



## **CRPNA BASIC CANADIAN STANDARDS**

- A.
1. The minimum acceptable requirement for program length shall be 20 months. The 20 month period shall only include time spent in classroom or clinical setting (vacation time does not qualify).
  2. The minimum acceptable requirement for clinical experience in a controlled (supervised) setting shall be 1000 hours.  
Definition:  
Controlled setting – “Where the learning experience is designed to attain identified learning objectives”.
  3. The minimum acceptable requirement for theoretical instruction shall be 1000 hours and distributed as follows:
    - a) Theoretical content must include a minimum of 500 hours related to psychiatric nursing. Theoretical content must include a minimum of 225 hours related to general nursing.
    - b) A maximum of 275 hours of theoretical content may be attained with the inclusion of applied equivalents and/or related courses.  
Definition: (i) applied equivalents – “formal teaching situations which are provided in the clinical setting as opposed to the classroom”.  
(ii) related courses – example – psychology, sociology, general nursing, psychiatric nursing.
- B. Where an applicant does not meet the criteria specified in A, an education program shall be required. The program shall be sufficient to enable the applicant on successful completion to meet the specified (necessary) criteria. The responsibility to ensure that the program is adequate rests with the CRPNA.