

# Simulation and Clinical Experience in Nursing Education



New York State  
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  

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Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

January 9, 2023

Board of Regents

Health Care Workgroup Meeting

# Definitions

## Clinical Education

Faculty or preceptor supervised education in which nursing students provide nursing care to patients or clients (typically in hospitals or other health care facilities).

## Simulation

A teaching method in which nursing students practice nursing skills and nursing judgment under conditions that approximate or replicate real-world clinical nursing practice. Simulation is typically offered in nursing skills laboratories or simulation laboratories.

# NYSED Oversight

- Mandatory minimum requirements for clinical education in nursing programs are not explicit in law or Commissioner's regulation.
- Simulation is widely recognized as a valuable learning tool.
- NYSED approves each nursing program to offer a unique combination of didactic, clinical and laboratory (simulation) education to nursing students.
- NYSED reviews on a case-by-case basis requests to change hours of clinical, laboratory (simulation) or didactic education.
- NYSED approved hundreds of emergency requests to temporarily reduce clinical education due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Current Situation

Stakeholders have urged NYSED to allow nursing programs replace a percentage of clinical education with simulation.

- Overall nursing workforce shortage
- Shortage of clinical placements for nursing students
- Shortage of qualified clinical education faculty
- Higher costs and more resources associated with clinical education
- Potential for some nursing programs to increase enrollment
- New high-fidelity simulation technologies enhance student learning

# Key Questions



How much and what types of clinical education and/or simulation are necessary for safe and effective entry level nursing practice?



Under what conditions should NYSED allow nursing programs to decrease clinical education and/or increase simulation?



How should NYSED address the current situation?

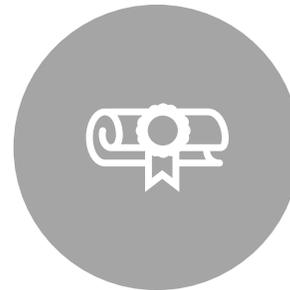
# NYSED Actions

- NYSED conducted research and consulted with Board of Nursing and stakeholders.
- NYSED developed clinical & simulation education policy for Practical Nursing Education (PNE) programs.
- NYSED is currently researching and consulting with stakeholders on the development of a clinical & simulation education policy for licensure qualifying RN programs.

# Clinical Education and Simulation Laboratory Education in Practical Nursing Education (PNE) Programs



Describes Clinical Education, Didactic Education, and Simulation Laboratory Education.



Existing programs demonstrating successful student outcomes and compliance with all program registration standards are exempt.



NYSED will continue case-by-case approval of requests to reduce clinical education, with a new streamlined approval process for existing programs that maintain threshold requirements.



Newly proposed PNE Programs are expected to meet this threshold for Clinical Education & Simulation or a comparable alternative.

# Clinical & Simulation Lab Education Requirements: Future PNE Programs and Streamlined Approval Process

- PNE programs are expected to provide a minimum of 300 hours of Faculty Supervised Patient Care Education that allows each PN student to provide nursing care to:
  - Adult patients in a hospital, nursing home and possibly additional patient care settings.
  - Pediatric patients in a pediatric care setting.
  - Patients with psychiatric/mental health conditions in a mental health care setting; and
  - Pregnant, maternal/newborn and/or postpartum patients in a setting in which nurses provide care to this population.
- Assuming the threshold is maintained, a PNE program has flexibility to offer additional clinical education and/or simulation consistent with its NYSED approved curriculum.

# Next Steps

- Implement PNE clinical & simulation education policy
- Continue to engage PNE stakeholders to assess impact of new requirements
- Collaborate with RN stakeholders to continue development of RN clinical & simulation education policy

Questions?



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