

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Board of Registration in Nursing**

244 CMR 6.06(2):

(a) The Board may waive its on-site survey based on its review of a written waiver request submitted by the program administrator within three months of the program's receipt of its notice of full accreditation status by a Board-recognized accrediting agency in nursing, and accompanied by:

1. written evidence of the program's full accreditation;
2. the program's report evaluating its compliance with the accreditation standards of the Board-recognized accrediting agency in nursing;
3. the written findings and recommendations of the Board-recognized accrediting agency in nursing based on its review of the program. The Board may request a progress report from the program in response to the recommendation(s) of the accrediting agency; and
- 4. The program written report addressing its compliance with 244 CMR 6.04(1)(g) and (h); (2)(a) and (b); (4)(b); and (5)(b).**

(b) The Board shall notify the program administrator of its action on the waiver request.

Guideline for 244 CMR 6.06(2): Waiver of 244 CMR 6.06(1)(a) Waiver of Site Survey for Fully Accredited Programs

The Board.

In accordance with regulation 244 CMR 6.06(2)(a), the Board of Registration in Nursing (Board) may waive the 244 CMR 6.06(1)(a) site survey of an approved nursing education program (Program) that is fully accredited by a Board-recognized accrediting agency in nursing. The Board will only consider a 244 CMR 6.06(1)(a) waiver application that is submitted in accordance with Board regulation, 244 CMR 6.06(2)(a) and its corresponding guideline. The Board will recognize the Program's Annual Report to the Board and any supplemental correspondence as equivalent to the documentation required at 244 CMR 6.06(2)(a)1-4.¹

Waiver Application Format:

1. A table of contents should be included, and pages should be numbered sequentially, including the appendices.
2. The waiver guideline should be attached to the report with page numbers and table numbers entered in the spaces provided.
3. All sections in the report should be clearly labeled and sequential in relation to the regulation being addressed.
4. Enter page number in submitted documents that addresses each regulation.
5. A hardcopy and an electronic version of the waiver application must be submitted by the due date.
6. Do NOT include student names (use codes or legends to identify students)
7. Include a current electronic version of the following: the program systematic evaluation plan, nursing Program student handbook, faculty handbook, and college catalog.
8. The report and application should be submitted in word format.
9. Reports that are not submitted in the correct format will be returned to the program for revision.

The Program application included the following, as required by 244 CMR 6.06(2)(a) 1- 4:

¹ Action of the Board of Registration in Nursing on January 9, 2002.

<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. written evidence of the Program's full accreditation</p> <p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 2. the Program's report evaluating its compliance with the accreditation standards of the Board-recognized accrediting agency in nursing.</p> <p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 3. the written findings and recommendations of the Board-recognized accrediting agency in nursing based on its review of the program.</p> <p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 4. the program report addressing its compliance with 244 CMR 6.04(1)(g) and (h); (2)(a) and (b); (4)(b); and (5)(b).</p> <p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 5. written plan for the systematic evaluation of all components of the program.</p>						
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>BORN REGULATIONS 244 CMR 6.04</th> <th>Evidence Provided</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> (1) Program Accreditation, Mission and Governance (a) The program shall be affiliated with a parent institution that has and maintains its accreditation. </td> <td> Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p. </td> </tr> <tr> <td> b) The program shall obtain and maintain program accreditation as follows: 1. A program that receives written notice of Full approval status dated before July 1, 2016, and has never obtained program accreditation, shall obtain program accreditation candidacy on or before December 31, 2022, and program accreditation on or before the December 31, 2025. 2. A program that receives written notice of Initial approval status shall apply for and obtain program accreditation within the time period specified in the notice. </td> <td> Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BORN REGULATIONS 244 CMR 6.04	Evidence Provided	(1) Program Accreditation, Mission and Governance (a) The program shall be affiliated with a parent institution that has and maintains its accreditation.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.	b) The program shall obtain and maintain program accreditation as follows: 1. A program that receives written notice of Full approval status dated before July 1, 2016, and has never obtained program accreditation, shall obtain program accreditation candidacy on or before December 31, 2022, and program accreditation on or before the December 31, 2025. 2. A program that receives written notice of Initial approval status shall apply for and obtain program accreditation within the time period specified in the notice.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
BORN REGULATIONS 244 CMR 6.04	Evidence Provided					
(1) Program Accreditation, Mission and Governance (a) The program shall be affiliated with a parent institution that has and maintains its accreditation.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.					
b) The program shall obtain and maintain program accreditation as follows: 1. A program that receives written notice of Full approval status dated before July 1, 2016, and has never obtained program accreditation, shall obtain program accreditation candidacy on or before December 31, 2022, and program accreditation on or before the December 31, 2025. 2. A program that receives written notice of Initial approval status shall apply for and obtain program accreditation within the time period specified in the notice.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.					

3. Except as provided in 244 CMR 6.04(1)(b)1. and 2., programs receiving written notice of Full approval status shall maintain program accreditation at all times.	
(c) Accredited nursing education programs must submit to the Board a copy of accreditation-related correspondence with the program's Board-recognized accrediting agency in nursing within 15 days of receipt.	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p>
d) A program shall have a published mission or philosophy, or both, and nursing education outcomes, which shall be consistent internally and with those of its parent institution, or with differences that are justified by the program outcomes.	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p>
(e) The parent institution shall appoint an Administrator, qualified under 244 CMR 6.04(2)(a), on a full-time basis and shall provide adequate resources to effectively administer the program.	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p>
(f) The Administrator, faculty and students shall participate in the governance of the parent institution and the program, as appropriate, for the accomplishment of the goals of the parent institution and nursing education outcomes.	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p>
(g) Faculty shall develop, implement and evaluate policies which are consistent with the policies of the parent institution, or with differences that are justified by the nursing program outcomes.	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p>
(h) Faculty shall develop and implement a plan for systematic evaluation. The plan shall include, but need not be limited to, measurable expected levels of achievement, evaluation methodologies, frequency of evaluation, responsible person(s), aggregated and trended data and other findings, actual outcomes and resulting actions. The results of the evaluation shall be used for the development, maintenance and revision of the program.	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p> <p>Submit entire SEP</p>

(i) Faculty shall: 1. provide instruction, advice and oversight; and 2. evaluate student acquisition of nursing competence.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(j) The Administrator shall respond to Board requests for information.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(k) The program shall, within seven business days, notify the Board in writing of a change in administrative personnel within the program, or a change in the chief executive officer of the parent institution, or both.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(l) The program shall have a written policy for the maintenance and retirement of school, faculty, student and graduate records.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p. Attach Policy
(m) The program shall publish information about the program including, but not limited to program approval and accreditation status, number of graduates in each class, the annual NCLEX pass rate for first time writers and transferability of credits from other educational institutions (transfer credit policy). The program shall ensure accuracy, consistency and integrity of the information about the program in its publications, including catalogs and websites.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p. Include publication links
2. Administrator, Faculty and Preceptor Qualifications. (a) Administrator. The Administrator of the program shall: 1. hold a current Massachusetts Registered Nurse license in good standing; 2. possess an earned graduate degree in nursing;	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.

<p>3. develop and maintain competence appropriate to administrative responsibilities including, but not limited to: a. orientation and mentoring to the administrator role; b. knowledge of M.G.L. c. 112, §§ 74 through 81C and 244 CMR c. participation in professional development in nursing education such as certification, continuing education; and 4. possess a minimum of five years full-time nursing experience with at least three years full-time experience, or its equivalent, in nursing education in either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. a nursing education program designed to prepare a graduate to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse or a Registered Nurse; or b. a post-licensure graduate nursing education program. 	
<p>(b) Faculty shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. hold a current Massachusetts Registered Nurse license in good standing; 2. develop and maintain competence appropriate to teaching responsibilities including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. orientation and mentoring to the nurse educator role; b. knowledge of M.G.L. c. 112, §§ 74 through 81C and 244 CMR; c. participation in professional development in nursing education such as certification, continuing education; 3. possess a minimum of two years full-time experience in nursing, or its equivalent, within the last five years and evidence of clinical competence in the area(s) of clinical instruction; and 4. possess the following academic and experiential qualifications as appropriate to the faculty member's appointment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. faculty appointed to a Practical Nursing program shall possess: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. an earned baccalaureate degree in nursing; or ii. an earned graduate degree in nursing. b. faculty appointed to a Registered Nursing program, teaching the theoretical component of a nursing course, shall possess an earned graduate degree in nursing; 	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p> <p>Table of faculty</p>

<p>c. faculty appointed to a Registered Nursing program, teaching the clinical or skills lab component of a nursing course, shall possess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. an earned graduate degree in nursing; or ii. an earned baccalaureate degree in nursing and also meet at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) be matriculated in a graduate nursing program with an expected graduation date within five years of the date of the appointment; or (ii) possess a related non-nursing graduate degree; or (iii) possess a current Nurse Education certification by a Board recognized certifying organization; or (iv) possess a minimum of five years full-time Registered Nurse experience within the last eight years, be mentored by faculty who possesses a graduate degree in nursing; and - have been appointed before January 6, 2023; or - be matriculated in a graduate nursing program within one year of appointment with an expected graduation date within five years of the date of matriculation; or - obtain a current Nurse Education certification by a Board recognized certifying organization within three years of appointment. 	
<p>(c) Preceptors shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. possess a Massachusetts nursing license in good standing or authority to practice under federal law, or both; 2. possess a minimum of one-year full-time experience in nursing, or its equivalent, within the last five years. 3. maintain competence in the clinical area precepting including, but not limited to, orientation and mentoring to the preceptor role; and 4. be educationally prepared at or above the level of the student. 	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p> <p>Table of preceptors</p>
<p>(3) Students. The program shall:</p> <p>(a) require all candidates for admission to provide satisfactory evidence of secondary school graduation, or its equivalent, and compliance with the immunization requirements specified by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health;</p>	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p>

(b) publish current policies which describe the specific nondiscriminatory criteria for admission; progression; attendance; academic integrity; use of social media; course exemption; advanced placement; transfer; advanced placement or transfer of military education, training or service for a military health care occupation; educational mobility; withdrawal; readmission; graduation; and student rights and grievances.	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p> <p>Include a table of all policies</p>
(c) publish the common clinical placement requirements among the cooperating agencies; and	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p> <p>Examples of 3 executed clinical placements</p>
(d) provide opportunities for students to regularly participate in the development and evaluation of the program.	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p>
<p>(4) Curriculum.</p> <p>(a) Program faculty shall develop a nursing curriculum plan which shall provide a variety of learning experiences consistent with the program mission or philosophy, or both, and nursing education outcomes. The sciences, arts, humanities, M.G.L. c. 112, §§ 74 through 81C, and 244 CMR, and other foundations of the profession, shall be an integral part of the nursing curriculum plan, including experiences that promote the development of nursing judgment, leadership and management skills, and professional role socialization consistent with the level of licensure. This includes demonstration of the ability to delegate, supervise others, and provide leadership.</p>	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p> <p>Accreditation Site Visitor Report p.</p> <p>Addressed in SEP p.</p>
(b) The curriculum shall:	<p>Program Self-Study Report p.</p>

1. extend over a period of time sufficient to provide essential, sequenced learning experiences which enable a student to develop nursing competence appropriate to the level of licensure and educational preparation.	Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
2. be based on an organized pattern of instruction consistent with principles of learning and educational practice with expected levels of achievement at defined points in the program.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
3. provide instruction in the discipline of nursing, appropriate to the level of licensure and educational preparation, with articulated student learning outcomes, and legal, ethical and professional responsibilities; and	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
4. be designed in accordance with generally accepted academic standards.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(5) Resources: The parent institution shall allocate resources to the program in a manner appropriate to meeting the program outcomes. The resources must be sufficient to allow the program to:	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(a) maintain an adequate number of full-time and part-time faculty and support personnel	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(b) develop written agreements with cooperating agencies utilized as clinical learning sites; 1. Agreements shall be reviewed annually by both program and agency personnel. 2. Agreements shall be current and specific in defining the responsibilities of the program and the cooperating agency.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.

(c) maintain student-faculty ratio in clinical practice, up to a limit of ten students to one faculty member (10:1); 1. Faculty, in consultation with the cooperating agency, shall determine student-faculty ratio based on the student level of knowledge and skill, the complexity of the learning situations, student learning outcomes and the safety of the patient. 2. In programs that include preceptor facilitated learning experiences, the program shall designate a faculty member who is responsible for coordinating the experience and evaluating student acquisition of competence. The designated faculty member shall determine the student-preceptor ratio, up to a limit of two students to one preceptor (2:1);	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(d) provide current and comprehensive learning resources developed with faculty input. These resources shall be available and accessible to students and faculty;	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(e) maintain appropriately designed and equipped physical facilities; and	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.
(f) manage fiscal resources to maintain the program's financial health.	Program Self-Study Report p. Accreditation Site Visitor Report p. Addressed in SEP p.

Person preparing report:

Name

Title

Signature

Date

As program administrator, I attest that the information I have provided in connection with this report is truthful and accurate.

Printed Name of Program Administrator

Title

Signature

Date

Faculty

244 CMR 6.04(2) and (5)

[illegible]

244 CMR 6.04

Board of Registration in Nursing-Waiver Guidelines updated September 16, 2024¹²