

ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 610-X-9  
ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

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610-X-9-.01	<u>Qualifications For Approval To Practice As A Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.</u>

(1) The applicant for approval to practice as a certified registered nurse anesthetist shall have:

(a) An active registered nurse license issued by Alabama or a multistate registered nurse license issued by a party state, as defined in Chapter 4 of these rules. Initial applicants shall have an active registered nurse license, unless authorized by the Board.

(b) Met all requirements for completion of or graduation from an organized program of study and clinical experience beyond

the basic educational preparation as a registered nurse that prepares nurse anesthetists and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs/Schools or its predecessor, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists and recognized by the Board of Nursing.

(c) Earned at least a master's degree, or post-master's certificate in advanced practice nursing from an accredited graduate program in nurse anesthesia recognized by the Board.

(d) Current certification as a registered nurse anesthetist by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists, or other certifying body approved by the Board of Nursing.

(2) The applicant for approval as a certified registered nurse anesthetist who graduated from an accredited school of nurse anesthesia prior to December 31, 2003, is exempt from the master's degree requirement.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-21-84.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 25, 2003; effective September 29, 2003. **Amended:** Filed May 14, 2007; effective June 18, 2007. **Amended:** Filed May 20, 2019; effective July 4, 2019. **Amended:** Filed July 26, 2019; effective September 9, 2019; operative January 1, 2020.

#### 610-X-9-.02

#### **Application For Approval To Practice As A Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.**

The applicant for approval to practice as a certified registered nurse anesthetist shall submit to the Board:

(1) A completed application and the required fee(s).

(2) An official transcript of education for advanced practice nursing as a nurse anesthetist that indicates the date of completion of the program and the date degree or certificate was conferred if the dates are not the same.

(3) Official evidence of current certification by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists, or other certifying body approved by the Board of Nursing, as a registered nurse anesthetist.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-84.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 25, 2003; effective September 29, 2003. **Amended:** Filed May 20, 2019; effective July 4, 2019.

**610-X-9-.03      Authorization For Practice As A Certified  
Registered Nurse Anesthetist.**

(1) The Board of Nursing may grant approval for advanced practice nursing as certified registered nurse anesthetists to applicants who meet the requirements of Chapter 610-X-9-.01 and .02.

(2) Only those registered nurses whose credentials have current approval from the Board may hold themselves out to be certified registered nurse anesthetists, use the designation "CRNA" or use titles to imply that they are nurse anesthetists.

(3) The advanced practice approval shall expire on the expiration date of the RN license or on the expiration date of the licensee's national certification as a certified registered nurse anesthetist, whichever occurs first.

(4) Certified registered nurse anesthetists shall renew approval to practice at the time of registered nurse license renewal. Approval for practice may be continued each biennium at the time of renewal of the registered nurse license upon verification of meeting the requirements of Rule 610-X-9-.01 and paying the advanced practice renewal fee(s).

(5) Approval for practice may be continued at the time of renewal upon verification of meeting the requirements of Rule 610-X-9-.01, paying the advanced practice renewal fee(s), and six contact hours of pharmacology content specific to practice in the approved area. Graduate pharmacology academic credit earned during the nurse anesthetist educational program prior to initial approval as a CRNA does not qualify as pharmacology continuing education for renewal of approval as a CRNA.

(6) Alabama-licensed certified registered nurse anesthetists shall earn, as part of the required twenty-four (24) Board-approved or Board-recognized continuing education contact hours for license renewal, six contact hours of pharmacology.

(7) Failure to meet renewal requirements shall result in lapse of the advanced practice approval.

(8) A nurse who fails to attain certification from the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists, or maintain recertification from the Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists shall:

(a) Immediately notify the Board of Nursing.

(b) Not practice as or use the title of certified registered nurse anesthetist until approved by the Board of Nursing.

(9) A certified registered nurse anesthetist may, after the successful completion of an organized program of study and supervised clinical practice, carry out functions beyond the nurse anesthetist educational preparation provided the functions are approved by the Board of Nursing as being within the legal scope of practice for a certified registered nurse anesthetist and performed pursuant to a standardized procedure implemented in compliance with Section 610-X-6-.12.

(10) Practicing as a certified registered nurse anesthetist subsequent to expiration of advanced practice approval shall result in disciplinary action pursuant to Chapter 610-X-8.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-84.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Amended:** Filed March 26, 1998; effective April 30, 1998. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 25, 2003; effective September 29, 2003. **Amended:** Filed May 14, 2007; effective June 18, 2007. **Amended:** Filed April 22, 2016; effective June 6, 2016. **Amended:** Filed May 20, 2019; effective July 4, 2019. **Amended:** Filed July 26, 2019; effective September 9, 2019; operative January 1, 2020. **Amended:** Published June 30, 2021; effective August 14, 2021.

**610-X-9-.04      Standards Of Practice For A Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.**

The certified registered nurse anesthetist shall practice in accordance with the standards, scope of practice, and guidelines developed by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, congruent with Alabama law.

**Author:**

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-2(1).

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Amended:** Filed May 18, 2018; effective July 2, 2018.

**610-X-9-.05      Provisional Approval To Practice As A Graduate Registered Nurse Anesthetist.**

(1) An Alabama-licensed registered nurse who meets the requirements of rule 610-X-9-.01 and .02, and who has applied for initial certification may request Provisional Approval for practice as a graduate nurse anesthetist by submitting:

(a) Official evidence of authorization to test from the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists, or other certifying body approved by the Board of Nursing, for the initial certification examination.

(b) The name and address of the employer who will ensure the supervision of the provisional nurse anesthetist by a certified registered nurse anesthetist or a licensed physician.

(2) The nurse anesthetist with provisional approval may use the designation "Graduate Registered Nurse Anesthetist." Provisional approval to practice is limited to a maximum of one year and shall expire immediately upon:

(a) Notification of passing the certification examination.

(b) Notification of failing the certification examination.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-84.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 25, 2003; effective September 29, 2003. **Amended:** Filed May 14, 2007; effective June 18, 2007. **Amended:** Filed May 20, 2019; effective July 4, 2019. **Amended:** Published November 30, 2020; effective January 14, 2021.

#### **610-X-9-.06      Notice Requirements.**

(1) Certified registered nurse anesthetists, as defined by statute and regulation, shall submit to the board, immediately upon receipt:

(a) Evidence of current national certification by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists, or other certifying body approved by the Board of Nursing, or recertification from the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists, or other certifying body approved by the Board of Nursing.

1. Upon successful completion of the initial certification examination.

2. At the time of renewal of advanced practice approval.

3. Upon recertification by the Council.

(2) Failure to provide evidence of current national certification prior to the expiration of existing certification on file with the Board shall result in lapse of approval to practice as a certified registered nurse anesthetist and may result in disciplinary action pursuant to Chapter 610-X-8.

(3) The Board's notice to the advanced practice nurse for approval to practice may be:

(a) A letter or notice granting provisional approval.

(b) A letter or other document granting full approval.

(4) Failure to submit evidence to the Board of meeting the requirements of Chapter 610-X-9, as applicable, shall result in lapse of the advanced practice approval.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-2(1).

**History:** Filed June 1, 1989; effective July 6, 1989. **Amended:** Filed June 18, 1996; effective July 23, 1996. **Repealed:** Filed March 20, 2003; effective April 24, 2003. **New Rule:** Filed May 14, 2007; effective June 18, 2007. **Amended:** Filed April 22, 2016; effective June 6, 2016. **Amended:** Filed May 20, 2019; effective July 4, 2019.

#### 610-X-9-.07

#### **Reinstatement Of Lapsed Approval For Practice As A Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.**

(1) Lapsed approval as a certified registered nurse anesthetist may be reinstated upon submission of a completed application and compliance with the following:

(a) An active Alabama registered nurse license or a multistate registered nurse license issued by a party state, as defined in Chapter 4 of these rules.

(b) Payment of current renewal and reinstatement fees, as well as outstanding fees and fines, if applicable.

(c) Official evidence of current national certification as a certified registered nurse anesthetist by a national certifying agency recognized by the Board.

(d) Documented evidence of completion of six contact hours of pharmacology continuing education earned within the 24 months immediately preceding application.

(2) In the case of an Alabama-licensed advanced practice nurse, if the reinstatement of a lapsed approval for advanced practice occurs during the renewal period for registered nurses, the expiration of the advanced practice approval shall be the expiration date of the RN license or the expiration date of the licensee's national certification as a certified registered nurse anesthetist, whichever occurs first.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-84.

**History:** **New Rule:** Filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018. **Amended:** Filed July 26, 2019; effective September 9, 2019; operative January 1, 2020.

**Ed. Note:** New Rule .07 was inserted and the original.07 was renumbered .08 per certification filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018.

**610-X-9-.08      Qualifications For Approval To Practice As A Clinical Nurse Specialist.**

(1) An applicant for approval to practice as a clinical nurse specialist shall have:

(a) An active Alabama registered nurse license or a multistate registered nurse license issued by a party state, as defined in Chapter 4 of these rules. Initial applicants shall have an active registered nurse license unless authorized by the Board.

(b) A master's or higher degree, or post-master's certificate, in nursing from an accredited educational institution in a curriculum designed to prepare clinical nurse specialists.

(c) Certification by a national certifying agency recognized by the Board in the clinical specialty consistent with educational preparation and appropriate to the area of practice.

(2) The registered nurse seeking approval as a clinical nurse specialist in a specialty for which no national certification examination is available may petition the Board for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Rule 610-X-1-.09.

**Author:** Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-21-84.

**History: New Rule:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996.

**Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 25, 2003; effective September 29, 2003. **Amended:** Filed May 14, 2007; effective June 18, 2007.

**Amended:** Filed July 26, 2019; effective September 9, 2019; operative January 1, 2020.

**Ed. Note:** Original rule .07 was renumbered .08 per certification filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018.

**610-X-9-.09      Application For Approval To Practice As A Clinical Nurse Specialist.**

The applicant for approval to practice as a clinical nurse specialist shall submit to the Board:

(1) A completed application and the required fee(s).

(2) An official transcript from an accredited educational institution, showing the attainment of a master's or higher degree, or post-graduate certificate, in a curriculum designed to prepare clinical nurse specialists.

(3) Official evidence of current national certification as a clinical nurse specialist by a national certifying agency recognized by the Board.

**Author:** Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-21-84.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Repealed:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996. **New Rule:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 25, 2003; effective September 29, 2003.

**Ed. Note:** Original rule .08 was renumbered .09 per certification filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018.

**610-X-9-.10      Authorization For Practice As A Clinical Nurse Specialist.**

(1) The Board of Nursing may grant approval for advanced practice nursing as a clinical nurse specialist to applicants who meet the requirements of Chapter 610-X-9-.08 and .09.

(2) Only those registered nurses whose credentials have been approved by the Board may hold themselves out to be clinical nurse specialists, use the designation "CNS" or use titles to imply that they are clinical nurse specialists.

(3) The advanced practice approval shall expire on the same date as the registered nurse license or on the expiration date of the licensee's national certification, whichever occurs first.

(4) Clinical nurse specialists shall renew approval for practice at the time of registered nurse license renewal. Approval for practice may be continued at the time of renewal upon verification of meeting the requirements of Rule 610-X-9-.01, paying the advanced practice renewal fee(s), and six contact hours of pharmacology content specific to practice in the approved area. Graduate pharmacology academic credit earned during the clinical nurse specialist educational program prior to initial approval as a CNS does not qualify as pharmacology continuing education for renewal of approval as a CNS.

(5) Failure to meet the renewal requirements shall result in lapse of advanced practice approval.

(6) A nurse who fails to attain or maintain certification in the appropriate area of practice shall:



(a) Immediately notify the Board.

(b) Not practice as or use the title of clinical nurse specialist until approved by the Board.

(7) A clinical nurse specialist may, after the successful completion of an organized program of study and supervised clinical practice, carry out functions beyond the clinical nurse specialist educational preparation provided the functions are approved by the Board of Nursing as being within the legal scope of practice for a clinical nurse specialist and performed pursuant to a standardized procedure implemented in compliance with Section 610-X-6-.12.

(8) Practicing as a clinical nurse specialist subsequent to expiration of advanced practice approval shall result in disciplinary action pursuant to Chapter 610-X-8.

**Author:** Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-84.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Amended:** Filed June 6, 1986; effective July 11, 1986. **Repealed:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996. **New Rule:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 25, 2003; effective September 29, 2003. **Amended:** Filed May 14, 2007; effective June 18, 2007. **Amended:** Filed April 22, 2016; effective June 6, 2016. **Amended:** Filed July 26, 2019; effective September 9, 2019; operative January 1, 2020. **Amended:** Published November 29, 2019; effective January 13, 2020. **Amended:** Published June 30, 2021; effective August 14, 2021.

**Ed. Note:** Original rule .09 was renumbered .10 per certification filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018.

#### **610-X-9-.11      Standards Of Practice For Clinical Nurse Specialists.**

(1) The clinical nurse specialist shall practice in accordance with the standards, scope of practice, and guidelines identified by the appropriate specialty certifying body as recognized by the Board of Nursing and as congruent with Alabama law.

(2) The CNS may perform advanced nursing skills under Board approved written nursing protocols, independent nursing contracts, and standardized procedures consistent with Article 5 of the Nurse Practice Act.

**Author:** Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-84.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Amended:** Filed June 6, 1986; effective July 11, 1986. **Repealed:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996. **New Rule:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed August 25,

2003; effective September 29, 2003. **Amended:** Filed May 18, 2018; effective July 2, 2018. **Amended:** Filed July 20, 2018; effective September 3, 2018.

**Ed. Note:** Original rule .10 was renumbered .11 per certification filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018.

**610-X-9-.12      Notice Requirements.**

(1) Clinical nurse specialists as defined by statute and regulation shall submit to the Board, immediately upon receipt:

(a) Evidence of current national certification by national certifying agency recognized by the Board in the clinical specialty consistent with educational preparation and appropriate to the area of practice.

(i) Upon successful completion of the initial certification examination.

(ii) At the time of renewal of advanced practice approval.

(iii) Upon recertification by the national certifying agency.

(2) Failure to provide evidence of current national certification prior to the expiration date of the existing certification on file with the Board shall result in lapse of approval to practice as a Clinical Nurse Specialist and may result in disciplinary action pursuant to Chapter 610-X-8.

**Author:** Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-21-85, 34-21-90.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Repealed:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996. **New Rule:** Filed June 20, 1996; effective July 25, 1996. **Amended:** Filed March 26, 1998; effective April 30, 1998. **Repealed:** Filed August 25, 2003; effective September 29, 2003. **New Rule:** Filed May 14, 2007; effective June 18, 2007.

**Ed. Note:** Original rule .11 was renumbered .12 per certification filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018.

**610-X-9-.13      Reinstatement Of Lapsed Approval For Practice As A Clinical Nurse Specialist.**

(1) Lapsed approval as a clinical nurse specialist may be reinstated upon submission of a completed application and compliance with the following:

(a) An active Alabama registered nurse license or multistate registered nurse license issued by a party state, as defined in Chapter 4 of these rules.

(b) Payment of current renewal and reinstatement fees, as well as outstanding fees and fines, if applicable.

(c) Official evidence of current national certification as a clinical nurse specialist by a national certifying agency recognized by the Board.

(d) Documented evidence of completion of six contact hours of pharmacology continuing education earned within the 24 months immediately preceding application.

(2) In the case of an Alabama-licensed advanced practice nurse, if the reinstatement of a lapsed approval for advanced practice occurs during the renewal period for registered nurses, the expiration of the advanced practice approval shall be the expiration date of the RN license or the expiration date of the licensee's national certification as a clinical nurse specialist, whichever occurs first.

**Author:** Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-21-2, Act 89-243.

**History: New Rule:** Filed December 28, 2009; effective February 1, 2010. **Amended:** Filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018. **Amended:** Filed July 26, 2019; effective September 9, 2019; operative January 1, 2020.

**Ed. Note:** Original rule .12 was renumbered .13 per certification filed September 27, 2018; effective November 11, 2018.