

2608

TO: Ms. Ann Steffanie

From: Carol Mackin RN
Certified School Nurse

RE: Continuing Ed/Act 48 credits

Date: May 16, 2007

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2007 MAY 23 AM 10:43

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
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STATE BOARD
OF NURSING

I am a Certified School Nurse with a Level II Education Certification and a Masters in Health Education. I am writing to express my concern that as regulations are written effecting Nurses' Continuing Education Credits, that there be a clause entered that will include School Nurses' Health related Act 48 credits.

I, along with my peers attend many classes, workshops, forums, etc. designed to provide us with health and wellness information, research and Medical/Nursing related practices from the perspective of the nurse in an institutional setting as well as from a community /school nursing perspective.

As Certified School Nurses we are mandated by the State Board of Education to accrue Act 48 credit hours to maintain our certification. These professional credit hours have the same purpose, keeping us updated and current about nursing/health related topics, as do the Continuing Education Credits.

In summery, we are asking that as the regulations are written, there be a specific reference for School Nurses that their "Act 48" credits for nursing related education be accepted for Continuing Ed credits.

Thank You

Carol Mackin

Carol Mackin

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**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
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May 22, 2007

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for your comments regarding the State Board of Nursing proposed rulemaking regarding continuing education for professional nurses (RNs). As you know, Act 58 of 2006, codified at 63 P.S. § 12.1, specifically provided as follows:

School nurses who as certified education specialists are required to obtain continuing professional education under section 1205.2 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L. 30, No. 14), known as the "Public School Code of 1949," and under this act shall be permitted to submit evidence of the completion of education courses approved for their certification by the school district.

The statutory language is clear that the Board must accept the continuing education courses that school nurses take for continued certification by the school district for licensure renewal. Therefore, there was no need for the Board to parrot the statutory language in its rulemaking.

I hope this has been responsive to your concern.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teresa Lazo".

Teresa Lazo
Counsel, State Board of Nursing