

TENNESSEE BOARD OF NURSING
Continuing Competence Requirements
Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses
Rule 1000-01-.14, 1000-02-.14 and 1000-04-.05

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses who are practicing maintain evidence of:

APRN With Certificate of Fitness (CF) –

Verify your license and CF at <https://apps.health.tn.gov/Licensure/default.aspx>

1. Current national certification (NOT state license; example: from ANCC, AANP, NBCRNA)
2. ONE item from the Registered Nurse proof of competence below (in addition to national certification)
3. TWO contact hours of continuing education designed specifically to address controlled substance prescribing practices including the Tennessee Chronic Pain Guidelines:
<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/healthprofboards/nursing/continuing-education/Cont%20Ed%20Tennessee%20Chronic%20Pain%20Guidelines.pdf>
4. Copy of **current** Collaborative Request/**APRN Supervisory Request or Notice and Formulary** if prescribing: <https://lars.tn.gov/datamart/mainMenu.do>

APRN Without Certificate of Fitness (CF)

1. Current national certification (NOT state license; example: from ANCC, AANP, NBCRNA)
2. ONE item from the Registered Nurse proof of competence below (in addition to national certification)

Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses

Maintain evidence of two items from the following list:

1. Copy of a satisfactory employer evaluation
2. Letter from a peer providing a satisfactory evaluation of your nursing performance
3. Letter from a patient or family member giving evidence of a satisfactory nurse/patient relationship
4. Copy of a contract of renewal or re-appointment to a nursing position
5. Written self-evaluation based on the standards of competence listed in the rules
6. Evidence of current national certification
7. A document that identifies two nursing goals and how you met these goals
8. A letter from the agency where you volunteered as a nurse
9. Documentation from a school of nursing stating that you participated in the education of nursing students (RNs only)
10. Certificate/evidence of five contact hours of continuing education
(for RNs/LPNs who are not practicing, ten contact hours will fulfill the competency requirement)
11. Copy of a published article relevant to nursing written by the licensee
12. Letter of satisfactory completion of a nursing refresher course
13. Letter of satisfactory completion of a comprehensive nursing orientation program
14. Official transcript (may be student issued) demonstrating two hours of nursing credit
15. Evidence of successfully retaken NCLEX

Biennial competency requirements (with each renewal). Each licensee must maintain evidence of compliance for four years from when the requirements are completed. This documentation must be produced for inspection and verification within thirty days of a written request by the board. Failure to either complete the continued competence activities or to falsely certify completion may subject the nurse's license to disciplinary action.

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