

WAC 246-840-571 Out-of-state distance learning nursing program approval for practice experiences in Washington state. (1) The commission may approve out-of-state distance learning nursing education programs for the purpose of placing student in clinical or practice experiences in the state of Washington. The out-of-state distance learning nursing education program shall:

(a) Complete and submit a commission approved application and demonstrate equivalency to requirements for in-state Washington nursing programs;

(b) Provide clinical and practice supervision and evaluation of students in Washington state;

(c) Ensure the faculty, preceptors and others who teach, supervise, or evaluate clinical or practice experiences in the state of Washington hold an active, unencumbered nursing license appropriate to the level of student teaching. Faculty must be licensed in the state of Washington as an ARNP if teaching advanced registered nurse practitioner practice;

(d) Preceptors for students in a nursing education program preparing nurses for advanced registered nurse practitioner licensure shall not be related to the student or personal friends, and shall have an active, unencumbered license as an ARNP under chapter 18.79 RCW, a physician under chapter 18.71 RCW, an osteopathic physician under chapter 18.57 RCW, or equivalent in other states or jurisdictions;

(e) Ensure the faculty who teach didactic distance learning nursing courses hold a current and active, unencumbered nursing license in the state where the nursing program has legal domicile;

(f) Be accredited by a nursing education accrediting body approved by the United States Department of Education;

(g) Maintain accreditation status by the nursing education accrediting body;

(h) Report to the commission within thirty days of notice from the nursing education accrediting body if the accreditation status has changed; and

(i) Submit an annual report to the commission as identified in commission approved survey.

(2) The commission may conduct site visits or complaint investigations to clinical or practice locations to ensure compliance with commission requirements.

(3) The commission may withdraw clinical placement approval if it determines a nursing education distance learning program fails to meet the standards for nursing education as contained in WAC 246-840-511 through 246-840-556.

(4) The commission may refer complaints regarding the distance learning nursing education program to the home state board of nursing and appropriate nursing education accreditation body.

(5) A distance learning nursing education program wishing to contest a decision of the commission affecting its approval status for clinical or practice experiences shall have the right to a brief adjudicative proceeding under the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.79.010, 18.79.110, 18.79.150, 18.79.190, and 18.79.240. WSR 16-17-082, § 246-840-571, filed 8/17/16, effective 9/17/16.]