



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE BOARD OF NURSING
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Out-of-State PN Graduates with Less Than 1500 hours

Over the course of several months, the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing discussed the requirements in Section 5 of the Practical Nurse Law that applicants for licensure complete a program of “not less than fifteen hundred hours and within a period of not less than twelve months, or has completed a program considered by the board to be equal to that required in this Commonwealth at the time such program was completed.” The Board notes that official transcripts for graduates of Practical Nursing Education Certificate/Diploma Programs reflect completion of less than fifteen hundred hours.

After consideration of acceptable equivalencies, at its meeting on December 3-4, 2012, the Board voted that applicants of programs with less than 1500 hours of education can remediate the deficient education through a combination of education and training totaling 1500 hours. In addition to the transcript, these graduates can provide documentation of the following:

1. **CONTINUING EDUCATION** The CE must be relevant to patient care, nursing in a general or a nursing specialty area and must enhance the knowledge and application of the physical, social, biological and behavioral sciences. Courses in areas related to nursing or affecting nursing practice, such as, but not limited to the following are acceptable: human sexuality, death, dying and grief, foreign language relevant to health care, therapeutic interpersonal relationship skills, patient rights, and pharmacology. **All credited course work must be converted to clock hours. Please refer to the course provider for this information.** Submit a copy of the certificates of completion or transcripts to the Board office.
2. **EXPERIENCE AS A PRACTICAL NURSE** Each hour of practice as a practical nurse, as defined in Section 2 of the Practical Nurse Law, under a temporary practice permit or an active license in another state can be credited on an hourly basis. Acceptable documentation is limited to a letter received directly from the employer(s) verifying the dates of employment, the number of hours worked per week, and a brief description of the services provided as a practical nurse. Experience as a registered nurse or nurse assistant cannot be credited.

If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact the Board Office at 1-833-367-2762.