

**NURSING INFORMATICS LEARNING CENTER  
CONTINUING EDUCATION RN REQUIREMENT EQUIVALENCIES  
(note all Advanced Practice Nurses require CE credits each  
renewal period in most States)**

**UNITED STATES**

<b>STATE</b>	<b>REQ CE HRS</b>	<b>ACCEPT OUR COURSES?</b>
<b>ALABAMA</b>	24 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Courses/activities attended by licensees in another state which are approved by another board of nursing are considered to be acceptable continuing education activities."
<b>ALASKA</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES. Board approved courses from other states are considered equivalent.
<b>ARIZONA</b>	INQUIRE	INQUIRE
<b>ARKANSAS</b>	15 hrs q 2 years	YES. " The Board of Nursing will accept continuing education approved by all State Boards of Nursing".
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES. CEP Number: 14891.
<b>COLORADO</b>	20 hrs q 2 years	YES
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>DELAWARE</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES
<b>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA</b>	24 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Programs, courses, seminars, and workshops approved by the following organizations are automatically approved for any Nursing licensee: CE Providers approved by another State Board of Nursing"
<b>FLORIDA</b>	24 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Offerings that are approved by a state or national nursing organization empowered to accredit continuing education standards are approved for continuing education, with the exception of HIV/AIDS and Domestic Violence which must be from a Florida-approved provider"
<b>GEORGIA</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>HAWAII</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>IDAHO</b>	NONE	Advanced Practice Nurses are required to have 30 hrs q 2 years
<b>ILLINOIS</b>	20 hrs q 2 yrs	Yes, may take courses from "Providers approved by another state's board of nursing"
<b>INDIANA</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>IOWA</b>	36 hrs q 3 years	YES. Self-study courses and on-site courses

STATE	REQ CE HRS	ACCEPT OUR COURSES?
		attended outside of Iowa are acceptable if they qualify as <a href="#">appropriate subject matter</a> , and are either covered by an approved Iowa provider, or have been granted special approval, or are approved by one of the following: A board of nursing in any other <a href="#">mandatory continuing education state</a> .
<b>KANSAS</b>	30 hrs q 3 years	YES. "Effective April 20, 2001, the 30 contact hours of continuing education required for license renewal or reinstatement may be obtained by interactive and/or independent study. There is no longer the 15 hour limit for independent study. It is still necessary for all classes/courses to be approved by ANY STATE NURSING BOARD, ANY NURSING ORGANIZATION OR ANY NURSING ASSOCIATION."
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	14 hrs annually	YES. "List of national nursing organizations recognized by KBN for approval of CE offerings. <a href="#">Other State Boards of Nursing</a> "
<b>LOUISIANA</b>	15 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Continuing education contact hours, which have been approved by an LSBN provider, another Board of Nursing, or the ANCC are acceptable for relicensure in Louisiana."
<b>MAINE</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>MARYLAND</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>	15 hrs q 2 years	YES. <a href="#">Meets specified criteria</a>
<b>MICHIGAN</b>	25 hrs q 2 years	YES
<b>MINNESOTA</b>	24 hrs q 2 years	YES
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>MISSOURI</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>MONTANA</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>NEBRASKA</b>	20 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Courses or offerings that have been approved by other State Boards of Nursing and/or national nursing organizations"
<b>NEVADA</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES. "A course of continuing education shall be deemed to be approved by the Board if the course: A provider of continuing education that is recognized by another board of nursing"

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<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Individualized Learning Activities are acceptable and may include: Programmed learning units offered on the internet".
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES, the California Board of Nursing is a member of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, which is an approved credentialing agency accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES. To be acceptable in NM, the CE activity must have been approved by a recognized approval body and must enhance the licensee's scope of professional development as related to his/her activities in nursing.
<b>NEW YORK</b>	Child Abuse, Infection Control	NOT APPLICABLE BUT WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>	Self Assessment and selection and attainment of personal learning plan for competence	YES, especially related to Knowledge based Practice, Legal/Ethical Practice "Acceptable continuing education may be taken in a conventional classroom setting, through online courses, professional journals, correspondence, or independent study. - accepts courses approved by any state Board of Nursing"
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>	12 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Board recognized providers of continuing education include: A professional organization that is nationally accredited to approve CE."
<b>OHIO</b>	24 hrs q 2 years	YES. Accepts courses approved by another State Board of Nursing"
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>	APN ONLY	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>OREGON</b>	APN ONLY	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES. PA Nursing Board will accept "Activities sponsored by a Board in another jurisdiction"
<b>PUERTO RICO</b>	Infection Control	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>	10 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Continuing education hours related to nursing practice will be accepted by the Board for course work that has been approved by a board of nursing"
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>	30 hrs q 2 years	YES. "The State Board of SC will accept continuing education contact hours approved by the following providers: Any State Board of Nursing"
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE

STATE	REQ CE HRS	ACCEPT OUR COURSES?
TENNESSEE	Self Assessment and 5 hours q 2 yrs	YES.
TEXAS	20 hrs q 2 years	YES. "Continuing education programs completed outside of Texas or used to fulfill CE requirements for other states may be accepted for CE credit in Texas. If the program is approved by a state nursing association accredited by other state boards of nursing".
UTAH	30 hrs q 2 years	YES
VERMONT	Self assessment	YES. "The Board expects each licensee to assume individual responsibility for maintaining and improving competencies in current knowledge, skills, and abilities relevant to the individual's area of practice."
VIRGIN ISLANDS	15 hours	YES
VIRGINIA	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
WASHINGTON	45 hrs q 3 years	YES
WEST VIRGINIA	24 hrs q 2 years	YES
WISCONSIN	NONE	WOULD STILL BOOST PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE
WYOMING	30 hrs q 2 years	YES

## CANADA

Nurses maintain their competence in a variety of ways and continuing nursing education is one means of maintaining and increasing knowledge and skills. Two provinces have formal continuing competence programs for nurses. In British Columbia and Ontario, nurses assess their practice, determine needs, and follow through to obtain the experiences they require to develop knowledge skills or attitude.

Currently, none of the regulatory bodies in Canada have specific continuing education requirements for practising registered nurses. The regulatory bodies do not assess continuing education programs to assign C.E.U.s (continuing education units). Nurses in Canada do keep records of participation in continuing education for purposes of maintaining specialty certification and in British Columbia and Ontario for continuing competence programs. In most provinces and territories, nurses who have not practised for a specified number of hours within a specified time limit must take a refresher course before being given permission to return to work in nursing.

Canadian nurses are accountable for providing competent nursing care to their clients. The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) believes that to provide competent nursing care, a registered nurse must maintain and continuously enhance the knowledge, skills, attitude and judgment required to meet client needs in an evolving health care system. They also strongly support the need for all practicing nurses to become competent and knowledgeable in all aspects of nursing informatics. Read the CNA publication, [What is Nursing Informatics and Why is it so Important?](#)

These courses are written by a Canadian with the entire global nursing arena in mind.

## WORLD WIDE

**World Health Organization (WHO)** - "In order to provide the best patient care health professionals should invest in educational opportunities that give them up to date knowledge and skills. We aim to support an educated and informed health workforce to provide the best health services to populations worldwide and to achieve the best possible health for all."

**EUROPE** - "Life long learning is now seen as an obligation of all health professionals. This life long learning is called Continuing Professional Development (CPD)."

"Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is the systematic maintenance, improvement and continuous acquisition and/or reinforcement of lifelong knowledge and skills of health professionals. It is pivotal to meeting the patient needs, health service delivery needs and the learning needs of individual professionals. The term continuing professional development acknowledges not only the wide ranging competences needed to practise high quality care delivery but also the multi-disciplinary context of patient care."

"Civil Society is committed, through their members, to support activities to promote and ensure that CPD is widely accepted and recorded by all professionals within the health system of the European Union. Demonstrating professional commitment, participation in structured, recorded and evaluated CPD will provide for flexible career choices, enhance career satisfaction and improve patient care.

Therefore:

The Health Professionals should:

- ◆ Ensure competency in each health service provided by continually updating knowledge and skills; and,
- ◆ Accept personal responsibility for maintaining and assessing their own competence throughout their professional working lives."

*The European Federation of Nurses Associations*