



Virginia Department of Planning and Budget **Economic Impact Analysis**

18 VAC 90-20 Regulations of the Board of Nursing
Department of Health Professions
October 27, 2014

Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Regulation

The Board of Nursing (Board) proposes to add “a state or federal government agency” to the list of entities and organizations that may recognize or approve courses, seminars, conferences or workshops relating to nursing practice for continuing education credits.

Result of Analysis

The benefits likely exceed the costs for all proposed changes.

Estimated Economic Impact

In order to renew an active nursing license, a licensee must complete at least one of the following learning activities or courses:

1. Current specialty certification by a national certifying organization, as defined in 18VAC90-20-10;
2. Completion of a minimum of three credit hours of post-licensure academic education relevant to nursing practice, offered by a regionally accredited college or university;
3. A board-approved refresher course in nursing;
4. Completion of nursing-related, evidence-based practice project or research study;
5. Completion of publication as the author or co-author during a renewal cycle;
6. Teaching or developing a nursing-related course resulting in no less than three semester hours of college credit, a 15-week course, or specialty certification;
7. Teaching or developing nursing-related continuing education courses for up to 30 contact hours;

8. Fifteen contact hours of workshops, seminars, conferences, or courses relevant to the practice of nursing and 640 hours of active practice as a nurse; or
9. Thirty contact hours of workshops, seminars, conferences, or courses relevant to the practice of nursing.

Under the current regulations, to meet requirements of subdivision 8 or 9 above, workshops, seminars, conferences, or courses shall be offered by a provider recognized or approved by one of the following:

1. American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)/American Nurses Association (ANA);
2. National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN);
3. Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) in any state in which the AHEC is a member of the National AHEC Organization;
4. Any state nurses association;
5. National League for Nursing (NLN);
6. National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service (NAPNES);
7. National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses (NFLPN);
8. A licensed health care facility, agency, or hospital;
9. A health care provider association;
10. Regionally or nationally accredited colleges or universities;
11. The American Heart Association, the American Health and Safety Institute, or the American Red Cross for courses in advanced resuscitation; or
12. Virginia Board of Nursing or any state board of nursing.

The Board proposes to add “a state or federal government agency” to this list of entities and organizations that may recognize or approve courses, seminars, conferences or workshops relating to nursing practice for continuing education credits.

Of those licensed nurses who are employed by government, many are associated with hospitals or academic institutions which are already listed as approved providers/endorsers of continuing education. Thus the proposed amendment will not likely have a large impact, but will be positive in that it may provide licensed nurses some additional qualified options for continuing education.

Businesses and Entities Affected

The Healthcare Workforce Data Center at the Virginia Department of Health Professions reports that the number of registered nurses who listed a government entity as their primary employer in 2013 was: 7656 in state/local government; 1527 in the U.S. military; 1339 in the Veterans Administration; and 571 in other U.S. government agencies. The training at the places of employment for most of these nurses likely already qualifies for continuing education; there may be some though that do not currently qualify, and would thus be affected by the proposed amendment.

Localities Particularly Affected

The proposed amendment does not disproportionately affect particular localities.

Projected Impact on Employment

The proposed amendment is unlikely to significantly affect employment.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

The proposal to add “a state or federal government agency” to the list of entities and organizations that may recognize or approve courses, seminars, conferences or workshops relating to nursing practice for continuing education credits may newly allow a small number of courses, seminars, conferences or workshops offered by private entities to qualify for nursing continuing education credit. The impact will not likely be large.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

The proposed amendment is unlikely to significantly affect costs for small businesses.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

The proposed amendment is unlikely to produce a significant adverse impact for small businesses.

Real Estate Development Costs

The proposed amendments are unlikely to significantly affect real estate development costs.

Legal Mandate

General: The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with § 2.2-4007.04 of the Code of Virginia and Executive Order Number 17 (2014). Section 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses determine the public benefits and costs of the proposed amendments. Further the report should include but not be limited to:

- the projected number of businesses or other entities to whom the proposed regulatory action would apply,
- the identity of any localities and types of businesses or other entities particularly affected,
- the projected number of persons and employment positions to be affected,
- the projected costs to affected businesses or entities to implement or comply with the regulation, and
- the impact on the use and value of private property.

Small Businesses: If the proposed regulatory action will have an adverse effect on small businesses, § 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses include:

- an identification and estimate of the number of small businesses subject to the proposed regulation,
- the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for small businesses to comply with the proposed regulation, including the type of professional skills necessary for preparing required reports and other documents,
- a statement of the probable effect of the proposed regulation on affected small businesses, and
- a description of any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the proposed regulation.

Additionally, pursuant to § 2.2-4007.1, if there is a finding that a proposed regulation may have an adverse impact on small business, the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules (JCAR) is notified at the time the proposed regulation is submitted to the *Virginia Register of Regulations* for publication. This analysis shall represent DPB's best estimate for the purposes of public review and comment on the proposed regulation.

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Town Hall ID: Action 4229 / Stage 7028