

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:**

The Vermont Agency of Education grants licensing endorsements of school nurse or associate school nurse status to qualified Registered Nurses.

**AUTHORIZATION/LEGAL REFERENCES:**

16 V.S.A. Chapter 51 – Professional Educators

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/16/051>

Vermont State Board of Education Manual of Rules and Practices

- Series 2000 – Education Quality Standards: 2121.5. Tiered System of Support  
<http://education.vermont.gov/documents/state-board-rules-series-2000>
- Series 5000 – Licensing of Educators and the Preparation of Educational Professionals: School Nurse and Associate School Nurse Licensing Regulation 5440-65 and 65A: Nurse (December 16, 2016)  
<http://education.vermont.gov/documents/state-board-rules-series-5000>

Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators

- Rules Governing the Licensing of Educators and the Preparation of Educational Professionals Rule Series 5100:
  - <http://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-educator-quality-licensing-rules-082217.pdf> (pg. 134-140)
  - Rule 5440 VSBPE Licensing Endorsements:  
<http://education.vermont.gov/documents/educator-quality-licensing-rules#page34>
- POLICY H2 Manual of Policies and Procedures: Guidelines for Developing Successful Educator Mentoring Programs: <http://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-educator-quality-vsbe-policy-manual.pdf> page 54
- Coaching as Professional Learning (2016)  
<http://education.vermont.gov/documents/coaching-as-professional-learning>

26 V.S.A. § 1571, § 1583, and § 1584 - Nurse Practice Act

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/26/028>

**SCHOOL NURSE AND ASSOCIATE SCHOOL NURSE LICENSING REQUIREMENT:**

- Maintain current Vermont Registered Nurse license.
- Maintain current Vermont Agency of Education license with appropriate endorsement.

**RECOMMENDED SCHOOL NURSE, ASSOCIATE SCHOOL NURSE ROLES:**

All nurses new to school nursing should follow their school administration's system for establishing a mentor for the first 1-2 years.

2121.3. Needs Based Professional Learning

Mentoring shall be a component of each supervisory union's needs-based professional learning system. The superintendent or their designee shall determine the specifics of each mentoring program in their school(s) in accordance with the guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators, and state law addressing mentoring for educators. ([Series 2000, EQS, pg. 9](#))

**RESOURCES:**

Vermont Department of Education

Licensing

<http://education.vermont.gov/educator-quality/become-a-vermont-educator>

On-line initial licensing:

[http://education.vermont.gov/documents/EDU-Initial\\_License\\_Application\\_Online.pdf](http://education.vermont.gov/documents/EDU-Initial_License_Application_Online.pdf)

Transcript Review:

<http://education.vermont.gov/educator-quality/licensed-vermont-educators/transcript-review>

Tutorials for Online Licensing:

<http://education.vermont.gov/licensing/online-licensing/tutorials>

Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators

VSBPE – Policy Manual

<http://education.vermont.gov/documents/vsbpe-policy-and-procedures>

Vermont State Board of Nursing

<https://www.sec.state.vt.us/professional-regulation/list-of-professions/nursing.aspx>

Vermont Nurses In Partnership, Inc.

A non-profit organization whose mission is to support nurse mentoring, coaching and best clinical practices. <http://www.vnip.org/>

Vermont State School Nurses Association

Mentoring for School Nurses: <http://www.vssna.org/>

### **Sample Policies, procedures, forms;**

Frequently Asked Questions by School, and Associate School Nurses

Transcript Review Application: Transcript Review Tutorial - Initial Licensure

<http://education.vermont.gov/documents/educator-quality-transcript-review-initial-license>

Worksheet for School Nurse Transcript Review (September 2017):

Unpublished as of Oct. 4, 2017

School Nurse and Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) 2017 Renewals:

[http://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-licensing-slp-renewal-2017\\_0.pdf](http://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-licensing-slp-renewal-2017_0.pdf)

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

1. Why must a school nurse or associate school nurse hold an educator's license in addition to the VT Registered Nurse license?

The Vermont Legislature empowers the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators and the state Agency of Education to determine licensure standards and requirements for Vermont Public Schools to assure high caliber professionals and high-quality public educational programs for Vermont students (16 V.S.A. § 1691-1964)

All professionals [16 V.S.A. § 1691a (10) (2014)] are held to the same high standards of safety (background checks), educational background verification (transcript), and basic competencies (Core Praxis tests).

School professionals, when hired are eligible to be placed on the master teachers' contract with commensurate benefits to their colleagues with similar qualifications.

Vermont recognizes that the pre-K-12 public educational work setting is unique from other professional work places. Professionals in this setting are responsible for having command of their specific specialty practice in addition to the educational setting to which they are assigned.

2. Are school nurses or associate school nurses the only pre-licensed professionals who must hold an additional license to practice in schools?

In addition to school nurses and associate school nurses, the following professionals must hold other licenses (in addition to pre-employment experience, clinical hours, internships, etc.):

- Applicants for Provisional Career Technical Education endorsements must have an Associate's Degree, or its equivalent, but are exempt from the baccalaureate Degree requirement.
- Applicants for a Provisional Educational Speech Language Pathologist endorsement must hold a current Vermont clinical SLP license.
- Applicants for Provisional Junior ROTC Instructor endorsements must hold the Department of Defense certification as a junior ROTC instructor and are exempt from the baccalaureate degree requirement.
- Applicants for Provisional Driver and Traffic Safety Education endorsement must demonstrate coursework equivalent to Vermont's Driver Education I and II and meet the Additional Requirements for the endorsement.
- Applicants for a Provisional School Psychologist endorsement must hold a current Vermont Clinical Psychologist license or be a currently Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) through the National Association for School Psychologists (NASP).

4. What is HQT and how does it relate to school and associate school nurses?

A highly qualified teacher (HQT) (2017) is a category for educators who provide direct instruction in core subjects:

**1. School-Level Highly Qualified Teacher**

Tuesday, January 17, 2017 File: <http://education.vermont.gov/documents/school-level-highly-qualified-teacher>

**2. Statewide-Level Highly Qualified Teacher**

Tuesday, January 17, 2017 File: <http://education.vermont.gov/documents/statewide-level-highly-qualified-teacher>