

COMPETENCY DEFINITIONS

Academic Course A minimum of one (1) academic credit hour in nursing or related field.

Active Status Active license in good standing in Arkansas or any other recognized jurisdiction.

Competency The application of knowledge and the interpersonal, decision-making and psychomotor skills expected for the practice role, within the context of public health, safety and welfare.

Contact Hour Either a 50 or 60 minute clock hour of continuing education.

Continuing Education An educational activity completed beyond the basic education.

Continuing Education Approval Body A recognized authorizing body, approval or provider, responsible for offering quality continuing nursing education. This definition includes those non-nursing organizations whose continuing education offerings are relevant to nursing practice roles.

Disciplinary Action See ACA §17-87-309

Employer Competency Orientation Program An orientation program developed by a healthcare facility designed to assure competency of the nurse to practice safely within the employer's job description and the scope of nursing defined by the ASBN.

Initial Licensure The point at which a licensee is first granted the authority to practice nursing in the State of Arkansas either by examination or endorsement.

Inactive A status of licensure which signifies that the individual has voluntarily chosen not to practice nursing or as a result of Board action.

Non-Compliance Failure to fulfill the continued competency requirements.

Practice Focused Academic study or continuing education targeted to meet the needs of the nurse in his/her nursing practice role, ie., administrator, educator, clinical practice, case manager, school nurse, etc.

Random Audit A sample of applications or documents randomly selected for compliance review.

Refresher Course See ASBN Rules & Regulations, Chapter Two.

Related Field Non-nursing discipline that enlarges or enhances the knowledge, skills and competencies of the nurses practice role.