

NOTICE OF AMENDED RULES

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing will receive written comments regarding proposed revisions to ASBN *Rules* – Chapter 2, Licensure; and Chapter 6, Standards for Nursing Education Programs, no later than March 11, 2008. Submit to Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 1123 South University, Suite 800, Little Rock, AR 72204.

Copies of the proposed *Rules* are available at the Board office.

Attached are proposed rules in “mark-up” form and summary of substantive changes are listed below. The notice will run in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette beginning Monday, February 11, 2008. The public comment period ends March 11, 2008.

Chapter 2, Licensure – In the past, the ASBN required that applicants for licensure submit a passport size photo with their applications. Several factors have led the ASBN to drop this requirement. First of all, instead of relying on photographs as the primary way of identifying licensure applicants, the State Board of Nursing relies on background check information. Next, Advanced Practice applicants are not required to submit a photo with their application, and that in no way hurts the licensure process for them. Finally, the Board of Nursing is making it possible for applicants to submit their applications on our website. The request for a photo could make that process more difficult for the applicant. Therefore, the Board of Nursing is removing the requirement that licensure applicants submit a photo with their application. Deletion of the requirement will make the licensure process more uniform and it should make the licensure process more convenient for the applicant.

Chapter 6, Standards for Nursing Education Programs – It is the goal of the State Board of Nursing to more closely monitor the curriculum and educational requirements of nursing programs all over the state. After a review of the current rules and an assessment of the needs of nursing students and programs, the Board saw a need to make changes to the current standards and requirements for nursing education programs. These revisions needed to be made so as to comply with current nursing program standards.