# Module: Introduction to the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing and the regulation of nursing practice.

Suggested placement in nursing curriculum: First nursing course (i.e.: Fundamentals) Minimum time for delivery of content: 1 hour

**Goal:** To introduce the student to the legal framework for safe, effective and competent nursing care.

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| **Objective** | **Topical Outline** | **Sample Resources** |
| At the conclusion of this unit, the student-learner will:1. Describe the constitutional basis for the regulation of nursing practice by the federal and state government and the purpose of nurse licensure.
2. Discuss the key milestones in nurse regulation history
3. Describe the mission of the

Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (BRN) in public health protection.1. List the duties of the BRN as specified at General Law, chapters

13 and 112.1. Discuss how the BRN's regulations provide a framework for safe and effective nursing care
2. Explain the eligibility criteria to qualify for Massachusetts licensure

as a Licensure Practical Nurse and aRegistered Nurse. | Delivered via lecture/discussion:Overview of Nursing Regulation and Licensure in the United States* Role of the federal government as specified by US Constitution
* State constitutions separate powers
* Delegation of regulatory authority by state legislatures to boards within executive branch
* BRN placement within state government

History of MA BRN BRN mission and goals MA BRN membershipMilestones in nursing regulation Statutes and regulations: definitions,purposeBRN statutory authority (relevant sections of MGL c. 13 and 112)Purpose of nurse licensure Qualification for MA nurse licensureaccording to GL c. 112, s. 74 and 74B. | NCSBN Learning Extension > *Massachusetts Nurse Practice Act* [[www.learningext.com](http://www.learningext.com/)]Historical timeline Acts of 1910Massachusetts General Laws ("G.L.")Chapter 13, section 14 and Chapter112, sections 74, 74A, and 80B[[www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm](http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm)]Board Vision, Mission, Activities, and 2005 Strategic GoalsOrganizational Outline |
| **Suggested Student Activity** |
| Post content exam |

# Module: Standards of Conduct

Suggested placement in nursing curriculum: First nursing course (i.e.: Fundamentals) Minimum time for delivery of content: 3 hour

**Goal:** To insure that the student, as a licensed nurse, will engage in the practice nursing in the Commonwealth in accordance with the Standards of Conduct at 244 CMR 9.00.

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| **Objective** | **Topical Outline** | **Sample Resources** |
| At the conclusion of this unit, the student- learner will:1. Define the terms “Competence” and “Standards of Nursing Practice” as specified at 244 CMR 9.02.
2. Discuss how the BRN’s Standards of Conduct provide a framework for safe and effective nursing care.
3. Differentiate between legal regulation and professional

standards of nursing practice1. Discuss the licensed nurse’s responsibility and accountability for:
	* assuming only those duties and responsibilities within his or her scope of practice and for which

he or she has acquired andmaintained the necessary competencies;* + performing nursing techniques and procedures only after

appropriate education anddemonstrated clinical competency;* + adhering to standard precautions and principles of asepsis and
 | Delivered via lecture/discussion:Standards r/t nurse identification including (8), (22), (27), (30), (31), (32), (33), and(34)Standards r/t nursing practice at definitions and (5), (9,) (12), (14), (16), (17), (19), (44) | 244 CMR 9.00[[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on "Rules and Regulations - 244 CMR"]244 CMR 7.00[[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on "Rules and Regulations - 244 CMR"]Case Study - Practice without Appropriate Knowledge |

infection control;

* safeguarding patient information as well as the patient’s dignity and right to privacy;
* participating in research protocols in accordance with standards for the protection of

human subjects; and

* making complete, accurate and legible entries in all records required by federal and state laws and regulations, and accepted standards of nursing practice.
1. Describe the licensed nurse’s role in:
	* providing non-discriminatory nursing care;
	* establishing and maintaining professional boundaries with

any patient with whom he or

she has a nurse/patient relationship; and

* + limiting one’s own practice when self-restrictions and/or

accommodations are not

sufficient to enable safe nursing practice due to physical or mental illness including substance abuse.

1. Explain the licensed nurse’s responsibility for maintaining the security of controlled substances under his or her control.
2. Recognize three (3) clinical situations which reflect patient abandonment according to 244 CMR 9.15.

Standards r/t professional boundaries including definitions and (13), (15), (19),

(20), (21), (23), (24), (25), (43)

Standards r/t practice while impaired including definition and (36)

Standards r/t maintenance of controlled substances including definitions, (35), (38),

and (39)

Standards r/t patient abuse, abandonment, neglect including definitions and (15)

Case Study - Failure to Adhere to Professional Boundaries

1. Cite three (3) examples of patient abuse as defined at 244 CMR 9.02.
2. List the three (3) clinical situations as specified at 244 CMR 9.03(26) in

which a licensed nurse is required to report the practice of another nurse

to the BRN.

1. Describe the non-disciplinary and disciplinary actions the Board may

take when a complaint is filed against

a licensed nurse as identified at 244 CMR 7.03, 7.04 and 7.05.

Standards r/t Duty to Report to the Board (26)

Board Policies 244 CMR 7.00

**Suggested Student Activity** Complete a complaint form [[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on "Complaint Resolution", then “Information

of Filing a Complaint”]

Post content exam

# Module: Legal Scope of Registered Nurse (RN), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), and Advanced Practice Nurse (APRN)

**Practice**

Suggested placement in nursing curriculum: Beginning of traditional medical-surgical content Minimum time for delivery of content: 1 hours

**Goal:** To insure that the student, as a licensed nurse, will engage in the practice of nursing within the scope of practice as defined in General Law, c. 112, s. 80B and 244 CMR 3.00 and 4.00.

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| **Objective** | **Topical Outline** | **Sample Resources** |
| At the conclusion of this unit, the student-learner will:1. Summarize the educational preparation for entry into practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Registered Nurse (RN), and Advanced Practice Nurse (APRN).
2. Differentiate between the legal scopes of RN, LPN and APRN. Practice.
3. Apply the BRN’s Decision-Making Tree to selected clinical practice

situations. | Delivered via lecture/discussion andindependent reading:Definition and implications of a legal scope of nursing practiceEducational preparation for RN, LPN and APRN practice according to statute and regulation.244 Code Massachusetts Regulations (CMR)* 1. Definition – Registered Nurse
	2. Responsibilities & Functions – RN
	3. Definition – Practical Nurse
	4. Responsibilities & Functions – PN

4.00 Practice of Nursing in the Expanded RoleMassachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing Decision-Making Tree | 244 CMR 3.00, 4.00, and 9.00[[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on "Rules and Regulations - 244 CMR"]"G.L." 112, s. 80B[[www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm](http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm)]Decision Making Guideline [[www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/](http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/) dph/quality/boards/decision\_making.pdf]Case Study for applying *Nursing Decision Making Guideline*NCLEX-RN® Test Plan [[www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/TestPlanRN04.pdf](http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/TestPlanRN04.pdf)]NCLEX-PN® Test Plan [[www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/](http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/) PN\_test\_plan\_05\_Web.pdf] |
| **Suggested Student Activity** |
| Analysis PaperSituational Role Play |

# Module: Delegating and Supervising Nursing Care as a Licensed Nurse

Suggested placement in nursing curriculum: Throughout the second-level nursing course (or traditional Adult Med-Surg II Course) Minimum time for delivery of content: 2 hours

**Goal:** To insure that the student, as a licensed nurse, will effectively manage patient care through the delegation of selected nursing activities to unlicensed assistive personnel in accordance with the regulations at 244 CMR 3.05.

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| **Objective** | **Topical Outline** | **Sample Resources** |
| At the conclusion of this unit, the student- learner will:1. Define the terms “delegation” and “supervision” as identified at 244 CMR 3.05.
2. List the general criteria for delegation as established at 244 CMR 3.05.
3. Identify four (4) factors that the licensed nurse must evaluate in

determining the degree of Unlicensed Assistive Personnel(UAP) supervision required when delegating nursing activities.1. Identify four (4) examples of nursing activities that are not

within the scope of nursing to delegate.1. Apply the “5 Rights of Delegation” to selected nursing activities.
2. Use delegation as a tool to delivering and managing safe

patient care. | Delivered via lecture/discussion, independent reading, Case Study244 CMR 3.05 Delegation and Supervision of Selected Nursing Activities by Licensed Nurses to Unlicensed Personnel* Definitions of delegation and supervision
* General delegation criterion
* Five Rights of Delegation
* Factors determining degree of UAP supervision
* Nursing activities that may and may not be delegated
 | 244 CMR 3.05[[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on "Rules and Regulations - 244 CMR"]Joint Statement on Delegation, American Nurses Association (ANA) and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) [[www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Joint\_](http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Joint_) statement.pdf]NCSBN *Working with Others: A Position Paper* [[www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Working\_](http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Working_) with\_Others.pdf]National Council of State Board of Nursing Learning Extension > *Delegating Effectively* [[www.learningext.com](http://www.learningext.com/)]Case Study - Inappropriate Delegation |
| Suggested Student Activity |
| Essay exam based on Case Study |

# Module: Competence: A Legal Requirement to Licensed Nursing Practice

Suggested placement in nursing curriculum: Issues/Trends or role preparation course Minimum time for delivery of content: 3 hours

**Goal:** To insure that the student, as a licensed nurse, will continue to acquire and maintain the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for the delivery of safe nursing care in accordance with accepted standards of practice.

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| **Objective** | **Topical Outline** | **Sample Resources** |
| At the conclusion of this unit, the student- learner will:1. Define the terms “Competence” and “Standards of Nursing Practice” as specified at 244 CMR 9.02.
2. Discuss the licensed nurse’s responsibility and accountability for his or her nursing judgments, actions and competency.
3. Explain the purpose of the continuing education requirement for

renewal of a Massachusetts nursinglicense as specified at GL, c. 112, ss. 74 and 74A.1. Define the term “Continuing Education in Nursing” as specified at

244 CMR 5.03.1. List three (3) examples of subject matter that qualifies as acceptable

continuing education for nurses.1. Identify the number of contact hours required to comply with the statutory continuing education requirement and the period during which they must be obtained.
 | Delivered via independent reading, case presentation"G.L." 112, s. 74, 74A, and 80BPrinciples of responsibility and accountability* Public’s expectation of *licensed*

nurse* BRN’s role in assuring licensed nurse meets minimum competence standards throughout professional career
* Licensed nurse’s assessment of learning needs based on current practice

5.02 Continuing Education* 1. Criteria of Qualification of Continuing Education

Programs/Offerings* 1. Responsibility of Individual Licensee
 | "G.L." 112, s. 80B[[www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm](http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm)]244 CMR 9.00 and 5.00[[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on "Rules and Regulations - 244 CMR"]National Council of State Boards of Nursing paper on Continued Competency [[www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Continued\_](http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Continued_) Comp\_Paper\_TestingServices.pdf] |
| **Suggested Student Activity** |
| Attendance at a Board of Registration in Nursing meetingSmall group presentation Clinical performance |

1. Cite three (3) examples of professional development activities

that promote competence based on the licensed nurse’s assessed

learning needs.

1. Describe the licensed nurse’s responsibility related to his or her

maintenance of records regarding

completed continuing education.

# Module: Preparing for Licensed Nursing Practice

Suggested placement in nursing curriculum: Prior to graduation Minimum time for delivery of content: 2 hour

**Goal:** To enable the student, as a graduate of a Board-approved nursing education program, to successfully apply for initial Massachusetts nurse licensure by examination.

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| **Objective** | **Topical Outline** | **Sample Resources** |
| At the conclusion of this unit, the student- learner will:1. Recall the purpose of nurse licensure, and the eligibility criteria to qualify for Massachusetts nurse licensure as specified at GL c. 112, ss. 74 and 74A and regulations 244 CMR 8.02 and 8.03
2. Discuss the attributes of good moral character as identified by the BRN in its Licensure Policy 00-01: *Initial Nurse Licensure by Examination or by Reciprocity: Determination of Good Moral Character* (GMC Policy).
3. Identify three (3) examples of conduct demonstrating the absence of good moral character as identified in the BRN’s GMC Policy.
4. Cite five (5) examples of criminal

convictions which permanently exclude an applicant from initial Massachusetts nurse licensure.1. Identify the period in which an applicant for initial Massachusetts

nurse licensure with a criminal | Delivered via lecture/discussion, independent reading244 CMR 8.00 Licensure Requirements Eligibility:* Graduation for Board Approved program
* Determination of GMC
* Payment of fees
* Pass NCLEX

Massachusetts licensure by examination application process* License application to PCS
* NCLEX registration to Pearson VUE
* Authorization to test

Good moral character licensure requirement policy and information sheet244 CMR 9.03(6) | 244 CMR 8.00[[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on "Rules and Regulations - 244 CMR"]Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing *Good Moral Character Policy* and *Information Sheet* [[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on “Licensing”, then “Good Moral Character Licensure”]Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing *Information & Instructions* and *Application for Initial Licensure as a Nurse by Examination* [[www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on “Licensing”, then “Applications and Forms”]*National Council of State Boards of Nursing Candidates Bulletin* [[www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/2006\_Candidate](http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/2006_Candidate) \_Bulletin.pdf]Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing: [www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn;](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn%3B) click on “Alerts”, then “No Graduate Nurse Status in Massachusetts” |

[**um**](http://www.pdfcomplete.com/1002/2001/upgrade.htm)

conviction is temporarily excluded

from licensure.

1. List the eligibility criteria to qualify for an exemption to the temporary exclusion from Massachusetts nurse licensure.
2. Describe the application process for initial Massachusetts nurse licensure by examination.
3. Identify the frequency with which a Massachusetts nursing license must

be renewed.

Professional Credentialing Services (PCS) Pearson VUE

License Renewal

Case Study - Practicing without a License

**Suggested Student Activity** Successful completion of the application for licensure