

Model Rules for Innovative Approaches in Nursing Education Programs

Placement:

(Left side – Act: Language for Boards that will need to change the Act) Article IX. **Section 3.**
Provision for innovative approaches in nursing education programs.

The Board shall, by administrative rule, identify the process for implementing innovative approaches in nursing education programs.

(Current Section 3 will change to Section 4 and the current Section 4 will change to Section 5)

Definitions – Chapter 3

Innovative approach – A creative nursing education strategy that departs from the current rule structure and requires Board approval for implementation.

(Right side – Rules)

9.3 Innovative approaches in nursing education programs

A nursing education program may apply to implement an innovative approach by complying with the provisions of this section. Nursing education programs approved to implement innovative approaches shall continue to provide quality nursing education that prepares graduates to practice safely, competently, and ethically within the scope of practice as defined in <jurisdiction's> statutes.

9.3.1 Purposes

- a. To foster innovative models of nursing education to address the changing needs in health care.
- b. To assure that innovative approaches are conducted in a manner consistent with the Board's role of protecting the public.
- c. To assure that innovative approaches conform to the quality outcome standards and core education criteria established by the Board.

9.3.2 Eligibility

- a. The nursing education program shall hold full Board approval without conditions.
- b. There are no substantiated complaints in the past 2 years.
- c. There are no rule violations in the past 2 years.

9.3.3 Application

The following information (no longer than <> pages with a 1-page executive summary) shall be provided to the Board at least <> days prior to a Board meeting:

- a. Identifying information (name of nursing program, address, responsible party and contact information).
- b. A brief description of the current program, including accreditation and Board approval status.
- c. Identification of the regulation(s) affected by the proposed innovative approach.
- d. Length of time for which the innovative approach is requested.

- e. Description of the innovative approach, including objective(s).
 - f. Brief explanation of why you want to implement an innovative approach at this time.
 - g. Explanation of how the proposed innovation differs from approaches in the current program.
 - h. Rationale with available evidence supporting the innovative approach.
 - i. Identification of resources that support the proposed innovative approach.
 - j. Expected impact innovative approach will have on the program, including administration, students, faculty, and other program resources.
 - k. Plan for implementation, including timeline.
 - l. Plan for evaluation of the proposed innovation, including measurable criteria/outcomes, method of evaluation, and frequency of evaluation.
 - m. Additional application information as requested by the Board.
- 9.3.4. Standards for approval
- a. Eligibility criteria in 9.3.2. and application criteria in 9.3.3. are met.
 - b. The innovative approach will not compromise the quality of education or safe practice of students.
 - c. Resources are sufficient to support the innovative approach.
 - d. Rationale with available evidence supports the implementation of the innovative approach.
 - e. Implementation plan is reasonable to achieve the desired outcomes of the innovative approach.
 - f. Timeline provides for a sufficient period to implement and evaluate the innovative approach.
 - g. Plan for periodic evaluation is comprehensive and supported by appropriate methodology.
- 9.3.5. Review of application and board action
- a. Annually the Board may establish the number of innovative approach applications it will accept, based on available Board resources.
 - b. The Board shall evaluate all applications to determine if they meet the eligibility criteria in 9.3.2.and the standards established in section 9.3.4.
 - c. The Board shall inform the education program of the approval process timeline within <> days of the receipt of the application.
 - d. If the application meets the standards, the Board may:
 - 1) Approve the application, or
 - 2) Approve the application with modifications as agreed between the Board and the nursing education program.
 - e. If the submitted application does not meet the criteria in 9.3.2.and 9.3.4., the Board may deny approval or request additional information.
 - f. The Board may rescind the approval or require the program to make modifications if:
 - 1) The Board receives substantiated evidence indicating adverse impact.
 - 2) The nursing program fails to implement the innovative approach as presented and approved.
- 9.3.6. Periodic Evaluation
- a) The education program shall submit progress reports conforming to the evaluation plan annually or as requested by the Board.
 - b) The final evaluation report shall conform to the evaluation plan, detailing and analyzing the outcomes data.

- c) If any report indicates that students were adversely impacted by the innovation, the nursing program shall provide documentation of corrective measures and their effectiveness.
 - d) Nursing education program maintains eligibility criteria in 9.3.2.
- 9.3.7. Requesting continuation of the innovative approach
- a) If the innovative approach has achieved the desired outcomes and the final evaluation has been submitted, the program may request that the innovative approach be continued.
 - b) Request for the innovative approach to become an ongoing part of the education program must be submitted < > days prior to a regularly scheduled Board meeting.
 - c) The Board may grant the request to continue approval if the innovative approach has achieved desired outcomes, has not compromised public protection, and is consistent with core nursing education criteria.