

APA-1

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control: 610
Department or Agency: Alabama Board of Nursing Alabama
Rule No.: 610-X-14-.31
Rule Title: Standards for Approval
Intended Action: New

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? Yes

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

Date

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

REC'D & FILED
MAR 17, 2026
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING ALABAMA

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Board of Nursing

RULE NO. & TITLE: 610-X-14-.31 Standards for Approval

INTENDED ACTION: New

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The Board of Nursing proposes amending the rule to clarify educational and regulatory requirements for Medication Assistants, Certified (MAC).

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

Natalie Baker

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

(1) All Alabama MAC education programs must be approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing. New MAC education programs established in Alabama on or after May 1, 2026, shall submit an application for Board approval prior to implementation.

(2) The governing institution, MAC program coordinator, and MAC instructor(s) are accountable for selecting and evaluating the teaching methods, delivery modalities, and processes used to achieve expected program outcomes.

(3) The governing institution offering the MAC program shall be one of the following:

(a) A postsecondary education institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

(b) Approved and licensed by the appropriate State of Alabama education agency(ies), as required by law.

(4) The governing institution shall provide support and resources sufficient to ensure achievement of student learning and program outcomes. Resources include, but are not limited to:

(a) Financial.

(b) Education program physical facilities.

(c) Instructional and learning equipment.

(d) Technology.

(e) Administrative, instructional, and support personnel.

(5) The governing institution's administrator or program coordinator shall notify the Board, in writing, of any substantive changes in the MAC program, including, but not limited to:

(a) MAC program coordinator.

(b) Governing institution administrator, President, CEO, Chancellor, or Provost/Division Dean.

(c) Relocation of the governing institution or MAC education program.

(d) Intent to close a program.

(e) Intent to add additional instructional site(s).

(f) Notification of additional MAC instructor(s) teaching in program.

(6) There shall be an organizational chart that depicts the authority, responsibility, and channels of communication between the MAC program and the governing institution and other comparable programs within the governing institution.

(7) A MAC program shall be administered by a qualified program coordinator who is accountable for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the program.

(a) Minimum qualifications of a MAC program coordinator shall include:

1. Full-time employee of the governing institution.
2. Completion of the board-approved MAC coordinator training.

(b) If the MAC program coordinator is a registered nurse, then the individual shall hold an active, unencumbered license to practice as a registered nurse in Alabama, or a multistate registered license issued by a party state, as defined in Chapter 4 of the Administrative Code.

(8) The governing institution and MAC program coordinator shall provide sufficient numbers of qualified instructors to ensure that curriculum implementation and expected program outcomes are achieved. Minimum qualifications of MAC instructors shall include:

(a) An active, unencumbered Alabama registered nurse license, or a multistate registered nurse license issued by a party state, as defined in Chapter 4 of the Administrative Code.

(b) A minimum of an earned associate degree in nursing.

(c) Completion of the board-approved MAC train-the-trainer course.

(9) Institutional and program policies, procedures, and other publications, whether written or electronic, shall:

(a) Be written, accurate, and consistent as published, and publicly available.

(b) Address students' abilities to assume clinical assignments, including, but not limited to, educational preparedness and physical, mental, and emotional behaviors.

(c) Provide opportunities for students to regularly participate in the development, evaluation, and continuous improvement of the program.

(d) Provide for processes to manage and learn from student near misses and errors.

(e) Provide for student remediation strategies and ensure students are aware of how to seek help.

(f) Programs shall hold students accountable for professional behavior, including honesty and integrity, while in the program of study.

(g) Provide for availability of assistance for students with disabilities.

(10) The curriculum of the MAC program shall:

(a) Enable the student to develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for the level, scope, and standards of competent MAC practice expected at the level of certification.

(11) Clinical supervision of students shall comply with the standards set forth in this chapter.

(a) The clinical supervisor shall hold an active, unencumbered license to practice as a registered or licensed practical nurse in Alabama, or a multistate registered or practical nurse license issued by a party state, as defined in Chapter 4 of Administrative Code.

(b) The clinical supervisor shall be readily accessible to assign or prescribe a course of action, provide guidance, direction, and evaluation for MAC students engaged in the clinical learning experience.

(c) The clinical supervisor-student ratio in clinical learning experiences shall be collaboratively determined by the MAC program coordinator, MAC instructors/clinical supervisors, and representatives of the clinical agency. Regardless of the clinical setting, the clinical supervisor to student ratio shall not exceed 1:10 during clinical learning experiences.

(d) The MAC education program shall work with clinical agencies for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of clinical experiences.

(e) Clinical learning experiences shall include the development of skills related to the MAC scope of practice.

(f) MAC instructors and clinical supervisors shall maintain responsibility and accountability for planning, implementation, and evaluation of all student clinical learning experiences.

Author: Alabama Board of Nursing

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-2.1.

History: New Rule: Published _____; effective _____.