

Preface

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The *Ambulatory Care Registered Nurse Residency Program* offers a comprehensive approach to educate new registered nurse graduates and experienced registered nurses new to the ambulatory care specialty. The content is presented through 11 different sections with a variety of documents that educate and offers templates, checklists, and examples for program implementation. A series of learning experiences foster professional role socialization and the acquisition of specific knowledge and skills. A framework is built to identify the multiple strategies required to establish and implement an effective Residency Program. It is through this approach that ambulatory care nurses can demonstrate competence and confidence in their abilities to provide safe and quality patient care as both practitioners and leaders.

Nurses, managers, directors, educators, and others may use this program to implement a nurse residency program tailored to their specific ambulatory care setting. The tools are provided in Word documents so they can be customized easily to your needs and setting.

The American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing Board of Directors and its association management firm, Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc., are commended for their foresight and support of this publication that will enhance the ability of registered nurses to make a significant impact on patient care within ambulatory care settings.

The journey to develop this program began with a task force that produced a White Paper titled: *The Need for an Ambulatory Nurse Residency Program* in March 2014. Some members from this initial task force were joined by new members who moved the concept toward implementation. The members of the Residency Program Task Force are to be commended for their hard work and perseverance. Their contributions in advancing professional ambulatory care nursing are more than evident in the pages of this publication. It is with appreciation that we present AAACN's *Ambulatory Care Registered Nurse Residency Program*.

Program Goals

At the completion of the Residency Program, the registered nurse will:

1. Transition from a nurse practicing at the novice or advanced beginner stage to a nurse practicing at the next level of professional development.
2. Develop effective decision-making skills using clinical reasoning and evidence-based knowledge.
3. Apply leadership skills to work collaboratively within an interprofessional team.
4. Employ effective communication skills to advocate for patient safety and protect the patient from unsafe environmental conditions.
5. Develop critical reasoning and astute clinical judgment to improve timely, safe, and efficient access to appropriate care and treatment.
6. Work collaboratively in team-based care promoting coordinated care across the continuum.
7. Utilize critical-thinking skills to optimize clinical outcomes.
8. Apply patient engagement strategies to improve quality outcomes.
9. Promote an increased ability to organize and prioritize patient care needs.
10. Advance a personal strategy for lifelong learning and a commitment to professional nursing.

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AAACN Nurse Residency Program Task Force