

STANDARD 1

Mission and Administrative Capacity

The nursing education unit's mission reflects the governing organization's core values and is congruent with its strategic goals and objectives. The governing organization and program have administrative capacity resulting in effective delivery of the nursing program and achievement of identified outcomes.

- 1.1 The mission includes philosophical underpinnings of the advanced practice doctoral program that result in measurable student learning and program outcomes.
- 1.2 The governing organization and nursing education unit ensure representation of students, faculty, and administrators in ongoing governance activities.
- 1.3 Communities of interest have input into program processes and decision making.
- 1.4 Partnerships exist that promote excellence in nursing education, enhance the profession, and benefit the community.
- 1.5 Program outcomes for the Advanced Practice Doctorate result from the effective management and leadership of an academically and experientially qualified nurse administrator.
- 1.6 Policies of the nursing education unit are comprehensive, provide for the welfare of faculty and staff, and are consistent with those of the governing organization; differences are justified by the goals and outcomes of the nursing education unit.
- 1.7 Records reflect that program complaints and grievances receive due process and include evidence of resolution.

For nursing education units engaged in distance education, the additional criterion is applicable:

- 1.8 Distance education, as defined by the nursing education unit, is congruent with the mission of the governing organization and the mission/philosophy of the nursing education unit.

STANDARD 2

Faculty and Staff

Qualified faculty and staff provide leadership and support necessary to attain the goals and outcomes of the nursing education unit.

- 2.1 Qualified faculty and staff are sufficient in number to support program goals and outcomes.
- 2.2 The collective credentials reflect academic and experiential preparation of faculty teaching in the practice doctorate program.
- 2.3 Faculty performance reflects scholarship and evidence-based practice.
- 2.4 The number, utilization, and credentials of non-nurse faculty and staff are sufficient to achieve the program goals and outcomes.
- 2.5 Systematic assessment of faculty and staff performance demonstrates competencies that are consistent with program goals and outcomes.

For nursing education units engaged in distance education, the additional criterion is applicable:

- 2.6 Faculty engage in ongoing development and receive support in distance education modalities including instructional methods and evaluation.

STANDARD 3

Students

Student policies, development, and services support the goals and outcomes of the nursing education unit.

- 3.1** Student policies of the nursing education unit are congruent with those of the governing organization, publicly accessible, non-discriminatory, and consistently applied; differences are justified by the goals and outcomes of the nursing education unit.
- 3.2** Student services are commensurate with the needs of students pursuing or completing the practice doctorate program, including those receiving instruction using alternative methods of delivery.
- 3.3** Student educational and financial records are in compliance with the policies of the governing organization and state and federal guidelines.
- 3.4** Compliance with the Higher Education Reauthorization Act Title IV eligibility and certification requirements is maintained.
- 3.5** Integrity and consistency exist for all information intended to inform the public, including the program's accreditation status and NLNAC contact information.
- 3.6** Changes in policies, procedures, and program information are clearly and consistently communicated to students in a timely manner.
- 3.7** Orientation to technology is provided and technological support is available to students, including those receiving instruction using alternative methods of delivery.

For nursing education units engaged in distance education, the additional criterion is applicable:

- 3.8** Information related to technology requirements and policies specific to distance education is clear, accurate, consistent, and accessible.

STANDARD 4

Curriculum

The curriculum prepares students to achieve the outcomes of the nursing education unit, including safe practice in contemporary health care environments.

- 4.1 Program outcomes are congruent with established professional standards, curriculum guidelines, advanced nursing practice competencies, and requirements of certifying agencies.
- 4.2 The curriculum is designed to prepare graduates to practice from an evidence-based research perspective in their advanced practice role through effective use and collaborative production of clinically based research.
- 4.3 The curriculum is designed so that graduates of the program are able to practice in a culturally and ethnically diverse global society.
- 4.4 Practice learning environments are appropriate for student learning and support the achievement of student learning and program outcomes; current written agreements are appropriate to the setting and ensure the protection of students.
 - 4.4.1 Practice experiences reflect contemporary roles and nationally established patient health and safety goals.

For nursing education units engaged in distance education, the additional criterion is applicable:

- 4.5 Learning activities, instructional materials, and evaluation methods are appropriate for the delivery format and consistent with student learning outcomes.

STANDARD 5

Resources

Fiscal, physical, and learning resources promote the achievement of the goals and outcomes of the nursing education unit.

- 5.1** Evidence supports that resources are commensurate with the achievement of program outcomes:
- Sufficiency of physical resources
 - Accessibility of learning resources
 - Allocation of budget to support program delivery

For nursing education units engaged in distance education, the additional criterion is applicable:

- 5.2** Fiscal, physical, technological, and learning resources are sufficient to meet the needs of faculty and students and ensure that students achieve learning outcomes.

STANDARD 6

Outcomes

Evaluation of student learning demonstrates that graduates have achieved identified competencies consistent with the institutional mission and professional standards and that the outcomes of the nursing education unit have been achieved.

- 6.1** Program assessment measures validate achievement of the student learning and program outcomes of the nursing education unit and NLNAC standards; assessment is conducted on an ongoing basis.
- 6.2** Program outcomes of the Advanced Practice Doctorate are justified.
- 6.3** Aggregated evaluation findings inform program decision making and are used to maintain or improve student learning outcomes.
- 6.4** Evaluation findings are shared with communities of interest.
- 6.5** Graduates demonstrate achievement of the competencies identified in established professional standards.
 - 6.5.1** Graduates demonstrate achievement of the specialty role competencies appropriate to selected areas of practice through advanced specialty certification or other comparable measures.

For nursing education units engaged in distance education, the additional criterion is applicable:

- 6.6** The systematic plan for evaluation encompasses students enrolled in distance education and includes evidence that student learning and program outcomes are comparable for all students.