

**Rescind 655—Chapter 7 and adopt the following new chapter in lieu thereof.  
The highlighted rules are Board-approved changes made in response to comments from  
ARC 4132C.**

**Iowa Board of Nursing  
Chapter 7  
Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners**

**655—7.1(17A,124,147,152) Definitions.**

*“Advanced registered nurse practitioner” or “ARNP” means a person who is currently licensed as a registered nurse under chapter 152 or chapter 152E who is licensed by the board as an advanced registered nurse practitioner.*

*“Board” as used in this chapter means the Iowa board of nursing.*

*“Collaboration” is the process whereby an ARNP and physician jointly manage the care of a client.*

*“Controlled substance” means a drug in Schedules II through V of subchapter II of Iowa Code chapter 124.*

*“Dispense” means to provide a prescription drug to a patient for self-use outside of the ARNP’s practice location. Dispense does not include administration.*

*“National professional certification organization” means the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, the American Midwifery Certification Board, the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists, the National Certification Corporation, and the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board.*

*“Opioid” means a drug that produces an agonist effect on opioid receptors and is indicated or used for the treatment of pain.*

*“Prescription monitoring program database” or “PMP database” means a centralized database of reportable controlled substance prescriptions dispensed to patients and includes data access logs, security tracking information, and records of each individual who requests prescription monitoring program (PMP) information as operated by the board of pharmacy.*

**655—7.2(152.7) Requirements for licensure as an ARNP.**

**7.2(1).** *Qualifications.* An applicant for an ARNP license shall meet the following qualifications:

- a. Hold an active unrestricted license as a registered nurse in accordance with 655—Chapter 3.
- b. Graduation from an accredited graduate or postgraduate advanced practice educational program in one of the following roles, except as provided by subrule 7.2(2):

- (1) Certified nurse-midwife.
  - (2) Certified registered nurse anesthetist.
  - (3) Certified nurse practitioner.
  - (4) Clinical nurse specialist.
- c. Current certification issued by a national professional certification organization as a certified nurse-midwife or certified registered nurse anesthetist, or as a certified nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist in at least one of the following population foci:
- (1) Women's health/gender-related.
  - (2) Family (individual across the lifespan).
  - (3) Psychiatric mental health.
  - (4) Adult/gerontology.
  - (5) Pediatrics.
  - (6) Neonatal.

**7.2(2) Exception.** An applicant who has completed a formal advanced practice educational program but has not graduated from an accredited graduate or post-graduate advanced practice educational program may be licensed as an ARNP provided that the applicant possesses a current certification from a national professional certification organization as described in paragraph 7.2(1)"c". This exception is intended to allow for the grandfathering of ARNPs who completed educational programs before the board required graduation from an accredited graduate or postgraduate advanced practice educational program.

**655—7.3(17A,147,152) Application process.**

**7.3(1)** An applicant who wishes to be licensed as an ARNP shall submit the following to the board:

- a. An ARNP application for each population focus.
- b. A dated copy of the applicant's current advanced level certification issued by the appropriate national professional certification organization.
- c. If the applicant is not licensed as a registered nurse in Iowa, verification of an active registered nurse license in another state recognized for licensure in this state pursuant to the nurse licensure compact contained in Iowa Code chapter 152E.
- d. A nonrefundable license fee of \$81.

**7.3(2)** The applicant shall request that official transcripts be sent directly to the board from the educational program verifying the coursework, date of completion of the program, and the degree conferred.

**7.3(3)** The executive director of the board or the executive director's designee shall have the authority to determine if all requirements have been met for licensure of the applicant as an ARNP. If all requirements have been met:

- a. The applicant shall be issued a license and a certificate to practice as an ARNP which clearly denotes the applicant's name, title, and population focus, and the expiration date of license.
- b. The expiration date of the ARNP license shall be the same as the expiration date of the applicant's license to practice as a registered nurse.

**7.3(4)** Licensure completion. An applicant shall complete the ARNP licensure process within 12 months from the start of the application. The board reserves the right to destroy incomplete application materials after 12 months.

**7.3(5)** Renewal of licensure. An ARNP license may be renewed beginning 60 days prior to the license expiration date and ending 30 days after the expiration date. To renew, a licensee shall

submit the information required by subrule 7.3(1). The expiration date assigned to a renewed ARNP license shall be the same as the expiration date of the licensee's license to practice as a registered nurse.

**7.3(6)** Inactive status. Failure to renew an ARNP license within 30 days after its expiration shall result in an inactive ARNP license.

*a.* Continuing to work as an ARNP with an inactive ARNP license may result in disciplinary action.

*b.* To reactivate the license, the licensee must reactivate the underlying license to practice as a registered nurse, if required, and shall complete the license renewal process for the ARNP license.

**7.3(7)** License denial. Rule 655—3.9 (17A,272C) shall govern the denial of an application for an ARNP license.

### **655—7.4(17A,147,152) Advanced nursing practice.**

**7.4(1)** An ARNP shall practice within the ARNP's respective population foci. An ARNP shall practice in accordance with the applicable standard of care as described in guidelines published by national professional associations or other reputable sources.

**7.4(2)** An ARNP must maintain current certification with a national professional certification organization at all times while the ARNP license is active.

**7.4(3)** An ARNP licensed by the board may prescribe, administer, or dispense prescription drugs or devices, including controlled substances, within the ARNP's role and population foci and consistent with applicable state and federal laws.

**7.4(4)** An ARNP shall have the authority to practice to the full extent of the ARNP's license, education, and experience in the ARNP's respective population foci. An ARNP may:

- a.* Assess health status;
- b.* Obtain a relevant health and medical history;
- c.* Perform physical examinations;
- d.* Order preventive and diagnostic procedures;
- e.* Formulate a differential diagnosis;
- f.* Develop a treatment plan;
- g.* Develop a patient education plan;
- h.* Receive third-party reimbursement;
- i.* Maintain hospital privileges; and
- j.* Promote health maintenance.

**7.4(5)** Supervision of fluoroscopy. An ARNP shall be permitted to provide direct supervision in the use of fluoroscopic X-ray equipment, as defined in rule 641—38.2(136C).

*a.* The ARNP shall provide direct supervision of fluoroscopy pursuant to the following provisions:

- (1) Completion of an educational course including content in radiation physics, radiobiology, radiological safety and radiation management applicable to the use of fluoroscopy, and maintenance of documentation verifying successful completion.
- (2) Collaboration, as needed, as defined in rule 655—7.1(152).
- (3) Compliance with facility policies and procedures.

*b.* The ARNP shall complete an annual radiological safety course whose content includes, but is not limited to, time, dose, distance, shielding and the effects of radiation.

c. The ARNP shall maintain documentation of the initial educational course and all annual radiological safety updates.

d. The initial and annual education requirements are subject to audit by the board pursuant to 655—subrule 5.2(10).

**7.4(6)** Only a person currently licensed as an advanced registered nurse practitioner may use that title and the letters “ARNP” after the person’s name. A person currently licensed as an ARNP shall utilize the title advanced registered nurse practitioner or the letters “ARNP” after the person’s name. Utilization of the title which denotes the ARNP’s certification or population foci is at the discretion of the ARNP.

**655—7.5(17A,147,152) Standards of practice for treating patients.** An ARNP shall follow the standards of practice for the ARNP’s respective population foci. Prior to treating a patient, an ARNP shall:

**7.5(1)** Establish a patient-provider relationship.

**7.5(2)** Perform and document the following, or have access to the patient’s health records where all of the following have been documented by other providers in the care team:

a. Chief complaint;

b. Pertinent health history;

c. A focused assessment;

d. Diagnosis; and

e. Plan of treatment.

**655—7.6(17A,124,147,152,272C) Standards of practice for controlled substances.** In addition to the following standards of practice for treating a patient described in rule 655—7.5(152), an ARNP who prescribes or administers a controlled substance shall practice in accordance with the following:

**7.6(1)** The health history shall include a personal and family substance abuse risk assessment, or documented rationale for not performing the assessment.

**7.6(2)** The health record must include documentation of the presence of one or more recognized indications for the use of a controlled substance.

**7.6(3)** An ARNP is encouraged to utilize a treatment agreement if continuously prescribing one or more controlled substances.

**7.6(4)** Throughout the course of the patient’s treatment, the ARNP shall provide ongoing education that includes, but is not limited to, the risks of using a controlled substance, and information regarding addiction, physical dependence, substance abuse, and tolerance, or document the rationale for not providing the education.

**7.6(5)** An ARNP shall maintain an active Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration and an active controlled substances act (CSA) registration to dispense, prescribe, or administer controlled substances, when required by the DEA and the board of pharmacy.

**7.6(6)** An ARNP shall not prescribe a controlled substance to the ARNP’s self or to a family member unless the prescribing occurs in a clinical setting when an emergency situation arises and when there is no other qualified practitioner available to the patient.

**7.6(7)** The board may discipline an ARNP for prescribing opioids in dosage amounts that exceed what would be prescribed by a reasonably prudent ARNP in a similar practice.

**7.6(8)** An ARNP who has prescribed opioids to a patient during the renewal cycle is required to complete a minimum of 2 contact hours of continuing education regarding the U.S. Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention guideline for prescribing opioids for chronic pain, including recommendations on limitations on dosages and the length of prescriptions, risk factors for abuse, and nonopioid and nonpharmacologic therapy options, as a condition of license renewal every three years. These hours may count towards the 36 contact hours required for license renewal. The ARNP shall maintain documentation of these hours, which may be subject to audit.

**655—7.7 (124.551A) Use of the PMP.**

**7.7(1)** Prior to prescribing or dispensing an opioid, an ARNP or the ARNP's authorized delegate shall query the PMP and the ARNP shall review the patient's information contained in the PMP.

**7.7(2)** This rule does not apply to an ARNP when treating a patient who is receiving inpatient hospice or long-term residential facility care.

**7.7(3)** This rule does not apply to an ARNP who issues a medication order for an opioid to be administered to a patient at a hospital or clinic because the ARNP is neither prescribing nor dispensing in this scenario.

**7.7(4)** An ARNP is responsible for understanding the board of pharmacy's rules governing use of the PMP in 657—Chapter 37.

**655—7.8 (152) Prescribing epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of a facility.**

**7.8(1)** An ARNP may issue a prescription for one or more epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of a facility as defined in Iowa Code section 135.185(1), a school district, or an accredited nonpublic school.

**7.8(2)** An ARNP who prescribes epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of an authorized facility as defined in Iowa Code section 135.185(1), a school district, or an accredited nonpublic school, to be maintained for use pursuant to Iowa Code sections 135.185, 260.16 and 260.16A, provided the ARNP has acted reasonably and in good faith, shall not be liable for any injury arising from the provision, administration, or assistance in the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 17A.3, 124.551A, 124.552, 147.2, 147.10, 147.11, 147.72, 147.74, 147.76, 147.80, 147.107, 152.1, 152.6, 152.7, and 272C.2C.