

Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing
Advisory Ruling

Title: Clarification on Nursing Faculty and Nursing Preceptor Qualifications as Outlined in 244 CMR 6.04(2)(b) and (c)

Advisory Ruling (AR) Number: 25-03

Authority: The Massachusetts (MA) Board of Registration in Nursing (Board) is created and authorized by MA General Laws (M.G.L.) c. 13, §§ 13, 14, 14A, 15 and 15D, and G.L. c. 112, §§ 74 through 81C to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth through the regulation of nursing practice and education. In addition, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 8 authorizes the Board to make advisory rulings with respect to the applicability to any person, property, or state of facts of any statute or regulation enforced or administered by the Board.

Date Issued: May 14, 2025

Scope of Practice: Pre-Licensure Nursing Education Programs

Purpose: To provide guidance to nursing education programs to ensure compliance with nursing faculty and nursing preceptor qualifications as outlined in 244 CMR 6.04(2)(b) and (c).

Advisory:

Regulation 244 CMR 6.04(2)(b) and (c) sets forth the eligibility criteria for nursing faculty and nursing preceptors in approved nursing education programs, as authorized and required under M.G.L. c. 112, § 81C¹.

244 CMR 6.04(2)(b)(3) requires faculty to “possess a minimum of two years full-time experience in nursing” in order to be eligible for a faculty position in an approved nursing education program. It is the Board’s position that “full-time experience in nursing” means paid, full-time employment as a licensed nurse.

244 CMR 6.04(2)(c)(2) requires preceptors to “possess a minimum of one year full-time experience in nursing” in order to be eligible for a preceptor role in an approved nursing education program. Likewise, it is the Board’s position that “full-time experience in nursing” is applicable only to full-time employment as a licensed nurse.

The Board cannot accept unlicensed practice experience in the nursing field as a substitute for employment as a licensed nurse in order to be eligible for a faculty or preceptor role.

¹ Massachusetts General Law c. 112 § 81C. Accessed at [General Law - Part I, Title XVI, Chapter 112, Section 81C](#)

For further details and requirements for nursing education programs, please see 244 CMR 6.00: *Approval of Nursing Education Programs, Standards, and Procedures* and 244 CMR 10.00: *Definitions and Severability*.

References:

¹ Code of Massachusetts Regulations. Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing. 244 CMR 6.00 Approval of nursing education programs. Retrieved at <https://www.mass.gov/regulations/244-CMR-600-approval-of-nursing-education-programs-and-the-general-conduct-thereof>

² Code of Massachusetts Regulations. Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing. 244 CMR10.00 Definitions and severability. Retrieved at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/244-cmr-1000-definitions-and-severability/download>
