

APA-1

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control: 610
Department or Agency: Alabama Board of Nursing
Rule No.: 610-X-9-.21
Rule Title: Qualifications For Approval To Practice For a Certified Nurse Midwife
Intended Action: Amend

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? No

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? Yes

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved? No

To what degree?: N/A

Is the increase in cost more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? NA

Are all facets of the rule-making process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? Yes

Does the proposed action relate to or affect in any manner any litigation which the agency is a party to concerning the subject matter of the proposed rule? No

Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer

Natalie Baker
Natalie Baker

REC'D & FILED

Date

Tuesday, March 17, 2026 MAR 17, 2026

LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Board of Nursing

RULE NO. & TITLE: 610-X-9-.21 Qualifications For Approval To Practice  
For a Certified Nurse Midwife

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The Alabama Board of Nursing proposes amending the subject rule to eliminate the requirement for CNM applicants to have practiced for 3000 hours as RNs or APRNs prior to approval in Alabama, pending further analysis and discussion among nurses, educators, and employers.

TIME, PLACE AND MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:

Written or verbal comments will be accepted through 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2026 and may be directed to PO Box 303100, Montgomery, Alabama 36130, by telephone to 334-293-5200, or email to Natalie.Baker@abn.alabama.gov.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

Natalie R. Baker

*Natalie Baker*

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Natalie Baker

(Signature of officer authorized  
to promulgate and adopt  
rules or his or her deputy)

**Qualifications For Approval To Practice For a Certified Nurse Midwife.**

(1) The applicant for approval to practice as a certified nurse midwife 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, 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 midwives and is recognized by the Board of Nursing and the appropriate specialty certifying agency.

~~(c) Effective January 31, 2027, documented evidence of at least 3000 hours of clinical experience in a clinical setting as either a registered nurse or an advanced practice nurse.~~

~~(d)~~ At least a master's or higher degree in advanced practice nursing from an accredited program recognized by the Board.

~~(e)~~ (d) The applicant for initial approval as a nurse midwife who meets one of the following criteria is exempt from the requirement for a master's degree in nursing:

1. Graduation prior to 1996 from a Board recognized post-baccalaureate program preparing nurse midwives.
2. Graduation prior to 1984 from a non-baccalaureate program preparing nurse midwives.
3. The Board of Nursing may grant a waiver of the master's degree requirement at its discretion.

(e) Current certification as a certified nurse midwife by the American Midwifery Certification Board.

(f) Obtained continuing education prescribed by the Board of Nursing regarding the rules and statutes governing collaborative practice in Alabama, not more than forty-eight (48) months prior to or within twelve (12) months of commencement of the collaborative practice.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

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

**History: New Rule:** Published November 26, 2025; effective January 10, 2026. Amended: Published \_\_\_\_\_ ; effective \_\_\_\_\_ .