

H.684

An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

* * * Office of Professional Regulation * * *

* * * Nursing * * *

Sec. 15. 26 V.S.A. chapter 28 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 28. NURSING

§ 1613. TRANSITION TO PRACTICE

(a) ~~Graduates~~ An APRN with fewer than 24 months and 2,400 hours of licensed active advanced nursing practice in an initial role and population focus or fewer than 12 months and ~~1,600~~ 1,200 hours for any additional role and population focus shall ~~have~~ be required in accordance with Board rule to:

(1) establish a formal agreement with a collaborating provider as ~~required by board rule.~~ ~~APRNs shall have and maintain signed and dated copies of all required collaborative provider agreements as part of the practice guidelines.~~ ~~An APRN required to practice with a collaborative provider agreement may not engage in solo practice, except with regard to a role and population focus in which the APRN has met the requirements of this subsection; or~~

(2) document that the APRN's place of employment is a clinic, hospital, or practice group that employs two or more additional individuals who have been licensed for four or more years to practice medicine under chapter 23 or 33 of this title or advanced practice registered nursing under this chapter. One of those more experienced licensees shall be ~~primarily located on site~~ **appropriately available for the purpose of collaboration** when the APRN is providing clinical health care services, **as defined by Board rule. and accessible by phone or otherwise by alternative means, as defined by Board rule.**

(b) An APRN who satisfies the requirements to engage in solo practice pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall notify the ~~board~~ Board that these requirements have been met.

§ 1614. APRN RENEWAL

An APRN license renewal application shall include:

- (1) documentation of completion of the APRN practice requirement;
- (2) and possession of a current certification by a national APRN specialty certifying organization;
- (3) ~~current practice guidelines; and~~
- (4) a current collaborative provider agreement if required for transition to practice.

§ 1615. ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES;

REGULATORY AUTHORITY; UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

(a) In addition to the provisions of 3 V.S.A. § 129a and section 1582 of this chapter, the Board may deny an application for licensure, renewal, or reinstatement, or may revoke, suspend, or otherwise discipline an advanced practice registered nurse upon due notice and opportunity for hearing if the person engages in the following conduct:

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(4) Practice beyond those acts and situations that are within ~~the~~ practice guidelines approved by the Board for an APRN and within the ~~limits~~ ~~of~~ the knowledge and experience of the APRN, ~~and, for an APRN who is practicing under a collaborative agreement, practice beyond those acts and situations that are within both the usual scope of the collaborating provider's practice and the terms of the collaborative agreement.~~ and, for an APRN who is within the transition to practice period set forth in 26 V.S.A. §1613, practice beyond those acts and situations that are within the usual scope of the collaborating provider or a more experienced licensee available to the APRN.

(5) ~~For an APRN who acts as the collaborating provider for an APRN who is practicing under a collaboration agreement, allowing the mentored APRN to perform a medical act that is outside the usual scope of the~~

~~mentor's own practice or that the mentored APRN is not qualified to perform by training or experience or that is not consistent with the requirements of this chapter and the rules of the Board.~~ For an APRN who acts as the collaborating provider or the more experienced licensee for an APRN who is practicing within the transition to practice period set forth in 26 V.S.A. §1613, allowing the mentored APRN to perform a medical act that is outside the usual scope of the mentor's own practice or that the mentored APRN is not qualified to perform by training or experience or that is not consistent with the requirements of this chapter and the rules of the Board [Repealed.]

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