

Pathway to Excellence® and Pathway to Excellence in Long Term Care®: International Interpretation of Specialty Certification

Standard 6 - Professional Development	
Element of Performance Statement	International Interpretation
<p><i>Describe how the organization supports direct care nurses to pursue specialty certification.</i></p>	<p>Nursing professional development activities for registered nurses can be an alternative for professional certification.</p> <p>Nursing professional development is defined as: “A vital phase of lifelong learning in which nurses engage to develop and maintain competence, enhance professional nursing practice, and support achievement of career goals. Nursing professional development practice is a specialty that facilitates the lifelong learning and development activities of nurses aimed at influencing the actualization of professional growth and role competence and proficiency” (American Nurses Association and National Nursing Staff Development Organization 2010, 1).</p> <p><u>Relevant Professional Development Activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accredited Certification (validates an individual’s knowledge, skills, and abilities in a defined role and clinical area of practice, based on pre-determined standards) • Accredited skills-based training courses (STTI, ICN, country regulatory bodies, ANCC, international nursing associations, WHO collaborating centers in nursing and midwifery) • Accredited workplace-based courses (STTI, ICN, country regulatory bodies, ANCC, international nursing associations, WHO collaborating centers in nursing and midwifery) • Formal university-based courses