

**CHAPTER 80****(SB 127)**

AN ACT relating to advanced practice doctoral programs in nursing.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔Section 1. KRS 164.295 is amended to read as follows:

The six (6) state universities~~[shall provide]~~:

- (1) ***Shall provide***, upon approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education, associate and baccalaureate programs of instruction;
- (2) ***Shall provide***, upon approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education, graduate programs of instruction at the master's-degree level in education, business, and the arts and sciences, specialist degrees, and programs beyond the master's-degree level to meet the requirements for teachers, school leaders, and other certified personnel;
- (3) ***Shall provide*** research and service programs directly related to the needs of their primary geographical areas;
- (4) ~~[And,]~~ May provide programs of a community college nature in their own community comparable to those listed for the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, as provided in KRS 164.580; ***and***
- (5) ***May provide, upon approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education, advanced practice doctoral programs in nursing in compliance with KRS 314.111 and 314.131.***

➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 164 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) ***The governing board of each eligible postsecondary education institution shall collaborate with the Kentucky Board of Nursing to ensure that each university offering an advanced practice doctoral degree in nursing complies with the accreditation standards of the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and with minimal education and licensure standards for admission to and graduation from an advanced practice doctoral program in nursing.***
- (2) ***Each university offering an advanced nursing practice doctoral program shall refer to the degree as the "doctor of nursing practice," with the degree being abbreviated as "DNP." Any advertisement about the advanced nursing practice doctoral program shall not refer to graduates using the term "doctor." Graduates of the program shall accurately portray their academic credentials as well as their registered nurse and advanced practice registered nurse credentials, if applicable, subject to sanction under subsection (4) of Section 3 of this Act.***

➔Section 3. KRS 311.375 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) No person shall, in connection with the practice of medicine, surgery, osteopathy, optometry, dentistry, podiatry, pharmacy, chiropractic, psychology or psychiatry, nursing, anesthesiology, physio or physical therapy, or any other profession or business having for its purpose the diagnosis, treatment, correction or cure of any human ailment, condition, disease, injury or infirmity, hold himself ***or herself*** out as a doctor or employ or use in any manner the title "Doctor" or "Dr.," unless he ***or she*** actually has graduated and holds a doctor degree from a school, college, university or institution authorized by its governing body to confer such degree.
- (2) No person who holds a doctor degree, as provided in subsection (1) of this section, shall use or employ the title "Doctor" or "Dr." in or upon any letter, statement, card, prescription, sign, listing or other writing ***held out to the public*** without affixing suitable words or letters designating the particular doctor degree held by such person.
- (3) ***The written material or designation in connection with advertising, billboards, signs, or professional notices shall be in letters, type, or illumination, or give display and legibility, of at least three-fourths (3/4) that of the title "Doctor" or "Dr."***

- (4) *Any person who violates this section and is found by a trier of fact to have committed the violation with the intent to deceive the public shall have his or her health provider license revoked for not less than six (6) months or more than one (1) year.*

**Signed by Governor April 7, 2010.**