



What is currency of practice for registration and why is it important?

It is an expectation that Registered Nurses (RN) and Nurse Practitioners (NP) will ensure they are able to provide safe, competent, and ethical nursing care within their respective scope of practice. This is measured by what is known as “Currency of Practice. Currency of practice acquired through maintaining the knowledge and skills during active practice is key in fulfilling those responsibilities.

The currency of practice requirements for RNs registered with NANB may be met by fulfilling **one** of the following: 1125 hours practicing as an RN during the five (5) preceding calendar years; 450 hours in the six (6) months immediately preceding renewal accompanied by a reference from the employer; completion of an initial nursing education program approved by NANB within five (5) preceding calendar years; or completion of a refresher course approved by NANB within the five (5) calendar years preceding application/renewal.

For NPs registered with NANB, the currency of practice requirement is **one** of the following: 900 hours practising as an NP in primary health care within the last three (3) calendar years; 300 hours practising as an NP in primary health care within the last twelve (12) months; completion of an approved Nurse Practitioner Education Program within the last three (3) years; or completion of a nurse practitioner re-entry program within the last three (3) years.

The [Standards of Practice for RNs](#) and the [Standards of Practice for NP](#) are the guiding principles for NANB’s RNs and NPs and supports the use of practice hours as a measurement of currency for registration. Currency of practice is outlined in the NANB Bylaws and Rules.