

**WAC 246-840-566 Curriculum for registered nurse refresher course.** For registered nurse refresher course programs, the course content must consist of a minimum of forty hours core course content, forty hours of specialty course content, and one hundred sixty hours of clinical practice in the specialty area.

(1) The core course content must include, but not be limited to, a minimum of forty hours of theory in current basic concepts of:

(a) Nursing process and patient centered care;  
(b) Cultural competence across the life span;  
(c) Pharmacology, major drug classifications, medication calculations and administration, side effects, adverse reactions, associated lab tests and mitigation and reporting of medication errors;

(d) Critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and evidence-based practice;

(e) Review of the concepts in the areas of:

(i) Current professional nursing practice, including legal expectations as found in chapters 18.79 and 18.130 RCW, and nursing scope of practice, including the commission approved scope of practice decision tree;

(ii) Therapeutic and clinical communication skills and observational practices needed for identification, reporting, and recording patient needs; and

(iii) Basic physical, biological and social sciences necessary for practice.

(f) Review and updating of registered nursing knowledge and skills, including delegation, leadership, interdisciplinary team coordination and care management.

(2) The specialty course content shall include, but not be limited to, a minimum of forty hours of theory in current specialty nursing practice concepts of basic nursing related to the special area of interest such as surgical, pediatrics, obstetrics, psychiatric, acute, intensive, extended care, or community health nursing.

(3) The clinical course content shall include a minimum of one hundred sixty hours of clinical practice in the specialty area(s) of interest as listed in subsection (2) of this section.

(a) Eighty hours of clinical practice may be obtained through lab simulation if the program has adequate lab space and equipment to accommodate student learning and is approved by the commission.

(b) Exceptions shall be justified to and approved by the commission.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.79.010, 18.79.110, 18.79.150, 18.79.190, and 18.79.240. WSR 16-17-082, § 246-840-566, filed 8/17/16, effective 9/17/16.]