

282—16.7 (272) Special education nurse. A person who holds a baccalaureate degree in nursing or a master's degree in nursing, holds current licensure in the state of Iowa by the board of nursing and has two years' experience in public health nursing including service to schools or as a school nurse may be issued a statement of professional recognition (SPR) by the board of educational examiners.

16.7(1) Authorization. The holder of this authorization is authorized to serve as a special education nurse to pupils from birth to age 21 requiring special education (and to a maximum allowable age in accordance with Iowa Code section 256B.8). The legalization for this support service personnel is through a statement of professional recognition (SPR) and not through teacher licensure.

16.7(2) Requirements.

a. The special education director (or designee) of the area education agency must submit a letter to the board of educational examiners to request that the SPR be issued.

b. An applicant must submit the following documents:

- (1) A copy of the license issued by the Iowa board of nursing.
- (2) An official transcript.
- (3) Verification of two years' experience in public health nursing.
- (4) Completion of an approved human relations course.

16.7(3) Validity. The SPR shall be valid for five years.

16.7(4) Temporary authorization. A temporary SPR will be issued for one school year. The applicant must provide evidence that:

a. A professional registered nurse who does not meet the criteria set forth in rule 282—16.7(272) must complete six semester credits of graduate or undergraduate coursework in special education within one school year after receiving temporary authorization; and

b. An approved human relations course must be completed before the start of the next school year.