

ACEN Compliance with U.S. Department of Education Standards for Prelicensure Nursing Education

This is a brief summary of the elements of nursing education that ACEN reviews when accrediting programs.

Student Achievement: Must address attainment of student learning outcomes. Program outcomes are focused on first time passing of NCLEX®, program completion and job placement.

Curriculum: Must incorporate professional nursing standards, guidelines and competencies as well as clear end-of-program student learning outcomes, and program outcomes. Evaluation methodologies may be varied. There must be appropriate practice learning environments.

Faculty: Full-time nursing faculty, part-time nursing faculty and non-nurse faculty teaching nursing courses hold educational qualifications and experience as required by the governing organization, the state, and the governing organization's accrediting agency, and are qualified to teach the assigned nursing courses.

Facilities: Must be sufficient to ensure achievement of end-of-program student learning outcomes and program outcomes, and meet the needs of the faculty, staff and students.

Fiscal and Administrative Capacity: Baccalaureate degree program administrator must have a graduate degree with a major in nursing and an earned doctorate. Associate degree, diploma and practical/vocational program administrator must have a minimum of a graduate degree in nursing.

For all programs:

- The nurse administrator is experientially qualified, meets governing organization and state requirements, and is oriented and mentored to the role.
- The nurse administrator has authority and responsibility for the development and administration of the program and has sufficient time and resources to fulfill the role responsibilities.
- The nurse administrator has the authority to prepare and administer the program budget with faculty input.

Student Support: There must be clear information regarding policies and they are congruent with governing organization. There must also be an orientation to technology. Any changes must be clearly communicated.

Student Complaints: Must have records documenting due process and resolution.

Compliance with Title IV: Governing organization/nursing program must clearly address Title IV eligibility with written, comprehensive student loan repayment program and maintain compliance with Title IV.

References

ACEN: ACEN accreditation manual. Retrieved from <http://www.acenursing.org/accreditation-manual/>

ACEN Leadership: Marsal P. Stoll CEO, ACEN.

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