

OKLAHOMA BOARD OF NURSING
2501 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 207
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
(405) 962-1800

Refresher Course Policy

- I. Introduction/Purpose: In accordance with the *Rules of the Oklahoma Board of Nursing*, the Board has developed the *Refresher Course Policy* for use by nurses seeking to demonstrate evidence of continued qualifications for practice or evidence of eligibility for initial licensure or relicensure through completion of a refresher course.
- II. Definitions:
- A. “Refresher course” means a structured program approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, offered by an educational institution approved to offer a nursing education program leading to licensure, for the purpose of providing an update of nursing theoretical content and clinical practice for individuals who have previously completed a Board-approved nursing education program.
- III. Policy/Guideline:
- A. In order to offer a refresher course that meets the Board’s requirements for evidence of continued qualifications for practice, the institution must be approved to offer a nursing education program leading to licensure. Approval of the refresher course by the Board is required and may be delegated to Board staff.
- B. Faculty teaching in the refresher course will hold a minimum of a baccalaureate degree in nursing. A health care facility-based preceptor model may be used to supplement faculty instruction in the clinical component.
- C. The refresher course will be a competency-based model including a didactic component and a clinical component.
1. The clinical component includes a minimum of 40 hours of clinical education experiences to validate competency-based readiness for practice.
 2. Students may proceed through the competencies at their own pace.
 3. In order for the student to successfully complete the refresher course, the student must have received a summative satisfactory evaluation on both the didactic and clinical components of the course.
- IV. The basic curriculum to be covered in the refresher course for registered nurses and practical nurses will be appropriate for the level of licensure. Areas to be covered must include, but are not limited to, the following:

Board Approved: 9/23/04

Board Reviewed w/o Revision:

Board Revised: 9/25/07; 9/28/10; 7/30/13; 11/14/17; 11/10/20

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- A. Roles and responsibilities of the RN and of the LPN in current health care settings
 - 1. Scopes of practice, as established in the *Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act*
 - 2. Practice guidelines established by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing
 - 3. Collaborating and communicating with other health care team members
 - 4. Utilization of current clinical references and resources
 - 5. Responsibilities for delegation and supervision
 - 6. Using nursing judgment, decision-making and critical thinking skills
 - 7. Roles of the RN and of the LPN in use of the nursing process
 - a. Patient assessment
 - b. Analysis of data
 - c. Development, implementation, and evaluation of the plan of care
- B. Review and update on fundamental concepts of patient care
 - 1. Pain management
 - 2. Nursing implications related to commonly-used medications in current health care settings
 - 3. Dosage calculation skills
 - 4. Current technology used in clinical care
 - 5. Documentation
 - 6. Diagnostic testing
 - 7. Infection control
 - 8. Common health problems throughout the lifespan
 - 9. Concepts related to maternal-newborn care
 - 10. Concepts related to psychiatric-mental health
- C. Psychomotor skills
 - 1. Physical assessment skills
 - 2. Medication administration (oral, topical, intradermal, subcutaneous, intramuscular, and IV)
 - 3. Ostomy and wound care
 - 4. Urinary catheterization
 - 5. Nasogastric intubation and feeding tubes
 - 6. Chest tubes
 - 7. Tracheostomy care, pulse oximetry, and suctioning
 - 8. IV therapy and administration of blood products
 - 9. Use of restraints and restraint alternatives

V. Board-Approved Nurse Refresher Courses can be viewed on the website at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/nrefresher.pdf>

VI. Regulatory Authority:
 59 O.S. § 567.7
 OAC 485:10-7-1(e), 485:10-7-3(e)(4), 485:10-7-4(h)(4), 485:10-9-1(e), 485:10-9-3(e), 485:10-9-4(h)