

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING
Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program (SARP)
SARP Policy 18-03

Title	SARP Eligibility Criteria for Initial Admission
Purpose	The purpose of this policy is to establish the eligibility criteria for first-time admission into the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program (SARP or Program) of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (Board).
Date Adopted/Reviewed	November 14, 2018 (approved)
Eligibility Criteria	<p>SARP applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria at the time that they submit their application for first-time participation in the program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant must hold a Massachusetts nursing license that is current and in good standing. The applicant will not meet this criteria if his or her Massachusetts license is expired, surrendered, suspended, revoked, or on probation (disciplinary). 2. The applicant must be either a <u>first-time</u> participant¹ in a program designed for substance abuse rehabilitation for licensed professionals, or a participant in full compliance with a comparable program seeking to transfer into SARP². 3. The applicant must possess the physical and psychological ability to participate in SARP. The applicant will not meet this criteria if he or she has a medical, and or mental health condition, <i>except as provided for in SARP policy 13-01</i>, that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. prevents the applicant from practicing nursing in a safe and competent manner; b. necessitates treatment with a medication that is a substance of abuse; or c. prevents the applicant from complying with SARP requirements.

¹ Applicants seeking readmission into the SARP program following previous termination for non-compliance must comply with the eligibility requirements set forth in SARP Policy 18-02.

² Any applicant seeking to participate in SARP and another jurisdiction's program concurrently must petition for review by SAREC and or the Board.

<p>Application Deadlines</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Must be of good moral character pursuant to the Board’s Licensure Policy 00-01 <i>Determination of Good Moral Character Compliance</i>.³ 5. The applicant must be in good standing and be eligible for current licensure before all other professional licensing bodies that have issued a license, registration or certification to him or her, except that the applicant may have an active disciplinary restriction imposed by another professional licensing body if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the basis for the discipline is substance abuse, and b. the Board has declined to take reciprocal disciplinary action. <p>The Application for SARP Admission must be completed and returned to SARP staff within <u>30 days</u> of receipt by the applicant. The applicant must have all completed required supplemental documentation submitted within <u>90 days</u> of the receipt of the application by SARP staff.</p>
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³ The Board will review any applications that includes criminal matters that do not comply with the Good Moral Character Policy to determine SARP eligibility