

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**1500 Professional Standards Board (Licensure, Certification and Professional Development)**

**1582 School Nurse**

**1.0 Content**

This regulation shall apply to the issuance of a Standard Certificate, pursuant to 14 **Del.C.** §1220(a), for an Educator. This Certification is required for all school nurses providing services to children in Delaware public schools.

**14 DE Reg. 1228 (05/01/11)**

**23 DE Reg. 1031 (06/01/20)**

**2.0 Definitions**

The following words and terms when used in this regulation shall have the following meaning:

**"Certification"** means the issuance of a Standard Certificate, which may occur regardless of a recipient's assignment or employment status.

**"Department"** means the Delaware Department of Education.

**"Educator"** means a person licensed and certified by the State under 14 **Del.C.** Ch. 12 to engage in the practice of instruction, administration or other related professional support services in Delaware public schools, including charter schools, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Professional Standards Board and approved by the State Board of Education. The term 'educator' does not include substitute teachers.

**"Employing Authority"** means any entity which employs educators, and includes, but is not limited to, school districts, charter schools, boards of directors, and management companies.

**"Immorality"** means conduct which is inconsistent with the rules and principles of morality expected of an educator and may reasonably be found to impair an educator's effectiveness by reason of the educator's unfitness or otherwise.

**"License"** means a credential which authorizes the holder to engage in the practice for which the license is issued.

**"Regionally Accredited"** means educational accreditation by a regional accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a reliable authority concerning the quality of education offered by the institutions of higher education it accredits, including Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

**"Standard Certificate"** means a credential issued to certify that an educator has the prescribed knowledge, skill or education to practice in a particular area, teach a particular subject, or teach a category of students.

**"Standards Board"** means the Professional Standards Board established pursuant to 14 **Del.C.** §1201.

**"Supervised Clinical Nursing Experience"** means that the Educator has worked as a licensed Registered Nurse in a clinical setting providing care to patients and that educator was supervised and evaluated by a licensed Registered Nurse supervisor or other healthcare provider. For the purpose of this regulation, other healthcare provider means a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.

**"Valid and Current License or Certificate"** means a current full or permanent certificate or license issued by another state or jurisdiction. This means the educator is fully credentialed by having met all of the requirements for full licensure or certification in another state or jurisdiction and is in good standing in that state or jurisdiction. It does not include temporary, emergency, conditional certificates of eligibility or expired certificates or licenses issued from another state or jurisdiction.

**14 DE Reg. 1228 (05/01/11)**

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**3.0 Standard Certificate**

3.1 In accordance with 14 **Del.C.** §1220(a), the Department shall issue a School Nurse Standard Certificate to an applicant who:

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- 3.1.1 Holds a valid Delaware Initial, Continuing, or Advanced License or a Professional Status Certificate issued by the Department prior to August 31, 2003 and meets the requirements set forth in Section 4.0 of this regulation; or
  - 3.1.2 Has met the requirements for licensure in Delaware and presents proof of a Valid and Current License or Certificate as a school nurse from another state or jurisdiction whose requirements are substantially similar to the requirements in Section 4.0 of this regulation; or
  - 3.1.3 Has met the requirements for licensure in Delaware and meets the requirements set forth in Section 5.0 of this regulation.
- 3.2 Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary herein, the Department shall not act on an application for Certification if the applicant is under official investigation by any national, state, or local authority with the power to issue educator licenses or certifications. The Department shall not act where the alleged conduct involves allegations of Immorality, misconduct in office, incompetence, willful neglect of duty, disloyalty, or falsification of credentials, until the applicant provides evidence of the investigation's resolution.

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#### **4.0 Prescribed Education, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements**

- 4.1 The Department may issue a School Nurse Standard Certificate to an applicant who has satisfied the requirements in subsections 4.1.1 through 4.1.4.
- 4.1.1 The applicant shall hold a bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN) from a Regionally Accredited college or university.
  - 4.1.2 The applicant shall hold a license to practice as a registered nurse issued by the Delaware Board of Nursing that is in good standing.
  - 4.1.3 The applicant shall hold valid and current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED) use.
  - 4.1.4 The applicant shall have completed 3 years of Supervised Clinical Nursing Experience consisting of a minimum of 500 hours per year for a total of 1,500 hours during the 3-year period. This requirement shall not be met in a school setting.

**14 DE Reg. 1228 (05/01/11)**

**20 DE Reg. 49 (07/01/16)**

**23 DE Reg. 1031 (06/01/20)**

#### **5.0 Reciprocity**

- 5.1 If an applicant is already licensed or certified as a school nurse in a state or jurisdiction whose requirements are not substantially similar to the requirements in Section 4.0, the applicant shall have satisfied the requirements in subsections 5.1.1 through 5.1.4 in order for the Department to issue a School Nurse Standard Certificate:
- 5.1.1 The applicant shall hold a Valid and Current License or Certificate as a school nurse.
  - 5.1.2 The applicant shall hold a bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN) from a Regionally Accredited college or university.
  - 5.1.3 The applicant shall hold a license to practice as a registered nurse issued by the Delaware Board of Nursing that is in good standing.
  - 5.1.4 The applicant shall hold valid and current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED) use.

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#### **6.0 Application Requirements**

- 6.1 If an applicant is applying for an Initial License, a Standard Certificate must be applied for simultaneously with an application for an Initial License, and the applicant shall also provide all required documentation for the License.
- 6.2 For applicants who are applying for the School Nurse Standard Certificate under subsection 3.1.1, the following documentation is required:

- 6.2.1 Official transcript from the applicant's Regionally Accredited college or university.
  - 6.2.1.1 Electronic transcripts may be submitted by the Employing Authority or by the applicant's Regionally Accredited college or university; or
  - 6.2.1.2 Sealed paper transcripts may be submitted.
  - 6.2.1.3 The Department will not accept copies of transcripts; and
- 6.2.2 Documentation that the applicant is licensed to practice and is in good standing as a registered nurse issued by the Delaware Board of Nursing; and
- 6.2.3 Documentation that the applicant holds a valid and current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED) use; and
- 6.2.4 If applicable, the Department-approved form verifying the applicant's completion of the clinical experience as provided in subsection 4.1.4; and
- 6.2.5 Additional documentation as required by the Department.
- 6.3 For applicants who are applying for the School Nurse Standard Certificate under subsection 3.1.2, the following documentation is required:
  - 6.3.1 An official copy of the Valid and Current License or Certificate; and
  - 6.3.2 Documentation that the applicant is licensed to practice and is in good standing as a registered nurse issued by the Delaware Board of Nursing; and
  - 6.3.3 Documentation that the applicant holds a valid and current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED) use; and
  - 6.3.4 Additional documentation as required by the Department.
- 6.4 For applicants who are applying for the School Nurse Standard Certificate under subsection 3.1.3, the following documentation is required:
  - 6.4.1 An official copy of the Valid and Current License or Certificate; and
  - 6.4.2 Official transcript from the applicant's Regionally Accredited college or university.
    - 6.4.2.1 Electronic transcripts may be submitted by the Employing Authority or by the applicant's Regionally Accredited college or university; or
    - 6.4.2.2 Sealed paper transcripts may be submitted.
    - 6.4.2.3 The Department will not accept copies of transcripts; and
  - 6.4.3 Documentation that the applicant is licensed to practice and is in good standing as a registered nurse issued by the Delaware Board of Nursing; and
  - 6.4.4 Documentation that the applicant holds a valid and current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED) use; and
  - 6.4.5 Additional documentation as required by the Department.

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**23 DE Reg. 1031 (06/01/20)**

## **7.0 Validity of a Standard Certificate**

- 7.1 A School Nurse Standard Certificate is valid regardless of the assignment or employment status of the holder provided that the Educator's License remains current and valid.
- 7.2 A School Nurse Standard Certificate is not subject to renewal.

**23 DE Reg. 1031 (06/01/20)**

## **8.0 Requirements Related to the Retention of a School Nurse Certificate**

- 8.1 In order to retain a School Nurse Standard Certificate, the Educator shall:
  - 8.1.1 Complete a training program approved by the Department within two school years of the date the School Nurse Standard Certificate is issued; and
  - 8.1.2 Hold a license to practice as registered nurse issued by the Delaware Board of Nursing that is in good standing; and
  - 8.1.3 Hold a valid and current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED) use; and

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8.1.4 Annually affirm and document to the Department that the Educator satisfies the requirements in subsections 8.1.2 and 8.1.3.

8.2 If an Educator fails to meet any of the requirements related to retaining a School Nurse Standard Certificate, the Educator shall immediately notify the Department in writing.

8.3 The requirements set forth in subsections 8.1.2, 8.1.3, and 8.1.4 apply to all Educators regardless of the date the School Nurse Standard Certificate was issued to them.

**23 DE Reg. 1031 (06/01/20)**

#### **9.0 Disciplinary Action**

9.1 An Educator's School Nurse Standard Certificate may be revoked, suspended, or limited for cause as provided in 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1514 Limitation, Suspension, and Revocation of Licenses, Certificates, and Permits or for the Educator's failure to comply with the requirements related to the retention of a School Nurse Certificate as provided in Section 8.0.

9.2 An Educator's School Nurse Standard Certificate shall be revoked if the Educator's Initial, Continuing, or Advanced License or Professional Status Certificate is revoked or the Educator made a materially false or misleading statement in the Educator's application in accordance with 14 **Del.C.** §1222.

9.3 An Educator whose certificate is noticed for disciplinary action is entitled to a full and fair hearing before the Standards Board. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1515 Hearing Procedures and Rules.

**23 DE Reg. 1031 (06/01/20)**

#### **10.0 Secretary of Education Review**

The Secretary of Education may, upon the written request of a local school district or charter school, review credentials submitted in an application for a School Nurse Standard Certificate on an individual basis and grant such a Standard Certificate to an applicant who otherwise does not meet the requirements for a School Nurse Standard Certificate but whose effectiveness is documented by the local school district or charter school.

**23 DE Reg. 1031 (06/01/20)**

#### **11.0 Past Certificate Recognized**

The Department shall recognize a School Nurse Standard Certificate that was issued prior to the effective date of this regulation. An educator holding such a Standard Certificate issued by the Department before the effective date of this regulation shall be considered certified as a school nurse.

**Renumbered effective 06/01/07 - see Conversion Table**

**7 DE Reg. 633 (11/01/03)**

**14 DE Reg. 1228 (05/01/11)**

**20 DE Reg. 49 (07/01/16)**

**23 DE Reg. 1031 (06/01/20)**