



Registered Nurses Association  
of the Northwest Territories  
and Nunavut

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Registration Policy

Policy Description: Practice Hours for Registered  
Nurses and Nurse Practitioners

Policy Number: R9

**Effective Date: March 9, 2015**

**Signature**

**Review Date: March 2018**

**New Policy** \_\_\_\_\_

**Revision:** Partial \_\_\_\_\_ **X** Complete \_\_\_\_\_

**Applies To:** All active members of the RNANT/NU

**Purpose:** In addition to Registration Policy R8: Definition of Nursing, this policy clarifies what constitutes eligible practice hours required by the RNANT/NU as part of continuing competence for registered nurses and nurse practitioners.

### **Policy:**

Recognizing that registered nurses and nurse practitioners may be employed in a variety of different contexts with varying job descriptions, the RNANT/NU considers the following practice hours as eligible:

(1) Employment in a Registered Nurse Position

Hours of employment in a position which requires registration as a practicing registered nurse are considered eligible registered nurse practice hours.

Employment in a Nurse Practitioner Position

Hours of employment in a position which requires registration as a practicing nurse practitioner are considered eligible nurse practitioner practice hours.

Nurse practitioners may work as an NP or an RN. NPs that work as an RN or Community Health Nurse (CHN) will have these practice hours count as registered nurse practice hours and not nurse practitioner hours.

(2) Employment in a Nursing-Related Position

The following positions **may be considered** registered nurse or nurse practitioner hours:

- a) Hours of employment in a position where the requirement of registered nurse is not in the job description
- b) Hours of self-employed nursing practice
- c) Volunteer RN or NP hours
- d) Post RN or Post NP Nursing Specific Education Courses

To determine eligibility of practice hours in a nursing-related position (a-d), nurses must request to have their hours of practice individually assessed by RNANT/NU by completing an "Assessment of Position as Approved Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner Practice" package.

This assessment package is submitted by the applicant to the RNANT/NU Registrar. Through the documentation provided, the Registrar will assess for eligible practice hours through evidence of combined knowledge, skills and judgment necessary to meet the RNANT/NU Standards of Practice.



If the Registrar determines that the hours assessed do not qualify as registered nurse or nurse practitioner hours and registration is refused, the applicant has the option to appeal this decision to the Registration Committee as per Bylaw 2, Section 8 (1).

**Conditions and Exceptions:**

Registered nurses and nurse practitioners who have had their nursing practice hours assessed and made eligible prior to March 9, 2015 will continue to have these hours recognized as registered nurse or nurse practitioner hours.

**Authority and Accountability:**

This policy is issued under the authority of the RNANT/NU Board of Directors and as governed by the NU Nursing Act (2004) Section 2; NT Nursing Profession Act (2004), Section 2 (1), (2), (3), Section 11 (1) (a) (b) (ze) (zh), Section 26 (1), Section 29 (1) (5) (a) (b), Section 70 (1) (a) (b); RNANT/NU Bylaw 2, Section 8 (1) and Bylaw 4 (1) (a). The Board of Directors further has the authority to revise this policy as required.

**History:**

This policy replaces R9: Registered Nurse Practice Hours – issued October, 2004.