



COLLEGE OF
LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES
OF ALBERTA

ESAC Standards for Approval

Advanced Practice Programs for Licensed
Practical Nurses

Approved by Council: June 2018, Amended June 2020



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INTRODUCTION

The Council of the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) is responsible for establishing the approval status for Advanced Practice Programs for Licensed Practical Nurses in the following areas:

- Advanced Practice Orthopedic Nursing;
- Advanced Practice Perioperative Nursing; and
- Advanced Practice Foot Care.

The desired outcome of Advanced Practice Programs is to prepare a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to meet the *Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation's* (Alta Reg 81/2003) requirements for Advanced Practice, as well as to meet the *CLPNA Standards of Practice for Licensed Practical Nurses on Restricted Activities and Advanced Practice (2020)*, and post-entry level training and advanced practice competencies outlined in the *Competency Profile for Licensed Practical Nurses* (5th Edition as amended in 2020).

The *Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation* at section 16(2)(a) regarding foot care, 16(2)(b) regarding perioperative, and sections 17(a) and 17(b) regarding orthopedic care, specifies legal requirements for performing restricted activities in these areas of advanced practice.

The *CLPNA Policy: Practice and Education Requirements for Restricted Activities and Advanced Practice (2020)* outlines specific requirements for education for advanced practice. Before a LPN can perform restricted activities in any of the Advanced Practice areas as listed above, the LPN must:

- Successfully complete CLPNA approved training or education; and
- Be authorized by the Registrar (authorization documented on the practice permit).



Standard 1 - Administration

The administration of the agency/institution offering the Advanced Practice Program facilitates the development and delivery of the licensed practical nurse education.

- 1.1 There are adequate human and operating resources to support the development and continued operation of the advanced practice program.
- 1.2 Physical resources including but not limited to classroom and laboratory space, library space and resources, computer equipment and support, and learning models are adequate to support learner achievement of outcomes.
- 1.3 Records regarding the learner's progress and outcomes are confidentially maintained and provided to the learner on completion of the advanced practice program.
- 1.4 Formal agreements are in place identifying the responsibilities of the agency/institution and clinical placement sites outside the agency/institution offering the advanced practice program, if applicable.

Standard 2 - Curriculum

The Education Program for Advanced Practice curriculum provides the opportunity for Licensed Practical Nurses to acquire the knowledge, skills, behaviors, attitudes, and judgments required to practice in the area of advanced practice in accordance with the *Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation*, the *CLPNA Standards of Practice for Licensed Practical Nurses on Restricted Activities and Advanced Practice*, and the CLPNA's *Competency Profile for Licensed Practical Nurses*.

- 2.1 The learning outcomes of the advanced practice program are clearly stated and measurable.
- 2.2 The content of the advanced practice program is mapped to the appropriate advanced practice competency area as presented in the *Competency Profile* and delineates time spent in theory, laboratory, simulation, and clinical practice.
- 2.3 There are sufficient hours to achieve the learning outcomes.
- 2.4 Instructional methods support adult learning.



Standard 3 - Learner

Policies and procedures are in place that facilitates a Licensed Practical Nurse's admission to, progression through, and completion of the advanced practice program.

- 3.1 Policies and procedures pertaining to learner evaluation, promotion, and course completion are in place and communicated to staff and learners.
- 3.2 Policies and procedures pertaining to learner discipline, progression, probation, and withdrawal are established, clearly stated, and communicated to learners.
- 3.3 Policies and procedures confirm that mechanisms are in place so that if the operation is not sustained the learners currently enrolled are reimbursed tuition.

Standard 4 – Instructional Team

The instructional team has appropriate advanced practice education to ensure the ongoing development, implementation, and evaluation of the advanced practice program.

- 4.1 The educators must have full knowledge of the *Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation*, the *Standards of Practice for Licensed Practical Nurses in Canada*, the *CLPNA Standards of Practice for Licensed Practical Nurses on Restricted Activities and Advanced Practice*, and the *Competency Profile for Licensed Practical Nurses*.
- 4.2 The educators are registered or licensed in Alberta with the CLPNA, CARNA, or CRPNA as regulated nursing professionals, are in good standing, and have no restrictions on their practice permit.
- 4.3 The educator(s) has both theoretical nursing knowledge and current clinical skills in the area of advanced practice.
- 4.4 There is an individual designated in the organization who has responsibility for the advanced practice program. This individual will ensure that input is sought from subject matter experts to determine relevant content and that the instructional delivery reflects best practices.



Standard 5 – Evaluation

There is evidence of a systematic process in place for evaluation of the advanced practice program.

5.1 Both formative and summative evaluative data is sought to determine that the advanced practice program prepares the Licensed Practical Nurse with the skills for advanced practice as outlined in the *Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation*, the *CLPNA Standards of Practice for Licensed Practical Nurses on Restricted Activities and Advanced Practice* and the *Competency Profile for Licensed Practical Nurses* as defined by the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta.

Glossary

Advanced Practice

Advanced Practice is an area of LPN practice where LPNs are required by the *Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation* to complete CLPNA approved advanced training or education and be authorized by the Registrar (authorization noted on the practice permit). The LPN areas of advanced practice are:

- Advanced Practice Orthopedic Nursing,
- Advance Practice Perioperative Nursing; and
- Advanced Practice Foot Care.

Advanced Practice Program

Formal education provided by an agency/educational institution facilitating the Licensed Practical Nurse's attainment of advanced practice competencies as outlined by the *Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation's* (Alta Reg 81/2003), *CLPNA Standards of Practice for Licensed Practical Nurses on Restricted Activities and Advanced Practice (2020)*, and the *CLPNA Competency Profile (Amended 2020)*.

Learning Outcomes

Behavioral statements that describe the knowledge, skills, behaviors, attitudes, and judgments that the Licensed Practical Nurse student will possess upon completion of the specific advanced practice program.

These statements serve as an organizer for the themes and concepts identified in the curriculum design.

Curriculum Design

The design and structure of the curriculum is based on general teaching/learning principles and learning outcomes. It involves identification of the courses to be taught, the sequencing of these courses and the time frame for delivery.