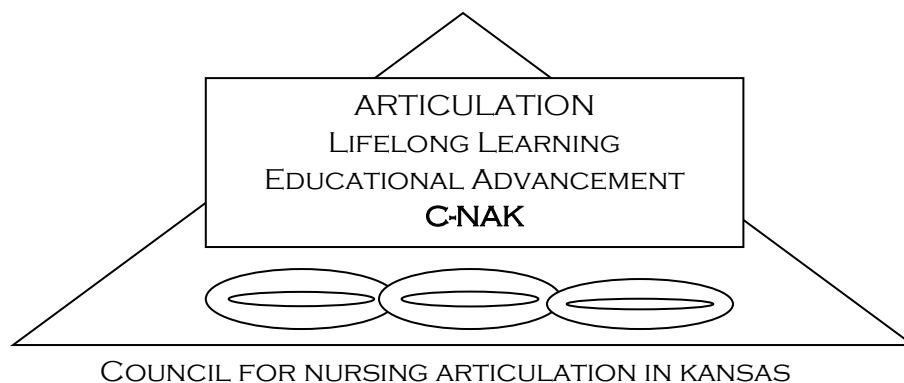


**REPORT
OF THE
COUNCIL FOR
NURSING ARTICULATION
IN KANSAS
C-NAK**

MARCH 2012



MISSION

The mission of this council is to promote educational advancement for nurses in the state of Kansas.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this collaborative council is to promote educational advancement for nurses in Kansas by sustaining a statewide articulation plan for nursing education programs.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. Educational advancement is essential to meet the needs of the evolving healthcare system.
2. Articulation is a process through which nursing programs cooperate to facilitate seamless* educational advancement for Kansas graduates.
3. Every professional prelicensure nursing program in Kansas must have an articulation plan consistent with the Kansas State Board of Nursing Rules and Regulations.
4. Prelicensure programs in practical, associate, and baccalaureate degree nursing must meet standards determined by the Kansas State Board of Nursing.
5. Each educational institution establishes its own mission, goals, standards, and policies.
6. There is a common core of knowledge, attitudes, and cognitive and psychomotor skills that graduates of all types of nursing programs should possess; there are distinct differences in the breadth, depth, scope of preparation, and knowledge of each type of graduate.
7. Completion of one level does not necessarily mean that a graduate will have the desire or the ability to progress to the next level.
8. Nurses seeking to advance their professional education deal with the multiple realities of educational requirements, family and personal responsibilities, job-related demands, financial concerns, and geographic considerations.
9. Students receive personal satisfaction from educational experiences that are challenging, relevant to their personal and professional goals, and reasonable.
10. There are many different models or pathways that allow nurses to pursue educational advancement (e.g., ADN to MSN, or BSN to DNP).
11. Nursing programs/colleges will continue to develop new models and pathways for educational advancement.

*Concept emphasized in IOM Report Advancing Nursing, Leading Change (IOM, 2011)

PREMISES FOR COMPETENCY LEVEL

The Council for Nursing Articulation in Kansas (C-NAK) recognizes that a variety of professional nursing organizations have created leveling of competencies for graduates based on evidence based practices. These organizations include but are not limited to: National Association of Practical Nurse Educators (NAPNES); National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses (NFLPN); National League for Nursing (NLN); American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN); and National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF).

1. Competency statements refer to performance capabilities at the time of graduation from a program.
2. Competencies are written in broad, general terms.
3. Each level of competency presumes that the previous level(s) is (are) included. For example, the associate degree nursing competencies build on practical nursing competencies; the baccalaureate degree nursing competencies build on associate degree and practical nursing competencies.
4. The terms practical nurse, associate degree nurse and baccalaureate degree nurse are used to differentiate levels of education rather than licensure.

The practical nurse focuses on the client in structured settings. The associate degree nurse focuses on the client as a member of a family and a community in structured settings. The baccalaureate degree nursing focuses on the client, family, group and community in any setting.

KANSAS STATEWIDE NURSING ARTICULATION PLAN

For Progression to the Associate Degree in Nursing

Kansas Nursing Articulation Model: Practical Nurse to Associate Degree Nurse			
Articulation Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet program admission requirements • Must be a graduate of a Kansas program • Must receive credit equivalent to a minimum of 40% of the admitting program’s nursing credit hours. • Must validate previous nursing information when required through NCLEX-PN, testing, escrow, or portfolio according to program policy (see below). 			
Variables	0-5 Years After Graduation	6-10 Years After Graduation	More Than 10 Years After Graduation
Nursing Credits:	No validation required if holds current PN license. No work experience required.	No validation required if holds current PN license. College may require 1000 hours nursing work experience during last three years.	Validation required. Current PN license required. College may require 1000 hours nursing work experience during last three years.
Non-Nursing Credits:	May be transferred from colleges (subject to individual college policies.	May be transferred from colleges (subject to individual college policies.	May be transferred from colleges (subject to individual college policies

Kansas Nursing Articulation Model: Practical Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree
Licensed Practical Nurses wishing to articulate directly to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program should contact the program for an individualized articulation plan.

Out-of State Graduates (regardless of time since graduation):	Nursing credits will be evaluated individually by the admitting nursing program. Non-nursing courses will be transferred according to individual college policy.
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KANSAS STATEWIDE NURSING ARTICULATION PLAN

For Progression to the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing

Kansas Nursing Articulation Model: Associate Degree or Diploma Graduates to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree (BSN)			
Articulation Criteria:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet program admission requirements • Must be a graduate of a Kansas program • Must validate previous nursing information when required through NCLEX-RN, by testing, escrow, or portfolio according to program policy (see below). 			
Variables	0-5 Years After Graduation	6-10 Years After Graduation	More Than 10 Years After Graduation
Nursing Credits:	No validation required if holds current RN license. No work experience required.	No validation required if holds current RN license. College may require 1000 hours nursing work experience during last three years.	Validation required. Current RN license required. College may require 1000 hours nursing work experience during last three years.
Non-Nursing Credits:	May be transferred from colleges (subject to individual college policies.	May be transferred from colleges (subject to individual college policies.	May be transferred from colleges (subject to individual college policies

Kansas Nursing Articulation Model: Practical Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree
Licensed Practical Nurses wishing to articulate directly to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program should contact the program for an individualized articulation plan.

Out-of State Graduates (regardless of time since graduation):	<p>Nursing credits will be evaluated individually by the admitting nursing program.</p> <p>Non-nursing courses will be transferred according to individual college policy.</p>
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KANSAS STATEWIDE NURSING ARTICULATION PLAN

For Progression to the Master Degree in Nursing

Kansas Nursing Articulation Model: Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree to the Master of Science in Nursing Degree (MSN)
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Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree students wishing to articulate directly to a Master of Science in Nursing Program should contact the program for an individualized articulation plan.

Kansas Nursing Articulation Model: Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Graduates to Master of Science in Nursing Degree (MSN)

Licensed Practical Nurses wishing to articulate directly to a Master of Science in Nursing Program should contact the program for an individualized articulation plan.
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Kansas Nursing Articulation Model: Associate Degree or Diploma Graduates to the Master of Science in Nursing Degree (MSN)
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Registered Nurses wishing to articulate directly to a Master of Science in Nursing Program should contact the program for an individualized articulation plan.
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Out-of State Graduates (regardless of time since graduation)
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Nursing credits will be evaluated individually by the admitting nursing program.
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Non-nursing courses will be transferred according to individual college policy.

KANSAS STATEWIDE NURSING ARTICULATION PLAN

For Progression to the Doctorate in Nursing Practice or the Doctor Philosophy in Nursing

Kansas Nursing Articulation Model: Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree to Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) or the Doctor Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)
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Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree students wishing to articulate directly to a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) or the Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD) should contact the program for an individualized articulation plan.

Out-of State Graduates (regardless of time since graduation)	Nursing credits will be evaluated individually by the admitting nursing program. Non-nursing courses will be transferred according to individual college policy.
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KANSAS NURSING PROGRAM INFORMATION

Degree options available at Kansas nursing programs evolve quickly. Please access current information about Kansas nursing programs from the following lists on the Kansas State Board of Nursing website.

[List of Approved Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs in Kansas](#)

[List of Approved Graduate Programs Nursing Programs in Kansas](#)

[Link to CCNE Accredited Nursing Programs in Kansas](#)

[Link to NLNAC Accredited Nursing Programs in Kansas](#)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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Programs which are a combination of a first level of practical nursing and second level of associate degree nursing curriculum. Programs are separate, and require two applications and acceptances. All graduates of the practical nursing first level take NCLEX-PN.

Articulation

The process by which nursing programs cooperate to facilitate educational progress of graduates from one program/level to the next with minimal loss of academic credit or duplication of learning experiences.

Bi-Level

A designation used in Kansas to describe ADN programs which have either an optional or required step between the first and second levels for NCLEX-PN. The two levels teach RN curriculum, and there is only one application and acceptance for both levels.

Client

A recipient of nursing care.

Delegate, delegates, delegated

As defined in the Kansas Nurse Practice Act

Educational Advancement

The process used to facilitate lifelong learning that includes basic education, academic progression, and continuing competencies. (IOM, 2011)

Escrow

Nursing credits held in trust to be posted to transcript per program policy.

Opt Out Course

Term used to describe an option in bi-level programs to exit after the first level of curriculum and test for NCLEX-PN. The course typically incorporates any content not covered in the first level, but needed to prepare a PN for practice.

Portfolio

Documentation of nursing experience/knowledge/competency to support receiving credit.

Structured setting

A site or situation in which nursing care is provided based on specific protocols and available resources.

Therapeutic

Goal-directed nursing interventions(s).

Transition Course

A course designed to prepare a student to enter the next level of credential or licensure. Often used in PN to ADN, or RN to BSN entry level students.

Validation

A benchmark/standard to confirm nursing knowledge/competency.

References

- Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing, at the Institute of Medicine (2011). *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*. Washington, D.C.: The National Academies Press.
- Council for Nursing Articulation in Kansas (CNAK).(2001). *Report of the Council for Nursing Articulation in Kansas*.
- Council for Nursing Articulation in Kansas (CNAK).(1999). *Report of the Council for Nursing Articulation in Kansas*.

HISTORY OF COUNCIL

Early in 1992, a group of educators representing all levels of nursing throughout the state to discuss the possibility of a statewide plan for nursing articulation. Their concerns arose from the variations in available programs and the lack of consistency among the programs, as described by the Report to the 1979 Kansas Legislature (Kansas Legislative Educational Planning Committee, 1202 Commission).

After three years of organization and fact finding, a document was presented in April 1995. In September 1995, the Report of the Council for Nursing Articulation in Kansas was published and presented to the directors of nursing education at a meeting. By December 1995, a statement of agreement was adopted by all nursing programs in Kansas.

Three previous editions of the report have been published: 1995, 1999, and 2001. After the 2001 edition, the education councils then turned to another topic, articulation of paramedics into RN programs. C-NAK became inactive during that time.

The C-NAK council representatives met periodically throughout the years of 2006-2012. During the 2010-2011 academic year, the council identified the need to survey Kansas nursing programs for participation levels and possible issues with the articulation plan. The survey found that the majority of responding programs continue to use the articulation plan.

Components of educational advancement, as cited in *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health Report* (IOM, 2011) supported the need to include progression to the master's and doctorate level. Consequently, information on the different graduate level programs was added in 2012. Kansas State Board of Nursing lists of approved prelicensure and graduate nursing programs were also added via hyperlink to allow the document to give the reader easier access to Kansas nursing program's information.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

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KEY:

Kansas Association Colleges Nursing (KACN)

Kansas Council Associate Degree Nursing Education (KCADNE)

Kansas Council Practical Nursing Education (KCPNE)

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