



South Dakota Board of Nursing
South Dakota Department of Health
4305 S. LOUISE AVENUE SUITE 201 ♦ SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106-3115
(605) 362-2760 ♦ Fax: (605) 362-2768

FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT NURSING EDUCATION

REGULATION/APPROVAL OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

1. Does the South Dakota Board of Nursing (SDBON) regulate nursing education programs that lead to the initial licensure of a practical nurse (LPN) or registered nurse (RN)?

- Yes, if the program is located in South Dakota; and *no*, if the program is located in another state/jurisdiction. The program is required to be approved in their jurisdiction of origin.

2. Does the SDBON regulate post-licensure nursing education programs that do not lead to obtaining another license? Example: RN to BSN; BSN to MSN, Clinical Nurse Leader.

- Yes, if the program is located in South Dakota; and *no*, if the program is located in another state/jurisdiction. The program is required to be approved in their jurisdiction of origin.

3. Does the SDBON regulate nursing education programs that lead to the licensure of an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN)?

- *No*, the SDBON does not regulate APRN programs leading to the licensure of CNM, CNP, CRNA, and CNS. The Board requires APRN programs to be accredited by a nationally recognized nursing accrediting agency approved by the US Department of Education, e.g. CCNE, ACEN, AANA-COA, or AMCB.
- The APRN program must specifically prepare the nurse to function in the APRN role and at least one population focus: adult-gero acute or primary care, family across the lifespan, neonatal, pediatric acute or primary care, psych-mental health, or women's health.

4. Does SD require out-of-state, post-secondary institutions to obtain authorization or approval to deliver online programming/education to SD residents?

- Yes, but only if the program has a *physical location* in SD.
- Physical location is defined in SDCL 13-48-43 as, "...the ongoing occupation of a physical location in South Dakota for instructional purposes or the maintenance of an administrative office to facilitate instruction. The following activities do not constitute the use of a physical location in this state: delivering of distance education courses online, through correspondence or broadcast; advertising; recruiting; contractual arrangements to acquire goods or services, including educational or examination proctoring services, with institutions or businesses physically located in South Dakota; courses delivered on military installations by an accredited institution limited to active and reserve military personnel, dependents of military personnel, and civilian employees of the military installation; field trips; operation of a server or other electronic service device; short courses (twenty classroom hours or less, or the equivalent thereof); courses for which fewer than twenty-five percent of class requirements take place in a setting where the instructor and students physically meet together; and experiential learning opportunities, such as a clinical, practicum, residency, or internship, if the offering institution has already obtained all the necessary professional and licensure approvals necessary to conduct the learning opportunity in the state, and that only ten students from each institution are physically present simultaneously at a single field site."
http://legis.sd.gov/Statutes/Codified_Laws/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=13-48
- If the program is located in SD, contact the SD Secretary of State's office, to request a Certificate of Authorization to operate in SD. <https://sdsos.gov/general-information/postsecondary-education/default.aspx>.
- A postsecondary institution located in SD may not publicize the availability of their program(s) in SD unless issued a certificate of authorization from the Secretary of State (SDCL 13-48-35). Contact the SD Secretary of State's office for questions <https://sdsos.gov/general-information/postsecondary-education/default.aspx>.



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- If any institution changes its name or the physical location of any campus, the institutions must notify the Secretary of State in writing within 30 days (SDCL 13-48-39). Contact the SD Secretary of State's office for questions <https://sdsos.gov/general-information/postsecondary-education/default.aspx>.

5. Does the SDBON regulate post-licensure nursing education programs that require clinical hours with direct patient care? Example: RN to BSN

- Yes, if the program is located in South Dakota; and *no*, if the program is located in another state/jurisdiction. The program is required to be approved in their jurisdiction of origin.

6. Does the SDBON require *in-state* SDBON approved pre-licensure programs to report whether their students are performing patient clinical experiences in another state or jurisdiction?

- Yes, as of 2015 SDBON approved nursing education programs will be required to submit this information to the Board. The data collected will be presented in the SDBON's Annual Reports of Nursing Education Programs. Annual reports may be accessed at <http://doh.sd.gov/boards/nursing/RandP.aspx>.

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS AND FACULTY:

7. Does the SDBON require RN post-licensure nursing students to hold a SD RN nursing license or a multi-state RN license with privilege to practice?

- Yes, RNs enrolled as students in a BON approved RN-to-BSN program or in an accredited advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) program must hold an active SD RN license or a multi-state RN license with privilege to practice to allow them to perform clinical experiences in SD.

8. Does the SDBON require nursing instructors/educators that teach students located in SD to hold a SD nursing license?

- Yes, PN, RN, and APRN educators that provide didactic education, clinical education, and/or supervise students in preceptor clinical experiences must hold an active SD RN license or a multi-state RN license with privilege to practice. Pursuant to SDCL 36-9-3 (2), ARSD 20:48:07:25, ARSD 20:48:07:26, SDCL 36-9A-2, and SDCL 36-9A-13.1. Additionally, educators teaching in APRN programs are also required to hold an active SD APRN license appropriate to the role and population focus of the APRN program.
- The SDBON approved the following motion at their September 2015 meeting, *"The South Dakota Board of Nursing affirmed that the practice of nursing includes teaching didactic and clinical nursing education. A South Dakota license, or privilege to practice, is required for all nursing education faculty teaching LPN, RN, or APRN students located within the State of South Dakota."*

9. Do SDBON's licensure requirements in item 8 apply to out-of-state nursing education programs and faculty teaching nursing courses via online distance education to students located in SD?

- Yes, the same requirements apply for both in-state programs and distance education programs when teaching students located in the state of SD.
- Teaching or supervising students enrolled in a PN, RN, or APRN nursing program is the practice of nursing. To practice nursing in SD a person must hold an active SD RN license or a multi-state RN license with privilege to practice, and/or an active APRN license in SD; pursuant to SDCL 36-9 and SDCL 36-9A.

10. Does the SDBON require instructors/educators, employed by nursing education program that originates in SD and that only teach students located in another jurisdiction, e.g. Minnesota, to hold a SD nursing license?

- *No*; for example, if an SDSU nursing program clinical instructor teaches a clinical cohort in a Minnesota hospital and does not teach in the state of SD that instructor does not need to hold a SD RN license because the students are



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located in the state of Minnesota. Instead the clinical instructor must meet the Minnesota BON licensure requirements and laws. If needed the clinical instructor may serve as a guest speaker/educator in the state of SD for up to 5 days without having to obtain a SD RN license, pursuant to SDCL 36-9-28.

STUDENT CLINICAL PRECEPTORSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

I 1. What are the requirements to place a pre-licensure RN student and/or RN to BSN student in a clinical preceptorship in South Dakota?

- The student must be enrolled in a board of nursing approved RN program.
- The RN to BSN student, RN clinical preceptor, and clinical educator supervising the student must all hold active SD RN licenses or multi-state RN licenses with privilege to practice. Pre-licensure RN students are excluded from having to hold an RN license while practicing in the role of a RN student.
- The student and the nursing program must meet the requirements of the clinical agency/facility.

I 2. What are the requirements to place an APRN student in a clinical preceptorship in South Dakota?

- The student must be enrolled in a nationally accredited APRN program and hold an active SD RN license or a multi-state RN license with privilege to practice.
- The clinical preceptor must hold an active SD APRN license in the role the student is enrolled (or as appropriate a SD medical or PA license).
- Educators supervising students in preceptor clinical experiences, pursuant to SDCL 36-9-3 (2) and 36-9A-13.1, must hold an active SD APRN license appropriate to the role and population focus of the APRN program.

I 3. Does the SDBON have requirements regarding the number of hours an APRN student must complete in clinical experiences?

- No; the SDBON relies on national accreditation bodies to set and approve the required number of clinical hours for the APRN roles which is usually a minimum of 500 hours; please also refer to the school's accrediting body.

NEW GRADUATE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS:

I 4. What are the requirements for an APRN graduate to license into South Dakota?

- Transcript verifying completion of a nationally accredited graduate nursing program in the role of a Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Midwife, Nurse Anesthetist, or Clinical Nurse Specialist; completion of advanced pathophysiology, advanced assessment, and advanced pharmacology and coursework in at least one of the following nationally accepted population focus areas: adult-gero acute or primary care, family across the lifespan, neonatal, pediatric acute or primary care, psych-mental health, or women's health.
- Certification from a nationally approved certification agency in the role and population focus the applicant was educationally prepared. (SD does allow endorsement of applicants using previously approved exams.)
- Hold a SD RN license or a multi-state RN license with privilege to practice.
- Complete a state and federal criminal background check.

I 5. More information on licensure requirements for LPNs, RNs, or APRNs is available on the SDBON website: <http://doh.sd.gov/boards/nursing/licensure.aspx>

If you have additional questions contact the SDBON office at 605-362-2760 or visit the SDBON's staff directory at: <http://doh.sd.gov/boards/nursing/staff.aspx> for email addresses.