

## SUMMARY OF 3/2011 REVISIONS TO ABSNC STANDARDS AND EFFECTIVE DATES

### SUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS:

#### Standard 5 Public Representation

The certifying organization (certifying governing body) includes at least one public member with voting rights.

#### **RATIONALE**

Specialty nursing certification serves the general public, the nursing profession, and the specialty. Public input broadens the perspective of certifying organizations and helps focus attention on consumer concerns as they relate to quality, cost effectiveness and access to care. *The public member's lack of professional, career-related affiliation with a health care organization, related specialty, or vendor precludes actual or perceived conflict of interest.*

#### **CRITERIA**

The certifying organization assures *genuine* public input into certification policies and decisions. *By "public input," the certifying organization indicates that it requires public members (1) who are not, and have not ever been nurses or other healthcare professionals; (2) who are not current or past employees of the certifying organization or the related specialty membership organization; (3) any vendor; or (4) non-nursing professionals who work closely with nurses in the nursing specialty environment. Public members who are otherwise qualified and have previously served as public members of the same or other boards are eligible to serve the same or other boards subject to the board's own by-laws.*

Please note: Any seated Public Member who does not meet revised criteria in Standard 5 will be allowed to complete their current term.

#### Standard 6 Eligibility Requirements for Test Candidates

- 6.3** *If practice examinations are offered, submit documentation indicating that taking a practice examination:*
- a. is not a requirement to sit for an actual certification examination*
  - b. does not imply successful performance on the examination*

#### Standard 11 Test Security

- 11.3** *If practice examinations are offered, submit the documentation that establishes that any practice examination does not compromise the security of the certification examination.*

#### Standard 17 Misrepresentation and Noncompliance

##### Rationale

*In addition, certifying organizations demonstrate the value of their credential(s) by undertaking the necessary efforts and expense of seeking a federally registered certification mark of these credential(s).*

- 17.5** *Submit documentation related to the federally registered certification mark of the certification credential(s), status of application if in the process, or explain why the credential cannot be federally registered.*

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REVISED STANDARDS IS EFFECTIVE AS FOLLOWS:

### **Reaccreditation of certification programs:**

Those organizations whose reaccreditation application is due on or after March 1, 2012, must demonstrate compliance with the 3/2011 revised standards.

### **Organizations seeking initial accreditation:**

Organizations seeking initial accreditation must comply with the most current (3/2011) revised standards as posted on the website.

### **Organizations with currently accredited certification programs:**

All accredited organizations must demonstrate compliance with the 3/2011 revised standards in the October 31, 2012 Annual Compliance Report.

Any seated Public Member who does not meet revised criteria in Standard 5 will be allowed to complete their current term.