

**Consideration of Proposed Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §217.5,
Pertaining to *Temporary License and Endorsement***

Background: The proposed amendments, attached as Attachment “A”, eliminate the requirement that a nurse completing a refresher course, extensive orientation, or a program of study (for endorsement licensure) must also complete the Board’s nursing jurisprudence prep course, jurisprudence and ethics workshop, or nursing jurisprudence and ethics course. The nurse’s refresher course, extensive orientation, or program of study should include adequate focus on nursing jurisprudence and ethics, making the existing requirement unduly redundant. Further, because the nurse will still be required to successfully pass the Board’s nursing jurisprudence exam, the public can be adequately assured that the nurse has successfully mastered the content. Additionally, the proposed amendments eliminate reference to specific credential evaluation services traditionally utilized by the Board and instead allow applicants to utilize any credential evaluation service approved by the Board. This proposed change encourages competition among credential evaluation services and provides additional choices for applicants. Attachment “B” contains proposed requirements a credential evaluation service must meet in order to be approved.

Board Action: Move to approve the proposed amendments to 22 Texas Administrative Code §217.5, pertaining to *Temporary License and Endorsement*, as set out in Attachment “A”, with authority for the General Counsel to make editorial changes as necessary to clarify rule and Board intent and to comply with the formatting requirements of the *Texas Register*. If no negative comments and no request for a public hearing are received, move to adopt the proposed amendments to 22 Texas Administrative Code §217.5, pertaining to *Temporary License and Endorsement*, as proposed.

Attachment "A"

§217.5. Temporary License and Endorsement.

(a) A nurse who has practiced nursing in another state within the four years immediately preceding a request for temporary licensure and/or permanent licensure by endorsement may obtain a non-renewable temporary license, which is valid for 120 days, and/or a permanent license for endorsement by meeting the following requirements:

(1) – (3) (No change.)

(4) For an applicant who has graduated from a nursing education program outside of the United States or National Council jurisdictions--verification of LVN licensure as required in §217.4(a)(1) of this chapter or verification of RN licensure must be submitted from the country of education or as evidenced in a credential evaluation service full education course by course report [~~Credential Evaluation Service (CES) Full Education Course-by-Course Report~~] from a credential evaluation service approved by the Board [~~the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS), Educational Records Evaluation Service (ERES), or the International Education Research Foundation (IERF)~~], as well as meeting all other requirements in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection;

(5) – (8) (No change.)

(b) A nurse who has not practiced nursing in another state within the four years immediately preceding a request for temporary licensure and/or permanent licensure by endorsement will be required to:

(1) (No change.)

(2) submit to the Board evidence of the successful completion of the requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection; and

~~[(3) submit to the Board a course completion form from one of the following:]~~

~~[(A) the online Texas Board of Nursing Jurisprudence Prep Course;]~~

~~[(B) the Texas Board of Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics Workshop;~~

~~or]~~

~~[(C) a Texas Board of Nursing approved Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics course; and]~~

(3)~~[(4)]~~ after completing the requirements of paragraphs (1) – (2)~~[(3)]~~ of this subsection, submit to the Board verification of the completion of the requirements of subsection (a)(1) - (8) of this section.

(c) – (g) (No change.)

BON Credential Evaluation Service Requirements

In order to be approved by the Board, a credential evaluation service (CES) must meet the following requirements:

1. The CES must be a member of a national credentialing organization that sets performance standards for the industry. The CES must adhere to the prevailing standards for the industry.
2. The CES must specialize in the evaluation of international nursing education and licensure.
3. The CES must be able to demonstrate the ability to accurately analyze academic and licensure credentials for purposes of United States comparison, with course-by-course analysis of nursing academic records.
4. The CES must be able to manage the translation of original documents into English.
5. The CES must inform the Board in the event applicant documents are found to be fraudulent.
6. The CES must have been in the business of evaluating nursing education for a minimum of five years.
7. The CES must cite all references used in its evaluation in its credentials report.
8. The CES report must identify the language of nursing instruction and the language of textbooks for nursing education.
9. The CES must use only original source documentation in evaluating nursing education.
10. The CES report must describe the comparability of the foreign education to United States standards.
11. The CES report must detail course clock hours for theory and clinical components of nursing education.
12. The CES must be able to issue an evaluation report within a reasonable time period, not to exceed six weeks.

13. The CES must have an efficient and accessible process for answering customer queries.
14. The CES must be able to provide client references/reviews upon request.
15. The CES must have an established record retention policy.
16. The CES must be able to provide testimony for Board hearings, if required.
17. The CES must complete the form(s) and affidavit required by the Board, submit all required documentation, and receive approval from the Board before providing a report for Board consideration. The Board will maintain a list of approved CES providers.