisional or conditional and full approval, etc. The regulations all provide for the relationship between the nursing education program and the college or university housing the program, and specify requirements for student records and the school bulletin. The regulations also all provide for specific curriculum content, educational facilities, including clinical settings, and offices for staff. See Code of Delaware Regs § 24-1900(4.0); Code of Maryland Regulations §§ 10.27.03.01-10.27.03.19; N.Y. Educ. Regs. part 52.

(26) Will the regulation affect existing or proposed regulations of the promulgating agency or other state agencies? If yes, explain and provide specific citations.

The regulation will not affect any existing or proposed regulation of the Board or other state agencies.

(27) Will any public hearings or informational meetings be scheduled? Please provide the dates, times, and locations, if available.

The Board welcomes the participation of schools of nursing and other interested parties and sets meeting times upon request at its monthly meetings. Meeting dates for 2003 may be obtained from the Board's administrative office.

Regulatory Analysis Form

(28) Will the regulation change existing reporting, record keeping, or other paperwork requirements? Describe the changes and attach copies of forms or reports which will be required as a result of implementation, if available.

The regulation does not change existing reporting requirements. Educational institutions wishing to implement a CRNP program must currently submit a written plan to the Board. The regulation specifies information that must be included in the plan submitted to the Board. Section 21.375(b)(1)(i) requires that institutions maintain student records for 50 years. This is the standard time period for maintaining academic records.

(29) Please list any special provisions which have been developed to meet the particular needs of affected groups or persons including, but not limited to, minorities, elderly, small businesses, and farmers.

No specifically affected groups have been identified.

(30) What is the anticipated effective date of the regulation; the date by which compliance with the regulation will be required; and the date by which any required permits, licenses or other approvals must be obtained?

The regulation would become effective upon final publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

(31) Provide the schedule for continual review of the regulation.

The Board continuously monitors its regulations, and the Advanced Practice Committee of the Board meets at least 4 times per year to review regulations related to advanced practice nursing.

FEE REPORT FORM

Agency: State - BPOA

Date: 4/3/2003

Contact: Scott Messing

Phone No. 783-7194

Fee Title, Rate and Estimated Collections:

Application Fee: Approval of Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner Education Program: \$475.00

Estimated Biennial Revenue: \$1,900.00

(4 applications x \$475.00)

Fee Description:

The fee will be charged to evaluate each application for approval of a new nursing education program in Pennsylvania.

Fee Objective:

The fee should (1) offset the identifiable costs incurred by the State Board of Nursing to review and process an application for approval of a new nursing education program and (2) defray a portion of the Board's administrative overhead.

Fee-Related Activities and Costs:

Staff time- review and prepare application	(.17 hr)	3.38
Board administrator - evaluate application	(.08 hr)	2.52
Attorney-avg. time to review legal issues	(.50 hr)	25.63
Board Mtg: - review/discuss	(.50 hr)	300.00
Prof. Staff - evaluate & make recommendation	(3.33 hr)	131.13
Exec. Sec. - avg. time per app:	(.08 hr)	3.74
Administrative Overhead:		<u>8.21</u>
	Total Estimated Cost:	474.61
	Proposed Fee:	\$475.00

Analysis, Comment, and Recommendation:

It is recommended that a fee of \$475.00 be established to review and evaluate an application for approval of a new Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner program in Pennsylvania.

Page 2 Application Fee-Approval of New Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner Education Program:

Board Staff: Reviews application for approval to establish a new state-approved nursing program. An on-site survey is conducted by a Nursing Education Advisor; survey includes review of all physical resources and facilities.

Application also requires review of physical facilities, blueprints, curriculum, budget, student services, administration, teaching and instructional personnel and policies, library and other learning resources.

Because expenses vary widely, the fee proposed here covers only minimal staff time and the administrative overhead charge.

FACE SHEET
FOR FILING DOCUMENTS
WITH THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
(Pursuant to Commonwealth Documents Law)

JUL 20 11:25

REVIEW COMMISSION

#2426

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Copy below is hereby approved as to
form and legality. Attorney General

BY: Angela M. Elliott
(DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL)

MAY 26 2004

DATE OF APPROVAL

Copy below is hereby certified to be a true and correct
copy of a document issued, prescribed or promulgated by:

State Board of Nursing
(AGENCY)

DOCUMENT/FISCAL NOTE NO. 16A-5119

DATE OF ADOPTION: _____

BY: Janet Hunter Shields
Janet Hunter Shields, MSN, CRNP, CS

TITLE: Chairperson
(EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CHAIRMAN OR SECRETARY)

Copy below is approved as
to form and legality.
Executive or Independent
Agencies.

BY: Tanya C. Gable
12/12/03
DATE OF APPROVAL

(Deputy General Counsel
(~~Chief Counsel~~,
Independent Agency
Strike inapplicable
title)

- [] Check if applicable
Copy not approved.
Objections attached.
- [] Check if applicable. No Attorney
General approval or
objection within 30 day
after submission.

Proposed Rulemaking
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING
49 PA. CODE, SECTIONS 21.360 - 21.377
CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM APPROVAL

The State Board of Nursing (Board) proposes to amend its regulations by adding new sections related to the approval of certified registered nurse practitioner educational programs at 49 Pa. Code §§ 21.360 – 21.376.

Effective Date

The amendments will be effective upon publication of the final-form rulemaking in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

Statutory Authority

The amendments are authorized under sections 6.1 and 8.1 of the Professional Nursing Law (Act), Act of May 22, 1951, P.L. 317, as amended, (63 P.S. § 216.1).

Background and Need for the Amendment

In 1974, the Legislature, in amendments to the Act and the Medical Practice Act of 1974, authorized the Board and the State Board of Medical Education and Licensure (now the State Board of Medicine) to jointly promulgate regulations which would authorize qualified nurses to perform acts of medical diagnosis and prescribe medical, therapeutic or corrective measures.

In 1997, the State Boards of Nursing and Medicine jointly promulgated regulations granting certified registered nurse practitioner (C.R.N.P.) status to certain professional nurses (RNs). Section 21.271(b) of the State Board of Nursing's regulations (relating to requirements for approval) and § 18.41(b) of the State Board of Medicine's regulations (relating to requirements for approval) provide that "[t]he applicant [for certification] shall have successfully completed a course of study consisting of at least 1 academic year in a program administered by nursing in an institution of higher education as approved by the Boards."

Act 206 of 2002, enacted December 9, 2002, amended section 2.1 of the Act (63 P.S. § 212) to give the Nursing Board exclusive jurisdiction over C.R.N.P.s, including C.R.N.P. education. Prior to the enactment of Act 206 of 2002, these regulations were approved for publication as proposed rulemaking by both the State Board of Nursing and State Board of Medicine. Section 6.1 of the Act, 63 P.S. § 216.1, authorizes the Board to establish standards for the operation and approval of nursing education programs for registered nurses. Section 8.1(b)(1)(i), added by Act 206 requires the Board to approve certified registered nurse practitioner education programs.

Description of Proposed Amendments

In developing the proposed rulemaking, the Board utilized the regulatory scheme developed for approving schools of nursing for registered nurses. (49 Pa. Code §§ 21.31 – 21.125). The following is a section by section analysis of the proposed additions pertaining to C.R.N.P. education.

§ 21.361. Approved programs.

Section 21.361 provides that the Board will approve C.R.N.P. programs that require a bachelor's degree for admission and that culminate in a master's degree in nursing or post-master's certificate. The requirement of a bachelor's degree for admission is consistent with criteria established by the National League of Nursing, the organization that provides standardized guidelines for nursing education throughout the United States. This requirement is also consistent with section 8.1(b) of the Act, added by section 3 of Act 206, which provides for a two-year period before all approved programs must culminate in a master's or post-master's degree. Section 21.361 also provides that the Board will approve R.N. (registered nurse) to M.S.N. (master of science in nursing) and R.N. to N.D. (doctorate degree in nursing) and other experimental or accelerated programs that culminate with at least a master's degree. This provision serves to permit non-traditional C.R.N.P. programs, for professional nurses who obtained their education through an associate degree or diploma program to become approved for C.R.N.P. education. Finally, § 21.361 provides that the goal of approved programs is to prepare the professional nurse to function as a nurse practitioner.

§ 21.362. Annual reports and compliance reviews; list of approved programs.

Section 21.362 sets forth the requirements that approved programs complete an annual report and conduct a compliance review triennially. This requirement is consistent with the requirements imposed by the Board on other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code §21.31 (relating to surveys; list of approved schools). In response to the information provided in the compliance review sent to the Board, the Board will send each program a written report of recommendations or requirements. Finally, §21.362 provides that the Board will annually publish a list of approved programs. The same procedures are already established for other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code §21.31.

§ 21.363. Types of approval.

Section 21.363 details the two types of approval status granted to nursing education programs. Approved programs are initially placed on full approval status. A program may be placed on provisional approval if it is not in compliance with the Board's regulations. The same procedures are already established for other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code §21.33 (relating to types of approval).

§ 21.364. Removal from approved list; discontinuance of C.R.N.P. program.

Section 21.364 details the procedure the Board will follow if it determines that a program should be placed on provisional approval or disapproved. The procedure includes a right to a hearing and the right to cure the program's deficiencies. These same procedures are already established for other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.34 (relating to removal from approved list).

§ 21.365. Establishment.

Section 21.365 provides the criteria under which a program must be established, and the information proposed programs must submit to the Board in order to become approved programs. The program must be developed and maintained under a regionally or nationally accredited university or college; must be under the direction of a CRNP with a current Pennsylvania license and an earned doctorate degree (or plan to complete doctoral preparation); may be under the school's nurse educational program; and must submit information to the Board about the program's administration. These provisions are consistent with the criteria imposed on other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.51 (relating to establishment).

§ 21.366. Organizational requirements.

Section 21.366 sets forth the organizational requirements for programs that are seeking Board approval. The program must be a definable entity within the institution with adequate funding. The college or university under which the program operates must make resources available to the program and interact with the program and the program's faculty in accordance with university policies. These organizational requirements are consistent with the organizational requirements for other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.61 (relating to baccalaureate and associate degree programs: organizational requirements) and §21.62 (relating to diploma programs: organizational requirements).

§ 21.367. Faculty requirements for certified registered nurse practitioner programs.

This section sets forth the requirements for faculty in the program and the program's clinical courses. Faculty must demonstrate expertise and maintain expertise in the subject area they are teaching; clinical faculty must have at least two years of nurse practitioner experience and must maintain clinical competency through ongoing clinical practice. These requirements are consistent with the National League of Nursing guidelines for C.R.N.P. programs and requirements for other nursing programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.71 (relating to faculty and staff requirements for baccalaureate and associate degree programs) and § 21.74 (relating to faculty and staff requirements for diploma programs).

§ 21.368. Faculty policies.

Section 21.368 relates the faculty policies and provides that faculty must be employed by and responsible to the college or university, that C.R.N.P. faculty must be governed by college- or university-wide policies, that faculty duties must be defined in writing and that C.R.N.P. faculty hours must be consistent with the faculty hours in other college or university programs. These requirements are consistent with those imposed on other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.72 and 21.75 (relating to faculty policies).

§ 21.369. General curriculum requirements.

Section 21.369 relates to the general curriculum requirements for C.R.N.P. programs. The curriculum must be developed, implemented and evaluated by the program's faculty to include the knowledge, attitudes, skills and abilities necessary to practice as a C.R.N.P. The curriculum must include both theoretical and clinical experiences, and instructional strategies must be appropriate to the program. The curriculum must include both general nursing courses and advanced nursing practice courses, including pharmacology. Section 21.369(c)(3) details requirements for clinical courses, including that students complete a minimum of 500 clinical hours. Section 21.369(c)(4) details requirements for advanced pharmacology courses. This section also provides that the program's clinical facilities must provide students with a variety of clinical experiences. Finally, the curriculum must prepare graduates for C.R.N.P. practice. These requirements are consistent with National League of Nursing guidelines for the education of C.R.N.P.s and Board requirements for other nursing programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.81 (relating to general curriculum requirements).

§ 21.370. Evaluation.

Section 21.370 sets forth the requirements for the annual evaluation of the C.R.N.P. program conducted by the program and submitted to the Board under § 21.361(a) (relating to compliance reviews). The evaluation must be conducted by faculty, administrators and students and include teacher effectiveness and curriculum. In addition, outcomes must be measured one and three years post-graduation. These requirements are consistent with those imposed on other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.82 (relating to curriculum evaluation).

§ 21.371. Curriculum changes requiring Board approval.

Section 21.371 provides that the Board must approve curriculum changes that are substantial changes in program objectives, course content, or instruction that affect the integration of material into the total curriculum and changes that confer a new or different certification specialty. Because Act 206 provides that, in two years, nurse practitioner certification may only be granted to nurses who hold certification from a Board-recognized

national certification organization which required passing of a national certifying examination in the particular clinical specialty area, the Board anticipates that many programs will reorganize under nationally-recognized certification specialties. These requirements are consistent with those imposed on other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.83 (relating to curriculum changes requiring Board approval).

§ 21.372. C.R.N.P. program philosophy; purposes and objectives.

Section 21.372 relates to the C.R.N.P. program philosophy. The section provides that the program must adopt a clear statement of the program's philosophy and purposes, and that the philosophy and purposes must be developed and reviewed by the faculty and consistent with the acceptable social, educational and C.R.N.P. standards. These requirements are consistent with National League of Nursing guidelines and Board regulations for other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.84 (relating to baccalaureate curriculum philosophy), § 21.86 (relating to associate degree curriculum philosophy) and § 21.88 (relating to diploma curriculum philosophy).

§ 21.373. Facility and resource requirements.

Section 21.373 provides that the support of the college or university must be adequate to meet the C.R.N.P. program's needs for physical plant, library resources and clinical areas. These requirements are consistent with financial and resource requirements placed on other schools of nursing. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.91 (relating to facility and resource requirements).

§ 21.374. Selection and admission standards.

Section 21.374 relates to the selection and admission standards for C.R.N.P. programs. Programs may admit currently licensed registered nurses holding a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent, who meet the admissions requirements to the college or university's graduate program. The Board regulates the admission standards of other nursing programs, see 49 Pa. Code §§ 21.101 (relating to selection and admission standards) and 21.102 (relating to admission of classes). The National League of Nursing guidelines require a baccalaureate degree for admission to a C.R.N.P. program.

§ 21.375. Advanced standing.

This section provides that a C.R.N.P. program shall have a written policy, consistent with that of the college or university, regarding granting advanced standing. This requirement is consistent with the requirement placed on other nursing schools. See 49 Pa. Code § 21.103 (relating to transfer of students or advanced standing).

§ 21.376. Program records.

Section 21.376 details the requirements for keeping the program's records. Student records must be maintained in locked files on forms specifically designed for the program, and must be kept for 50 years. Faculty records must include the Pennsylvania display license and certification, educational records and documentation of continuing education. Administrative records must include affiliation agreements, minutes of meetings, annual reports, follow-up studies of graduates, budgets and written policies. Finally, the school bulletin must be comprehensive and current, include refund policies and policies related to admission, promotion, retention, transfer, advanced placement and dismissal. These requirements are consistent with the requirements applied to other nursing education programs. See 49 Pa. Code §§ 21.121-125 (relating to records).

§ 21.377. Custody of records.

This section relates to the custody of records and provides for transfer of records to the college or university if the program closes. If the college or university closes, the Board must be provided with information as to where the records are to be kept. This section is consistent with § 21.125 (relating to custody of records), which applies to other nursing programs.

Compliance with Executive Order 1996-1

The Board sent this proposed amendment to numerous nursing associations and hospital systems as required under the directives of Executive Order 1996-1. These organizations were: American Association of Neuroscience Nurses; Emergency Nurses Association; GPC – Oncology Nursing Society; The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania; Intravenous Nurse Society; Licensed Practical Nurses Association of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania Association of Home Health Agencies; Pennsylvania Association of Private School Administrators; Pennsylvania Association of Non-Profit Homes for the Aging; Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists; Pennsylvania Association of Practical Nursing Program Administrators; Pennsylvania Coalition of Nurse Practitioners; Pennsylvania College of Associate Degree Nursing; Pennsylvania Council of Operating Room Nurses; Pennsylvania Department of Health-Bureau of CH Systems; Pennsylvania Health Care Association; Pennsylvania Higher Education Nursing Schools Association; Pennsylvania League for Nursing, Inc.; Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders; Pennsylvania Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates; Pennsylvania State Nurses Association; School Nurse Section, Southwestern Pennsylvania Organization for Nurse Leaders; Pennsylvania Medical Society; Nurses of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners; Pennsylvania Nurses Association; and Professional Nursing Resources, Inc. In addition, the Board considered the impact the regulation would have on the regulated community and on public safety and welfare. The Board finds that the proposed amendment addresses a compelling

public interest as described in this Preamble and otherwise complies with Executive Order 1996-1.

Fiscal Impact and Paperwork Requirements

The amendments will have no adverse fiscal impact on the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions because the costs of the Board's activities are supported by fees charged to licensees and others who benefit from specific activities of the Board. In this case, the fees for approval of C.R.N.P. programs will be identical to the fees charged for approval of registered nurse programs. The amendments will impose no additional paperwork requirements upon the Commonwealth or political subdivisions. C.R.N.P. educational programs will be required to submit documentation regarding their programs for the Board's review. In addition, these programs will be required to submit a brief annual report and more comprehensive triennial report to the Board, as is currently required of registered nurse education programs.

Sunset Date

The Board continuously monitors the cost effectiveness of its regulations. Therefore, no sunset date has been assigned.

Regulatory Review

Under section 5(a) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P. S. § 745.5(a)), on August 23, 2004, the Board submitted a copy of this proposed rulemaking and a copy of a Regulatory Analysis form to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) and to the Chairpersons of the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee and the House Professional Licensure Committee. A copy of this material is available to the public upon request.

Under section 5(g) of the Regulatory Review Act, IRRC may convey any comments, recommendations or objections to the proposed rulemaking within 30 days of the close of the public comment period. The comments, recommendations or objections shall specify the regulatory review criteria which have not been met. The Regulatory Review Act specifies detailed procedures for review, prior to final publication of the rulemaking, by the Board, the General Assembly and the Governor of comments, recommendations or objections raised.

Public Comment

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, recommendations, or objections regarding this proposed rulemaking to Ann Steffanic, Board Administrator, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA, 17105, within 30 days following publication of this proposed rulemaking in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Janet Shields, CRNP, Chairperson
State Board of Nursing

ANNEX A

PENNSYLVANIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

TITLE 49. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS

PART I. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUBPART A. PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 21. STATE BOARD OF NURSING

SUBCHAPTER C. CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONERS

* * *

**APPROVAL OF CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE
PRACTITIONER PROGRAMS**

§ 21.361. Approval of programs.

- (a) The Board will consider for approval C.R.N.P. programs which require, at a minimum, a baccalaureate degree in nursing for admission and which culminate with a master's degree in nursing or post-master's certificate.

- (b) The Board will consider for approval R.N. to M.S.N. (Master of Science in Nursing), R.N. to N.D. (Nursing Doctorate), experimental or accelerated programs that culminate with at least a master's degree in nursing.

- (c) The Board will consider for approval those programs with a primary goal to prepare the registered nurse to function as a nurse practitioner in an expanded role in a particular specialty area and perform acts of medical diagnosis, prescription of medical therapeutic or corrective measures in collaboration with a physician licensed to practice medicine in this Commonwealth.

§ 21.362. Annual reports and Compliance reviews; list of approved programs.

- (a) Approved programs shall complete an annual report to the Board on a form provided by the Board. The annual report shall update information regarding the program's administration, faculty, curriculum and student enrollment.

- (b) Approved programs shall conduct a compliance review of C.R.N.P. programs at least once every three years. The compliance review shall be submitted to the Board on a form provided by the Board. The compliance review shall include information regarding

accreditation, administration, clinical sites, faculty, curriculum, testing, educational resources and student body of the program.

- (c) The Board will send a written report of recommendations or requirements, or both, based on the C.R.N.P. program's compliance review, to the C.R.N.P. program. The Board will conduct an announced or unannounced site compliance visit at its discretion.
- (d) Lists of approved C.R.N.P. programs will be compiled and published annually ("the approved list") and will be made available for distribution. The approved list will consist of programs on full approval status and programs on provisional approval status.

§ 21.363. Approval process.

- (a) A program that meets the requirements of §§ 21.361, 21.365 – 21.369 and 21.372 – 21.375 will be granted full approval status.
- (b) The Board will place a C.R.N.P. program on provisional approval status if, as evidenced by the compliance review or other information, the program is not in compliance with the Board's regulations. The Board will require progress reports or other information deemed necessary for the evaluation of a program on provisional approval status. A period of 2 years shall be the maximum time allowed for the correction of the deficiencies that resulted in the program being placed on provisional approval status. If

the program on provisional approval status is not in compliance within this designated time, the C.R.N.P. program will be removed from the approved list.

- (c) The Board may return a C.R.N.P. program on provisional approval status to full approval status if the program attains and maintains the acceptable standards set forth in §§21.365 - 21.378, and adheres to the policies and regulations of the Board.

§21.364. Removal from approved list; discontinuance of C.R.N.P. program.

- (a) The Board will give at least 30 days notice of intent to remove a C.R.N.P. program from full approval status to provisional approval status or from provisional approval status to removal from the approved list and will provide an opportunity for the program's officials to present documentation, within 10 days of notification of intent to remove, to show why approval should not be withdrawn. The Board will hold a hearing, within 30 days of the submission of documentation, at which the program official may appear and present additional evidence to show cause as to why approval should not be withdrawn. The 30 day period for holding a hearing may be waived by consent of the parties. Failure to hold a hearing within 30 days shall not be cause to withdraw the notice of intent to remove.

- (b) Programs wishing to discontinue must follow the procedures in §21.41 (relating to discontinuance of a program of nursing).

§ 21.365. Establishment.

- (a) A C.R.N.P. program shall be developed and maintained under the authority of a regionally or nationally accredited university or college.
- (b) A C.R.N.P. program shall be under the direction of a faculty member who holds an active certification as a Pennsylvania C.R.N.P. and an earned doctorate degree or a specific plan for completing doctoral preparation. The length of appointment of temporary and acting directors of C.R.N.P. programs may not exceed one year.
- (c) A university or college may conduct C.R.N.P. programs within the graduate program of the university or college where it resides, if the college or university has a professional nurse program and the philosophy of the parent institution encompasses dual programs of education. A college or university desiring to establish a program of nursing is required to:

- (1) Submit a proposal to the Board, at least 12 months prior to the first intended admission of students, which must include:
 - (i) Sufficient statistical data to support the need for a certified registered nurse practitioner program within the community and to assure availability of an adequate number of interested candidates.
 - (ii) Letters of intent from the cooperating agencies indicating positive commitment to the C.R.N.P. program and the availability of sufficient clinical resources to meet the educational requirements of the C.R.N.P. program.
 - (iii) Projected cost of the C.R.N.P. program including costs for faculty, clinical teaching resources, educational supplies, office supplies, and the like, and sufficient evidence of stable financial support.
- (2) Employ the director of the C.R.N.P. program prior to the intended admission date of students.
- (d) The planned C.R.N.P. educational program proposal shall include:

- (1) A statement of the organization and administrative policies of the college or university.
- (2) A statement of the administrative structure and functions of the nursing school.
- (3) A statement of the educational preparation and nursing experience of faculty members employed.
- (4) A statement of the philosophy, purposes and objectives of the program, which are congruent with the philosophy of the university or college.
- (5) A statement of the curriculum, based on sound educational concepts, and including detailed course descriptions, objectives, and descriptions of the relevant clinical practice related to the specialty area.
- (6) A statement of admissions policies.
- (7) A statement identifying the national educational standards and guidelines used in the development of the nursing practitioner program.

- (8) Statements of financial viability for five years.
- (9) A description of the clinical facilities.
- (e) Following the review of the C.R.N.P. program proposal and before final Board action is taken to grant permission to recruit students, an initial facility survey may be made by the designee of the Board.

§ 21.366. Organizational requirements.

- (a) The C.R.N.P. program shall be a definable entity distinguishable from other educational programs and services within the institution.
- (b) Relationships with central administrative officers, interrelationships among other disciplines and services of the college or university, and representation on college or university councils and committees for faculty in a C.R.N.P. program shall be consistent with the interaction and responsibilities accorded to other faculty members of the college or university.

- (c) Adequate funds shall be allocated and properly budgeted for the sound and effective operation of the C.R.N.P. program.
- (d) Policies in effect for faculty members of the C.R.N.P. program shall be those in effect for faculty members throughout the college or university.
- (e) The resources, facilities and services of the college or university shall be available to and used by the C.R.N.P. program and shall be adequate to meet the needs of the faculty and students.

§ 21.367. Faculty requirements for certified nurse practitioner programs.

- (a) The minimum faculty requirements submitted under § 21.365(d)(3) for the program are:
 - (1) Qualified faculty members teaching in their areas of specialized practice encompassed within the curriculum.
 - (2) Additional faculty members as needed to insure an educationally effective student-faculty ratio.

(b) Faculty qualifications for clinical courses in the C.R.N.P. program are as follows:

- (1) Faculty members shall provide evidence of expertise in their subject areas, and where appropriate, shall be currently licensed and certified in this Commonwealth and hold and maintain national certification. Faculty members already employed in a C.R.N.P. program who do not hold national certification in their area of specialization shall obtain national certification, if available, within 2 years of the final publication of this regulation.**
- (2) Faculty members shall have at least 2 years of clinical nurse practitioner experience.**
- (3) Faculty members shall give evidence of maintaining expertise in their clinical or functional areas of specialization.**
- (4) Faculty members shall maintain currency in clinical practice through ongoing clinical practice.**
- (5) Faculty members shall meet specialty requirements for continuing competency in accordance with their educational program responsibilities.**

§ 21.368. Faculty policies.

- (a) The faculty shall be employed by and be responsible to the college or university.
- (b) Policies, including personnel policies in effect for C.R.N.P. program faculty, shall be those in effect for faculty members throughout the college or university.
- (c) Functions and responsibilities of each faculty member shall be defined in writing.
- (d) Teaching hours of C.R.N.P. faculty shall be consistent with the policies of the college or university.

§ 21.369. General curriculum requirements.

- (a) The curriculum shall be developed, implemented and evaluated by the faculty and shall be based on the philosophy and objectives of the school.
- (b) The curriculum shall be organized and developed to include the knowledge, attitudes, skills and abilities necessary for practice as a C.R.N.P. and in accordance with the Board's rules and regulations related to C.R.N.P. practice.

(c) The curriculum shall provide for both clinical and theoretical experiences. The curriculum shall have the following components incorporated into each C.R.N.P. program:

(1) Graduate Nursing Core: The graduate nursing core shall include the following content:

- (i) Research.
- (ii) Health Care Policy and Organization.
- (iii) Ethics.
- (iv) Professional Role Development.
- (v) Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice.
- (vi) Human Diversity and Social Issues.
- (vii) Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

(2) Advanced Nursing Practice Core. The advanced nursing practice core shall include the following content:

- (i) Advanced Health/Physical Assessment.
- (ii) Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology.
- (iii) Advanced Pharmacology.

- (3) Specialty Content. The C.R.N.P. student shall receive sufficient clinical experience to provide depth and breadth in a given specialty or with designated populations, geared to nurse practitioner practice. Clinical hours shall meet at least national certification requirements with a minimum of 500. Additional hours shall be provided for specialties that provide care to multiple age groups (for example, family C.R.N.P.s) or for those who will practice in multiple care settings. When defining additional clinical hours, the complexity of the specialty content, as well as the need for clinical experience to enhance retention and skills, shall be considered. The expected graduate competencies shall be the key determinant of the clinical component.
- (4) Advanced Pharmacology.
- (i) C.R.N.P. program graduates shall have a well-grounded understanding of pharmacologic principles, which includes the cellular response level. This area of core content shall also include both pharmacotherapeutics and pharmacokinetics of broad categories of pharmacologic agents. Advanced pharmacology shall be taught in a separate or dedicated 3-credit or 45-hour course. Pharmacology content shall also be integrated into the other content areas identified in the Advanced Practice Nursing Core. Additional application of this content shall also be presented within the specialty course content and clinical experiences of the

program in order to prepare the C.R.N.P. to practice within a specialty scope of practice.

(ii) The purpose of this content is to provide the graduate with the knowledge and skills to assess, diagnose, and manage (including the prescription of pharmacologic agents) a patient's common health problems in a safe, high quality, manner.

(iii) The course work shall provide graduates with the knowledge and skills to:

(A) Comprehend the pharmacotherapeutics of broad categories of drugs.

(B) Analyze the relationship between pharmacologic agents and physiologic/pathologic responses.

(C) Understand the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of broad categories of drugs.

- (D) Understand the motivations of clients in seeking prescriptions and the willingness to adhere to prescribed regimens.
- (E) Safely and appropriately select pharmacologic agents for the management of client health problems based on client variations, the problem being managed, and cost effectiveness.
- (F) Provide comprehensive and appropriate client education in relation to prescribed pharmacologic agents.
- (G) Analyze the effects of single and multiple drug regimens on the client's health and functioning.
- (H) Understand the variety of state legal requirements for certified registered nurse practitioner prescriptive authority.
- (I) Fulfill legal requirements for writing prescriptions as a certified registered nurse practitioner in the Commonwealth in accordance with the regulations of the Board at §§ 21.283 – 21.287.

(5) Professional Role Content. The course work shall provide graduates with curriculum in:

- (i) Management of Client Health/Illness Status.
- (ii) The Nurse-Client Relationship.
- (iii) The Teaching-Mentoring Function.
- (iv) Professional Role.
- (v) Managing and Negotiating Health Care Delivery Systems.
- (vi) Monitoring and Ensuring the Quality of Health Care Practice.

(d) The instructional strategies shall be appropriate and consistent with the program's philosophy, mission and objectives.

(e) The clinical facilities of the C.R.N.P. program shall provide a variety of experiences with sufficient quality and quantity. Clinical experiences must be consistent with the scope of practice.

(f) C.R.N.P. courses and curriculum shall be organized to continue the development of values, understandings, knowledge and skills needed in all aspects of practice as a C.R.N.P. and emphasize specialty areas.

- (g) The ratio of students to faculty shall insure optimal learning opportunities in clinical laboratory sessions and must be consistent with the objectives of the C.R.N.P. courses.
- (h) The curriculum for C.R.N.P. programs shall give evidence of providing learning experiences which will prepare graduates for C.R.N.P. practice. The standards of practice are defined and delineated by the profession and § 21.18 (relating to standards of nursing conduct) and § 21.284 (relating to prescribing and dispensing parameters).
- (i) Course syllabi that identify all aspects of each course shall be developed and readily available.

§ 21.370. Evaluation.

- (a) As part of the C.R.N.P. program approval process, the C.R.N.P. program shall submit an outline of, and appropriate time line for, its planned evaluative process. The evaluative process shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - (1) A self-evaluation process completed by faculty, administrators and students of the C.R.N.P. program evidencing input into the C.R.N.P. program by faculty, administrators and students.
 - (i) The self-evaluative process shall include peer evaluation of teacher effectiveness.

- (ii) The self-evaluative process shall include student evaluation of teaching and program effectiveness.
 - (iii) The self-evaluative process shall include periodic evaluation of the program by faculty, students and graduates of the program.
 - (iv) The self-evaluative process shall include periodic evaluation of the program's human and fiscal resources, program policies, facilities and services.
- (2) Provisions for the program's curriculum evaluation process, completed by faculty, students, and graduates of the program.
- (i) The curriculum evaluation shall assess the program's effectiveness relative to current standards of practice.
 - (ii) The curriculum evaluation shall assess the program's effectiveness relative to current trends in education and health care.
 - (iii) The curriculum evaluation shall assess the program's effectiveness in attaining program objectives
 - (iv) The curriculum evaluation shall demonstrate that curriculum changes have been evaluated by the C.R.N.P. program faculty and are consistent with core competencies in the C.R.N.P. specialties

(3) Provision for ongoing student evaluative process that assesses the student's progress toward and ultimate achievement of program objectives.

- (i) The student evaluative process shall be evident in the course outlines provided to students at the beginning of each course.
 - (ii) The student evaluative process shall include documentation of faculty-supervised performance evaluation of students.
 - (iii) The student evaluative process shall utilize evaluation tools that reflect nurse practitioner national competencies in the specialty areas.
 - (iv) The student evaluative process shall include student evaluation of the quality of clinical experiences.
- (b) Programs shall measure outcomes of graduates at one-year and three-year intervals post-graduation.

§21.371. Curriculum changes requiring Board approval.

Curriculum changes that require Board approval include:

- (1) Changes in program objectives, course content, or instruction that affect the integration of material into the total curriculum.

- (2) Changes in an approved program which deem a new or different certification specialty title for graduates of that program require approval as a new CRNP education program.

§ 21.372. C.R.N.P. program philosophy; purposes and objectives.

- (a) A clear statement of philosophy and purposes of the C.R.N.P. program, consistent with the philosophy and purposes of the college or university, shall be formulated and adopted.
- (b) The philosophy, purposes and objectives of the C.R.N.P. program shall be developed and clearly stated by the faculty and shall be reviewed and revised at stated time intervals by this group.
- (c) The philosophy and purposes of the C.R.N.P. program shall be consistent with currently accepted social, educational and C.R.N.P. standards.

§ 21.373. Facility and resource requirements.

- (a) The support of the college or university shall be adequate to meet C.R.N.P. program needs and shall include the following:
 - (1) Faculty and staff offices.
 - (2) Classrooms, conference rooms and laboratories.
 - (3) Administrative and secretarial support.
 - (4) Interactive information systems (computer/technical support) sufficient to develop, manage and evaluate the program.
- (b) There shall be current, appropriate, adequate and available learning resources to include audio/visual equipment, computers, and library materials.
- (c) The C.R.N.P. program shall provide appropriate clinical resources and experience for students, including:
 - (1) Space for faculty's and students' needs.

- (2) Exposure of appropriate duration to a patient population sufficient in number to insure that the student can meet program goals.
- (3) Faculty to provide adequate supervision and evaluation.
 - (i) Supervision of all students in the clinical areas is the responsibility of the C.R.N.P. program faculty.
 - (ii) One program faculty member shall supervise no more than 6 students in a clinical course. If faculty are providing on-site preceptorship, the maximum ratio is 2 students per faculty member. If faculty are managing their own caseload of patients, the maximum ratio is 1 student per faculty member.
 - (iii) On-site clinical preceptors may include: advanced practice nurses who are currently licensed, physicians who are currently licensed, and C.R.N.P.s who are currently licensed and certified. One preceptor shall supervise no more than one student at any one time.

§ 21.374. Selection and admission standards.

- (a) Policies and procedures related to the selection and admission of students are the responsibility of the individual program. Consideration shall be given to scholastic aptitude, academic achievement, personal qualities and physical and emotional health necessary to fulfill the objectives of the program.
- (b) Students admitted to C.R.N.P. programs shall meet the requirements for admission to the university or college for a master's degree in nursing programs and additional requirements that may be established for the C.R.N.P. program.
- (c) Students admitted to C.R.N.P. programs shall have successfully completed the equivalent of a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited institution of higher learning in a nursing program.
- (d) Students admitted to C.R.N.P. programs shall be currently licensed as a registered nurse or, if enrolled in an R.N. to M.S.N. or R.N. to N.D. program shall complete all competencies for undergraduate requirements prior to taking graduate courses.

§ 21.375. Advanced standing.

The school shall have a written policy consistent with its philosophy and objectives concerning criteria for granting advanced standing. The policy of master's degree programs shall be consistent with that of the college or university.

§ 21.376. Program records.

- (a) The program shall employ a record system that ensures the operation of the program. Records shall be maintained in locked files which assure their safe-keeping.
- (b) Each nursing faculty shall select record forms specifically for the C.R.N.P. program that include the following:
 - (1) Student records, including the permanent record, containing both clinical and theoretical experience and achievement, shall be kept for 50 years.
 - (2) Faculty records, including the following:
 - (i) "Display portion" of current Pennsylvania nursing licenses and C.R.N.P. certification.

- (ii) Records of preparation and experience, including official college transcripts.
- (iii) Current record of continuing education activities.
- (iv) Record of national certification, if applicable.
- (3) Administrative records, including the following:
 - (i) Affiliation agreements with cooperating agencies.
 - (ii) Minutes of meetings.
 - (iii) Annual Reports.
 - (iv) Follow-up studies of graduates.
 - (v) Budgets.
 - (vi) Current written policies.

(4) School bulletin, including the following:

- (i) Comprehensive and current information.
- (ii) Clearly defined refund policies governing fees and tuition paid by the students.
- (iii) Clearly defined policies relating to admission, promotion, retention, transfer, advanced placement and dismissal.

§ 21.377. Custody of records.

- (a) When a program closes, the college or university shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the records of students for at least 50 years after graduation of the last class.
- (b) If the college or university also closes, advice should be obtained from the Board concerning the permanent safekeeping and availability of the records of the school of nursing.

- (c) The Board shall be informed in writing concerning the permanent placement of these records.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Post Office Box 2649
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-2649
(717) 783-7142

August 23, 2004

The Honorable John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION
14th Floor, Harristown 2, 333 Market Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101

Re: Proposed Regulation
State Board of Nursing
16A-5119: Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner Program Approval

Dear Chairman McGinley:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposed rulemaking package of the State Board of Nursing pertaining to certified registered nurse practitioner program approval.

The Board will be pleased to provide whatever information the Commission may require during the course of its review of the rulemaking.

Sincerely,

Janet Hunter Shields, MSN, CRNP, CS

Janet Hunter Shields, MSN CRNP, CS, Chairperson
State Board of Nursing

JHS:TLM:kmh

Enclosure

cc: Linda C. Barrett, Chief Counsel
Department of State
Basil L. Merenda, Commissioner
Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
Joyce McKeever, Deputy Chief Counsel
Department of State
Cynthia Montgomery, Regulatory Counsel
Department of State
Herbert Abramson, Senior Counsel in Charge
Department of State
Teresa Lazo-Miller, Counsel
State Board of Nursing
State Board of Nursing

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR REGULATIONS SUBJECT TO THE
REGULATORY REVIEW ACT**

I.D. NUMBER: 16A-5119

SUBJECT: Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner Program Approval

AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2426

TYPE OF REGULATION

X Proposed Regulation

Final Regulation

Final Regulation with Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Omitted

120-day Emergency Certification of the Attorney General

120-day Emergency Certification of the Governor

Delivery of Tolled Regulation

a. With Revisions

b.

Without Revisions

RECEIVED
2004 AUG 23 AM 11:26

FILING OF REGULATION

DATE

SIGNATURE

DESIGNATION

8/23 Sandra J. Haysen

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Sean Cleaver

SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION &
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

8/23/04 [Signature]

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

ATTORNEY GENERAL (for Final Omitted only)

8/23 [Signature]

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU (for Proposed only)

June 30, 2004