

655—2.1(152) Definitions.

“*Approval*” means recognition status given to nursing education programs based on the programs’ compliance with the criteria specified in this chapter. Approval may be granted or continued within any time frame determined by the board for up to six years.

“*Clinical facilities*” means locations where students directly care for patients/clients under the supervision of a qualified faculty member so that program outcomes are met.

“*Clinical instruction*” means hands-on learning situations in which students directly care for patients/clients within a relevant setting, under the supervision of a qualified faculty member, so that program outcomes are met.

“*Content*” means the subject matter in a given area of study.

“*Controlling institution*” means the institution that has authority over and administrative accountability for the program(s).

“*Curriculum*” means content, lab/simulation, observation and clinical experiences developed, implemented and evaluated by faculty to facilitate achievement of program outcomes and to meet the learning needs of students.

“*Faculty*” means the teaching staff in a nursing education program. “Faculty” also means individuals who teach nursing in a nursing education program or who are hired to teach in a program on the basis of education, licensure or practice as a registered nurse. This definition includes anyone who provides didactic or clinical instruction in nursing when assigned by the program to provide this instruction for courses included in the curriculum. The definition applies regardless of the amount of time spent teaching, the level of payment, the type of contract, the temporary nature of the position, or the location of the learner.

“*First professional degree*” means the title conferred by a college or university that signifies completion of the academic requirements for beginning practice in a given profession and a level of professional skill beyond that normally required for a baccalaureate degree.

“*Head of program*” means the dean, chairperson, director, or coordinator of the nursing education program(s) who is responsible for the administration of the program(s).

“*Interim approval*” means approval granted to a new nursing program, at which time students may be admitted into the program.

“*Lab/simulation*” means activities that mimic the reality of a clinical environment and that are designed to demonstrate procedures, decision making and critical thinking through techniques such as role-playing and through the use of devices such as interactive videos or mannequins. “Lab/simulation” shall not take the place of clinical experiences with actual patients.

“*Learning experiences*” means experiences that shall include content and clinical instruction and that may include components of lab/simulation and observation.

“*Located in Iowa*” means a college or university accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, that has made a substantial investment in a permanent Iowa campus and staff, and that offers a full range of courses leading to the degrees offered by the institution as well as a full range of student services.

“*Master’s degree*” means the title conferred by a college or university upon completion of a program of graduate study that requires a level of academic accomplishment and subject mastery substantially beyond that required for a baccalaureate degree.

“*NCLEX®*” means the National Council Licensure Examination, the examination currently used for initial licensure as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse.

“*Observation*” means learning experiences in a relevant setting, where the student does not directly care for patients/clients, that meet program outcomes but do not require on-site faculty supervision.

“*Out-of-state program*” means an approved nursing program within U.S. jurisdiction that provides clinical experiences in Iowa.

“*Preceptor*” means a licensed individual who meets Iowa board of nursing qualifications as specified in this chapter, is on staff at the facility where the experience occurs, is selected by the educational facility in collaboration with the clinical facility, and is responsible for the on-site direction of the student over a period of time.

“Preceptorship” means an optional experience between a preceptor and a nursing student over a period of time that is congruent with program outcomes.

“Program” means a course of study by any method of instruction or delivery that leads to a nursing diploma, degree or certificate. Multiple-site programs offered by one controlling institution shall be considered one program if the philosophy and curriculum of all the sites are the same. Programs eligible for board approval shall include all of the following:

1. At least a one-academic-year course of study or its equivalent in theory and practice as described by the board that leads to a diploma in practical nursing and to eligibility to apply for practical nurse licensure by examination as described in 655—Chapter 3.

2. At least a two-academic-year course of study or its equivalent in theory and practice as described by the board that leads to a degree in nursing and to eligibility to apply for registered nurse licensure by examination as described in 655—Chapter 3.

3. A course of study designed for registered nurses that leads to a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing.

4. A postbaccalaureate course of study that leads to a master’s degree with a major in nursing.

5. A course of study designed for registered nurses that leads to a master’s degree with a major in nursing.

6. A course of study designed for registered nurses who hold a master’s degree in nursing that leads to a certificate in advanced practice nursing. When the certificate is in a clinical specialty area, the course of study shall lead to eligibility to apply for certification in the clinical specialty by a national professional nursing organization approved by the board and to eligibility for registration as an advanced registered nurse practitioner as described in 655—Chapter 7.

7. A post-master’s course of study that leads to a doctoral degree with a major in nursing.

8. A course of study that leads to a doctorate in nursing practice.

“Qualified nursing faculty” means individuals who meet Iowa board of nursing faculty qualifications as specified in this chapter as well as the qualifications of the parent institution.