

ANALYSIS OF THE CONCEPT: IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR NURSES



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CE, CNE, AND CEUS

There are three major abbreviations used in conversations related to continuing education, namely CE, CNE, and CEUS.



CE: Most licensed occupations need some continuing education or CE.



CNE: CNE, or Continuing Nursing Education, refers to courses solely available to nursing practitioners.



CEUS: Continuing Education Units, also known as Continuing Education Credits, are a measure of the amount of time spent engaging in educational courses or authorized activities. Each CEU is equivalent to ten hours of instruction, usually known as 'contact hours.'

BENEFITS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR NURSES

Healthcare providers, especially nurses, work as a link between patients, scientific information, and the processes and procedures that put that knowledge into action. The public expects healthcare providers to deliver safe, effective, efficient, and prompt treatment while remaining patient-centered.

It is particularly essential to educate healthcare practitioners on new theories and evidence so that they can deliver quality services in tandem with the times.



ENHANCES THE STANDARD OF PATIENT HEALTHCARE



An organization's credibility relies primarily on the kind of care they deliver to their patients. Ensuring that the nurses employ the most updated practices is essential to guarantee that the organization provides the highest quality of treatment.

Furthermore, when one's knowledge grows, one tends to work more safely. Nurses who earn CEUs become more conscientious and knowledgeable about workplace safety.

FIGHT BURNOUT



The pandemic resulted in a large percentage of nurses reporting feeling **overwhelmed (51%), irritated (48%), and anxious (48%)**.

Everyone suffers from burnout periodically. Burnout is often the result of not feeling challenged enough, overworked, or stagnant at the workplace. Reasonably enough, nurses lose interest in their jobs, too, especially since their job often entails long hours and exhaustion.

Pursuing continuing education classes is a terrific opportunity to rekindle their passion for the nursing profession. CEUs cover a wide range of topics, and nurses frequently get to pick which ones they want to study to meet their employer's requirements.

GRANTS PAY-GRADE UPGRADATION



Continuing education keeps one ahead in the competition and can help one advance in their career. Employers frequently analyze a nurse's education during assessments.

While a particular number of continuing education hours may be a mandatory requirement, going above and beyond will demonstrate commitment to the job. In the end, it may serve as the deciding factor when seeking a raise or a promotion.

HELPS EMPLOYEES MAINTAIN THEIR REPUTATION

Many businesses consider state-mandated CEUs merely an obligation. However, healthcare administrators should attempt to encourage CEUs for nurses since it will only increase the quality of their service and personnel. Ensuring that the staff is well-trained will also help the organization grow its reputation and encourage ethical and informed procedures within the institution.



INCREASES LOYALTY AND JOB SATISFACTION AMONG EMPLOYEES



Employers who provide funds and resources to a nurse's ongoing education will witness an increase in trust.

Organizations that encourage their RNs to pursue continuous education and contribute by taking the financial burden off the nurses' shoulders help enhance their nurses' skills while also gaining their loyalty.

Employees are looking to work in an atmosphere where they are supported and encouraged to grow. Offering continuing education to the staff is a vital component of ensuring the success of the entire firm. Nurses will typically be pleased and more content at work if they know that they are entering a workplace that values and challenges them.

LEARN NEW SKILLS

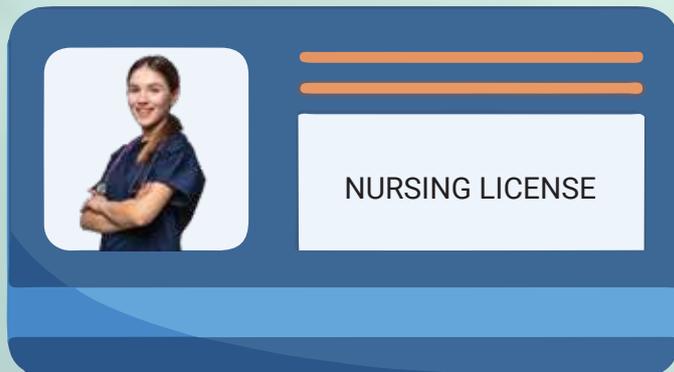
Procedures evolve, new pharmaceuticals enter the market and new methods for securely administering them emerge. A Nurse who does not have the most up-to-date abilities may be unable to provide the best possible treatment.

Staying updated on new advances and regularly refining their skills and abilities is crucial for nurses in the ever-evolving nursing sector. The more informed the nurse is, the better they will be at their job and the more helpful they will be to their patients.

Continued education allows one to develop and progress as an RN, which helps everyone in the long run. The individual as a professional, the institution that recruited them, the patients and their families, and the healthcare system benefit significantly when even one member of the healthcare system chooses to stay current.



MAINTAIN NURSING LICENSE



Nurses must earn continuing education units (CEUs) to keep their nursing license. Many jurisdictions require nurses to complete a specified number of contact hours or continuing education units (CEUs) on a yearly or biennial basis. Completing the required hours of continuing education each year might help maintain one's nursing license.

BEING A DEPENDABLE INFORMATION SOURCE

Patients and peers will frequently question a nurse. One must be able to offer them accurate and reliable information.



Regulatory standards are often revised, and it is critical to be informed of these developments and understand how they may affect general nursing practices.

Furthermore, aspects of nursing assessment are frequently scrapped and updated over time. It is vital to comprehend which assessments apply to specific patients and not substituted as a standard of treatment.

MUCH LARGER PAYOFF IN THE FUTURE



It may appear as an employer that financially assisting their staff with continued learning is a significant investment, yet it reaps great rewards.

It is less expensive to improve the competencies of the present personnel than it is to start from scratch and hire new employees.

It will reduce turnover rates and significantly boost the staff's knowledge and skill. Better trained staff offer better service, eventually resulting in better patient satisfaction.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING NURSING EDUCATION

Continuing education classes are designed to increase a Registered Nurse's professional knowledge. Nursing CE candidates are usually free to attend continuing education programs in areas of nursing that interest them, but it is not uncommon for states or medical organizations to mandate certain courses.

CE courses on domestic abuse, disability in the workplace, preventing medical errors, and pain management are among the most popular state-mandated courses.

Most states do not allow CPR, PAL, and ACL renewal classes to qualify toward CE credits. The idea for this is because these recertification courses are more of a refresher of current knowledge than an upgrade of one's abilities and competence.



STATE-WISE REQUIREMENTS

The importance of continuing nursing education cannot be overstated. However, it can seem like a tedious task for some. Therefore, candidates are free to pick from a wide range of courses and can select only those that pique their interests.

Moreover, they can pursue these courses for credit while learning about diverse topics along the way. Many states demand particular courses in addition to continuing education courses in chosen areas of interest in nursing.

Some of these topics include:

Bioterrorism

HIV/AIDS

Impairment in the workplace

Preventing prescription mistakes

Pain management

Special laws and standards governing nursing

Detecting impairment in the workplace



ACQUIRING AN NCC APPROVED CE

CEUs are units of credit that equal 10 hours of attendance in an educational course or recognized activity. An individual needs to select programs that have been approved or certified. An accredited CE provider must award a CEU to count toward one's mandatory contact hours.



Generally, employers or the state should accept the credits if one receives nursing CE education from a college, university, or nursing school. However, the contact hours must be relevant to nursing somehow; otherwise, the credits will not be recognized.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center, or ANCC, is the body that establishes nursing board certification criteria. All state boards of nursing recognize it. Taking ANCC-approved programs not only increases one's earning potential but also assures that one can keep up with the newest innovations in the field and deliver the finest treatment to patients.

ACCREDITATION FOR CE

All nurses must have their RN and specialty nursing certifications up to date to continue working in the industry.



Typically, after completing CE hours, the provider will issue a certificate of participation. Alternatively, an electronic notification is issued in case of an online course. In such a case, one can also request a physical copy.

Verify that the acronym BRN is mentioned on the certificate of completion, indicating that it is a continuing education provider certified by the "Board of Registered Nursing." The certification is otherwise not valid.

Nurses should keep hardcopy or digital copies of CE completion for at least a few years in case one's qualifications are audited or required by employers.

WAYS TO FULFILL CE REQUIREMENTS



Taking time away from work or having to pay the extra course cost may seem like a daunting prospect. But nurses need to note the following points before applying for a CE course. This information can make a significant difference in pursuing nurse CE.

Nurses are given a reasonable amount of time to finish their CE courses, given that they have a hectic and time-consuming profession.

If a nurse works for a major hospital and is a member of a union, the company will likely provide free continuing education classes at the facility. Alternatively, they may cover a part or the entirety of the expenses involved in receiving a CE certification.

Moreover, when doing CEUs by themselves, nurses may come across numerous alternatives for fulfilling CE hours online or at their leisure.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the Commission on Nurse Certification identify nationally certified CE providers and list them on their official websites.

Check with the relevant authority before enrolling in classes from an unknown CE provider.

INTERESTING CE FULFILLMENT OPTIONS

Just as adjusting timings and having to pay additional costs may seem dreadful, so is the idea that one might have to continue formally educating themselves for the rest of their life.



However, some options make the process less stressful and, at times, fun and exciting. Moreover, it allows several opportunities for professional upscaling through interactions with industry experts and colleagues.

Some nurses take their CE credits during their holidays. Some CE providers offer their CE sessions on cruises or tropical holidays.

Conferences, seminars, and other professional development activities are excellent forums for networking and scoping out potential travel nursing locations and prospects.

WRAPPING UP

Continuing nursing education keeps nurses up to speed on the newest breakthroughs in healthcare and treatment and allows nurses to explore other areas of the field. These range from wound care, pain management, to geriatrics and case management and home health or hospice care.

What's better is that all of these courses are usually paid for by the place of employment. They are informative, fun, aid in a nurse's license retention, and provide possible financial upgrades.

Moreover, nurses can prevent burnout since there are many niches to explore in nursing alone. They simply need to keep learning and progressing by enrolling in continuing education classes for nurses. Further, remember to vet the CE provider and ensure their certifications are legitimate.

ABOUT MEDICOREACH

MedicoReach is a leader in the field of healthcare marketing. We provide accurate and quality data to support the multichannel campaigns of healthcare organizations. With the super of highly-quality data, we help marketing and sales professionals reach out to targeted healthcare executives and professionals to increase brand awareness.

Our data solutions are designed with utmost perfections and expertise. With a dedicated team and best-in-class healthcare email and mailing lists, we help marketers connect with prospect efficiently. we offer a wide range of healthcare email and mailing lists which include physicians email list, nurse email list, pharmacist email list, dentists email list and more.



1640 Highland Falls Dr, Ste #302,
Leander, Texas 78641, USA



www.medicoreach.com



+1 888-664-9690



sales@medicoreach.com



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