

Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, Act 169 amended Chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the practice of nursing as follows:

Global signature authority is authorized, effective immediately for recognized advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) are now authorized to sign, certify, or endorse all documents* relating to health care within their scope of practice provided for their patients, including workers' compensation verification documents, verification and evaluation forms of the department of human services and department of education, verification and authorization forms of the department of health, and physical examination forms. Authority however, is not granted to sign, certify or endorse a certificate of disability that may be used to obtain parking privileges for **disabled** persons.

Effective October 1, 2009, new requirements related to the advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) for recognition

a) New Initial APRN Recognition Requirements

If you have never been recognized/licensed as an APRN/APN in this State prior to October 1, 2009, you must have all of the following:

- (1) A current, unencumbered license as a registered nurse (RN) in this Hawaii;
- (2) An unencumbered RN license in all other states in which the nurse has a current and active license;
- (3) An unencumbered recognition as an APRN or similar designation in all other states in which the nurse has a current and active recognition as an APRN;
- (4) Completed an accredited graduate-level education program leading to a master's degree* as a certified registered nurse anesthetist, a nurse midwife, a clinical nurse specialist, or a nurse practitioner;
- (5) A current, unencumbered certification to verify passage of a national certification exam by a national certifying body recognized by the Board; and
- (6) Paid the appropriate fees.

Acquired advanced clinical knowledge and skills preparing the nurse to provide **direct care to patients through a significant educational and practical concentration on the direct care of patients. Does NOT include Clinical Systems Management (Nursing administration) or nursing education*

b) APRNs Recognized Prior to October 1, 2009 in other states

Any person recognized by other state boards as an APRN or similar designation prior to October 1, 2009, whose recognition was granted based on a master's degree in nursing **or** a current certification for specialized and advanced nursing practice from a national certifying body recognized by the Hawaii Board of Nursing shall be eligible to be recognized as an APRN in this State. When you apply for recognition, you are to provide proof that all nurse licenses, recognitions, and prescriptive authorities or similar designations held by you in any state or U.S. jurisdiction are unencumbered.

c) Hawaii APRNs Recognized Prior to October 1, 2009

Those who are already recognized in this State as APRNs will not need to meet the new October 1, 2009 requirements.

APRN Prescriptive Authority

The current requirements to prescribe non-controlled substances shall apply until new rules are adopted by the Board of Nursing.

APRNs are not allowed to prescribe, procure or dispense controlled substances until the Board of Nursing has formally adopted rules, the formulary, and procedures.

After the Board of Nursing adopts rules and procedures, information will be made available to APRNs regarding the requirements of the Board and applicable state and federal laws to prescribe both non-controlled and controlled substances. It is anticipated that the rules will be in place in 1 year.