



CRNPEI Connect

eNewsletter of the College of Registered Nurses of PEI

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CRNPEI is located at **45 Paramount Drive** in Charlottetown, office hours 8:30 am to 4 pm. During COVID restrictions, there are no drop-in appointments, only document drop off or booked appointments. The College continues to provide service by email or telephone.

Regulated Health Professions Act

The RHPA was proclaimed in PEI in 2013 but came into force on July 4, 2018 for RNs and NPs in Prince Edward Island. The RHPA has several other health professions under it, but each discipline has its own regulations, see more on RN regulations below. The College of RNs of PEI (CRNPEI) was created in 2018 when the RHPA became our Act, replacing the RN Act. The RHPA is the law which every RN and NP works under — so it is very important that every RN and NP is knowledgeable about the RHPA, found on the [CRNPEI website](#) or in the [Government statutes list](#). CRNPEI is a regulatory body, which gives it responsibility for registration and discipline, in the public interest. CRNPEI is no longer a jurisdictional member of the Canadian Nurses Association, effective in 2020, based on the regulatory nature of the RHPA. The RHPA describes the governance of the College, the terms and conditions for registration, renewal, reinstatement and refusal, suspension or cancellation of registration. The RHPA also provides very specific details for the management of a complaint against the practice of an RN or NP. The RHPA sets the prohibitions on reserved activities and the use of title. For example, in PEI, no one can call themselves an RN or NP unless they are currently registered with CRNPEI.

Registered Nurses Regulations

The RHPA RN regulations prescribe the legal requirements in PEI that are specific to Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners for example: initial registration, renewal, reinstatement, educational requirements, continuing education and competency requirements, use of title, and reserved activities. The Interpretation part of the regulations (**Part 1**) provides definitions which explain how certain terms are used in the regulations. For example, the term “nursing” is defined in this section of the regulations.

Part 2 of the regulations includes a description of the register which is divided into parts (registered nurse and graduate) and classes (general, extended and special). Anyone who has a registration in PEI is on “the Register”. **Part 3** is the largest portion and includes all the requirements for registration. Each class has its own rules under the regulations in terms of education requirements, currency of professional knowledge and skills, and liability protection. The regulations provide very specific rules for nursing, in each class. **Part 4** describes the requirements for registration and renewal, as well as designations and reserved activities for Graduate Nurses and Graduate Nurse Practitioners. This part also describes the supervision requirements of a graduate nurse. **Part 4** also provides the designations or title that can be legally used to describe a nurse who has partially met the registration requirements and is registered to work as a “graduate nurse”. Other terms such as graduate awaiting registration (GAR) are no longer legally applicable. The regulations are found on the [CRN-PEI website](#) or in the [Government statutes list](#). Finally, **Part 5** of the regulations are general sections and provide, for example, the requirements for notice of terms and conditions for nurse practitioner registration, suspension, expiration or cancellation.

This document is a must-read for every RN and NP in PEI.

Standards

CRNPEI is required by the RHPA to “establish, maintain, monitor, and enforce standards of practice to enhance the quality of practice by its members.” A standard is an authoritative statement that sets out the legal and professional basis of nursing practice. The primary purpose of standards is to identify for nurses, the public, government, and other stakeholders, the desired and achievable level of performance expected of nurses in their practice, against which actual performance can be measured.

CRNPEI has two sets of Standards for Nursing Practice, one for RNs and one for NPs. All RN/NPs must understand and follow the standards. That is why you are asked to reflect on your standards annually as part of the CCP and work on identified knowledge gaps. Information is changing rapidly, and it does not matter if you have been a nurse for 30 years or 3 years, there is always something to learn.

The laws, standards, practice directives, and policies that govern your nursing practice are not “nice to know” pieces of information. They are the legal requirements that must be met to practice safely and competently.

Research Projects Highlight

[See CRNPEI website Professional Practice/
Research Projects](#)

Education Opportunities

[See CRNPEI website Professional Practice/
Education](#)