



# **RN Delegation: School Setting**

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Putting the Pieces Together for Safe Delegation

# Objective

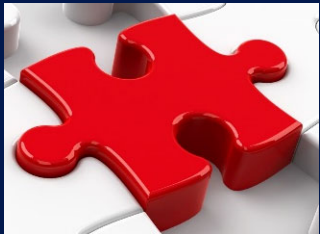
Analyze the delegation decision making process as it relates to school nursing



# Delegation

*"But in both [hospitals and private houses], let whoever is in charge keep this simple question in her head, (not, how can I always do this right thing myself, but) how can I provide for this right thing to be always done?"*

*Florence Nightingale*



# What is Delegation?

A Registered Nurse authorizing an *unlicensed person* (UP) to provide certain nursing services/perform nursing care while retaining accountability

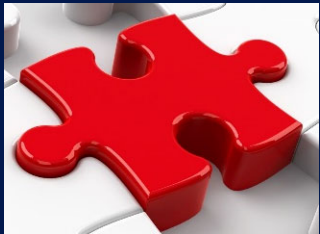


# Purpose of Delegation

- Full utilization of RN services
  - Allows for RN performance of more complex tasks
  - Time management
- Develops 'team approach' to care
  - Unlicensed personnel skill development



# Benefits of Delegation





# Assignment ≠ Delegation

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- Delegation = RNs authorizing an *unlicensed person*
- Assignment = Designating responsibility for a specific activity/set of activities to *another licensed nurse*



# Delegation Chapters

## Chapter 224

- Applies to situations where:
  - Client has an acute health condition that is unstable or unpredictable
- OR**
- Client is in an acute care environment where nursing services are continuously provided, some examples include:
  - Hospitals
  - Rehabilitation centers
  - Skilled nursing facilities
  - Clinics/ Private physician offices
  - Correctional health
  - Other settings not considered Independent Living Environments

## Chapter 225

- Applies only to situations meeting ALL of the following criteria:
  - Client is in an independent living environment **AND**
  - Client, if 16 or older, or client's responsible adult is willing and able to participate in decisions about the overall movement of the client's health care **AND**
  - The task is for a stable, predictable condition
- Should a client develop an acute condition that is unstable or unpredictable, this chapter may still be applicable to tasks that relate solely to the client's stable and predictable condition(s) and not to the acute condition(s).



# ENVIRONMENTS



## Chapter 224

### **Acute Care Environment/Conditions**

Acute care hospitals  
Rehabilitation center  
Skilled nursing facility  
Physician offices  
Clinics  
Correctional health

## Chapter 225

### **Independent Living Environments/Stable and Predictable Conditions**

Residence  
Assisted living facility  
Group home  
Foster home  
School

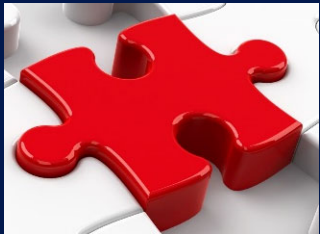


**225**

**22 TAC § 225**

# Definitions: Delegation

RN authorizing **in writing** an unlicensed person (UP) to provide nursing services while retaining accountability for how the unlicensed person performs the task



# Unlicensed Person (UP)

- Not licensed as a health care provider
- Monetarily compensated – OR-
- A **volunteer** that does not qualify as a “friend” providing gratuitous care for the sick



- ❖ Nurse aides
- ❖ Orderlies
- ❖ Assistants
- ❖ Attendants
- ❖ Techs
- ❖ Home health aides
- ❖ Medication Aides
- ❖ Nursing students (not yet licensed, providing care OUTSIDE their formal educational program)
- ❖ Etc.

# Stable & Predictable

Client's status is consistent & does not fluctuate



# Delegation is a Process





# Delegation Criteria

The 5 Rights of Delegation

Task

Person

Circumstances

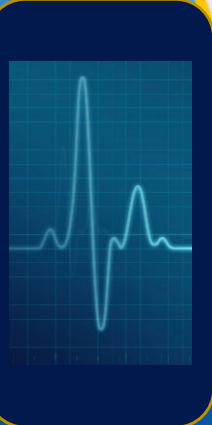
Direction &  
Communication

Supervision



# What May Be Delegated

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- A graphic of a medical monitor displaying a blue ECG waveform on a grid, set against a dark blue background with a yellow border.
- ADLs & HMAs that require delegation
  - Non-invasive and non-sterile treatments with low risk of infection
  - Collecting, reporting, and documenting data
  - Reinforcement of health teaching
  - Insertion and/or irrigation of urinary catheters for purpose of intermittent catheterization
  - Irrigation of an indwelling tube (e.g., urinary catheter, permanently placed feeding tube)
  - Ventilator or tracheal care (including instilling NS and suctioning of a tracheostomy with routine supplemental oxygen administration)
  - Care of broken skin with low risk of infection
  - Sterile procedures those procedures involving a wound or an anatomical site that could potentially become infected
  - Certain emergency measures [224.6(4)]
  - There could be others...

# Medications

- Medications administered:
  - PO or via permanently placed feeding tube inserted in a surgically created orifice or stoma
  - Sublingually
  - Topically
  - Eye and ear drops; nose drops and sprays
  - Vaginal or rectal gels or suppositories
  - Unit dose medication administration by way of inhalation for prophylaxis and/or maintenance
  - Oxygen administration for purpose of non-acute respiratory maintenance



# Pill Reminder Containers

Extra Considerations for pill reminders  
RN must:

- Ensure that the unit dose med(s) are placed in the client's daily pill reminder container, from properly dispensed prescription bottle(s)
- Instruct the Client/CRA/UP about each med including contacting RN with any questions
- Determine supervision
- Ensure the Client/CRA acknowledges delegation in writing



# Diabetes Medications

Extra considerations for diabetes medications

RN must:

- Be available on call 24 hours each day
- Delegate specific to one client
- Provide teaching (specific to one client) and written instructions, including a copy of the physician's order or instructions
- Delegate to limited number of UPs that can be safely supervised
- Make supervisory visits according to Chapter 225.12(5)&(6)
- Ensure the Client/CRA acknowledges delegation in writing



# Tasks Prohibited from Being Delegated

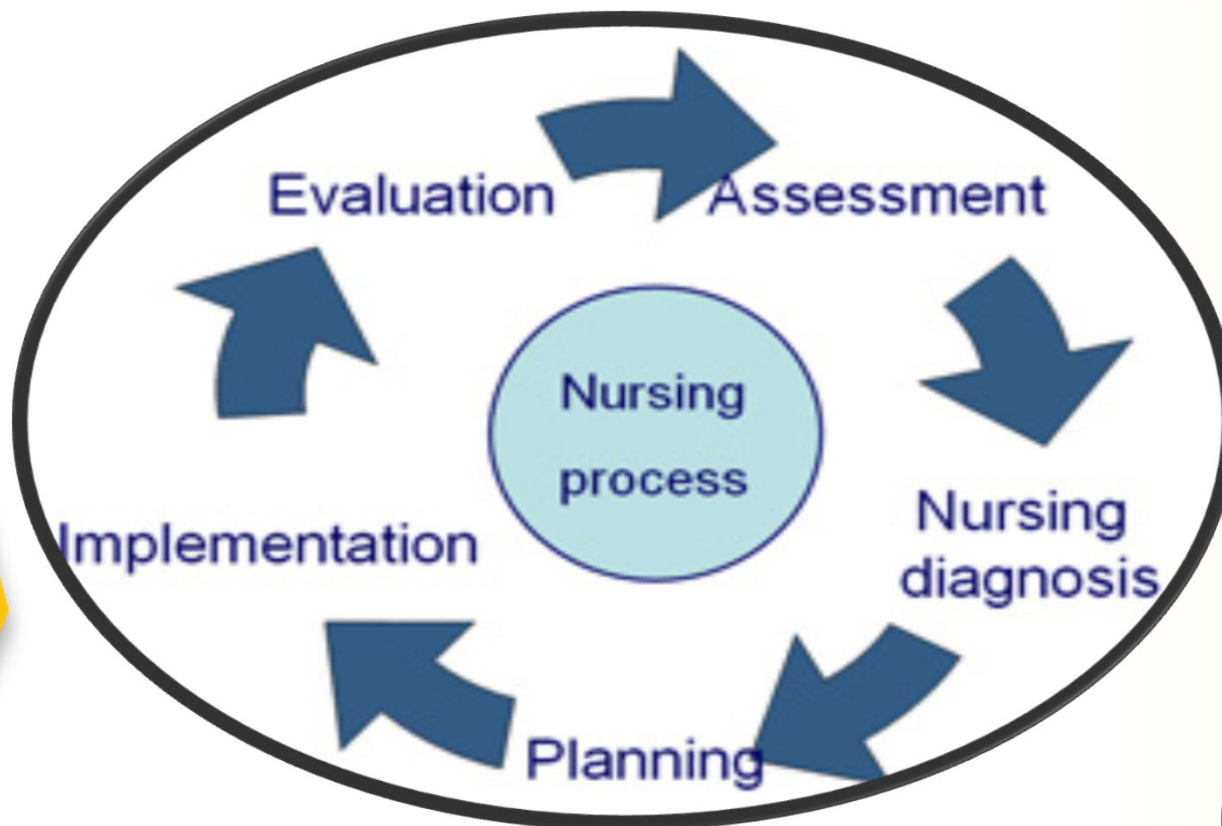
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- Nursing Process
- Responsibility and accountability for teaching
- Calculation of medication doses
- Initial medication dose administration unless rationale documented by RN in medical record
- Injectable meds
- Meds via tube inserted in a cavity of the body
- Receive verbal or telephone orders





# The Nursing Process



# Assessment

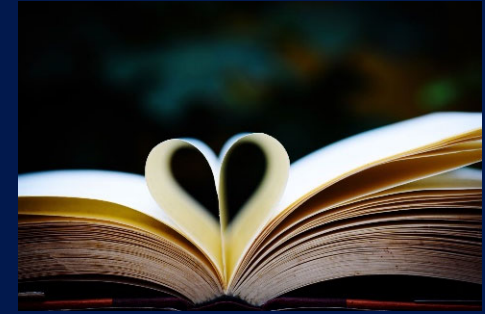
## §224.6 and §225.6

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• Client/client  
• Type of sound  
• Patient  
• Care  
• Nursing

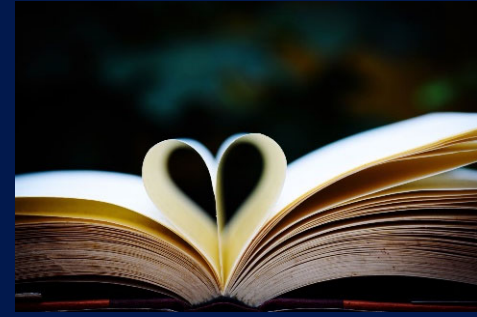
# Planning



- *WHO?*
- *WHAT?*
- *WHERE?*
- *WHEN?*
- *WHY?*



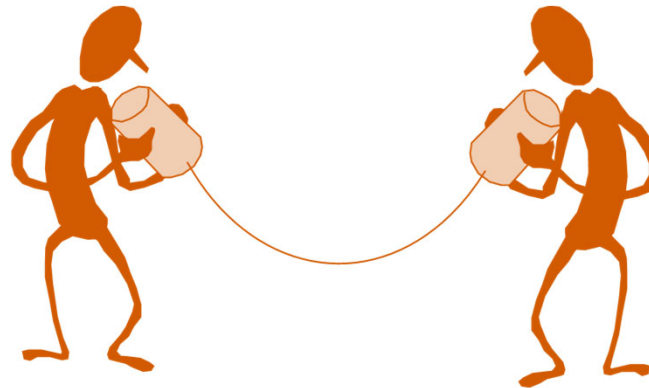
# 5 Rights



- RIGHT task
- RIGHT circumstance
- RIGHT person
- RIGHT directions/communications
- RIGHT supervision

# Communication is Key

Clear	Concise
Correct	Complete



# Implementation





# Supervision



- Verify training of the UP
- Verify that the UP can properly & adequately perform the delegated tasks
- Adequately supervise



# School Nurse Resource

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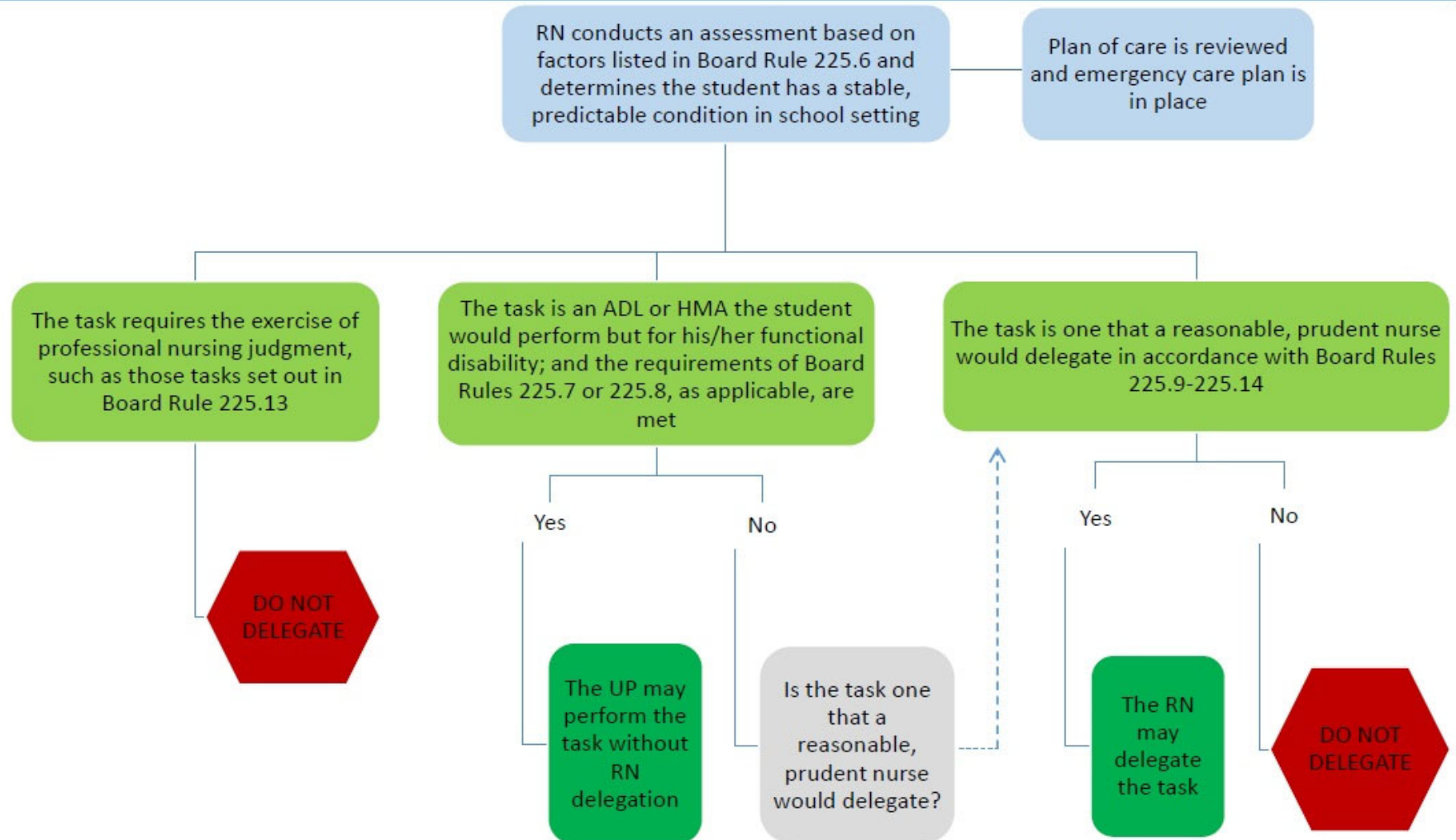
RN Delegation Tree for Delegation to  
Unlicensed Persons & Assignment of  
Tasks Algorithms



School Nurse (RN) Delegation to UP for “Stable & Predictable  
Students” in Emergency Situations  
Chapter 225

## School Nurse (RN) Delegation to UP for Students with a Stable and Predictable Condition

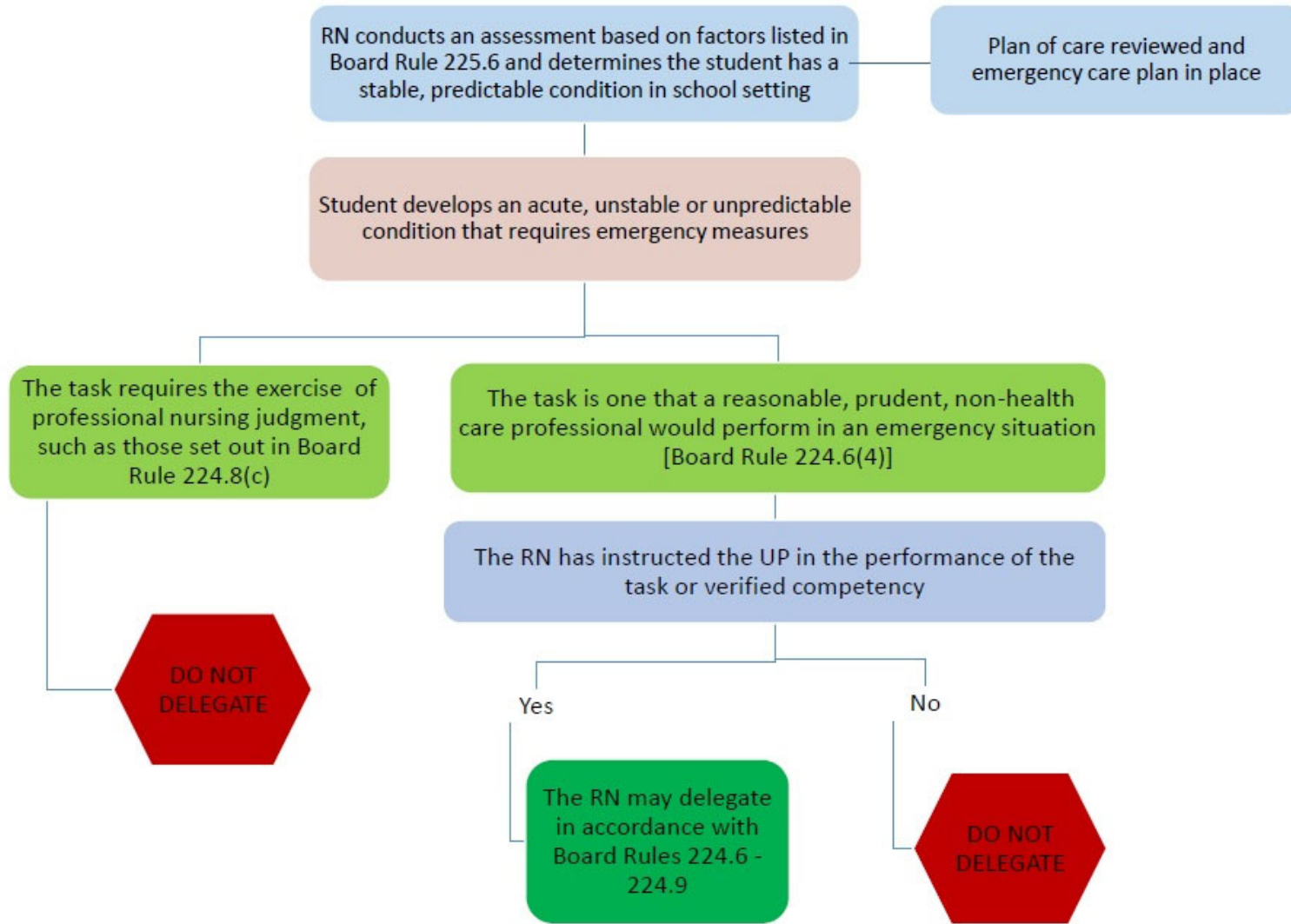
### Chapter 225



School Nurse (RN) Delegation to UP for “Unstable &  
Unpredictable Students” in Emergency Situations  
Chapter 224

**School Nurse (RN) Delegation to UP for a Student who Develops an Acute, Unstable or Unpredictable Condition and Requires Emergency Measures**

*\*Board Rule 225.10(13) refers back to Board Rule 224.6(4) for emergency measures*

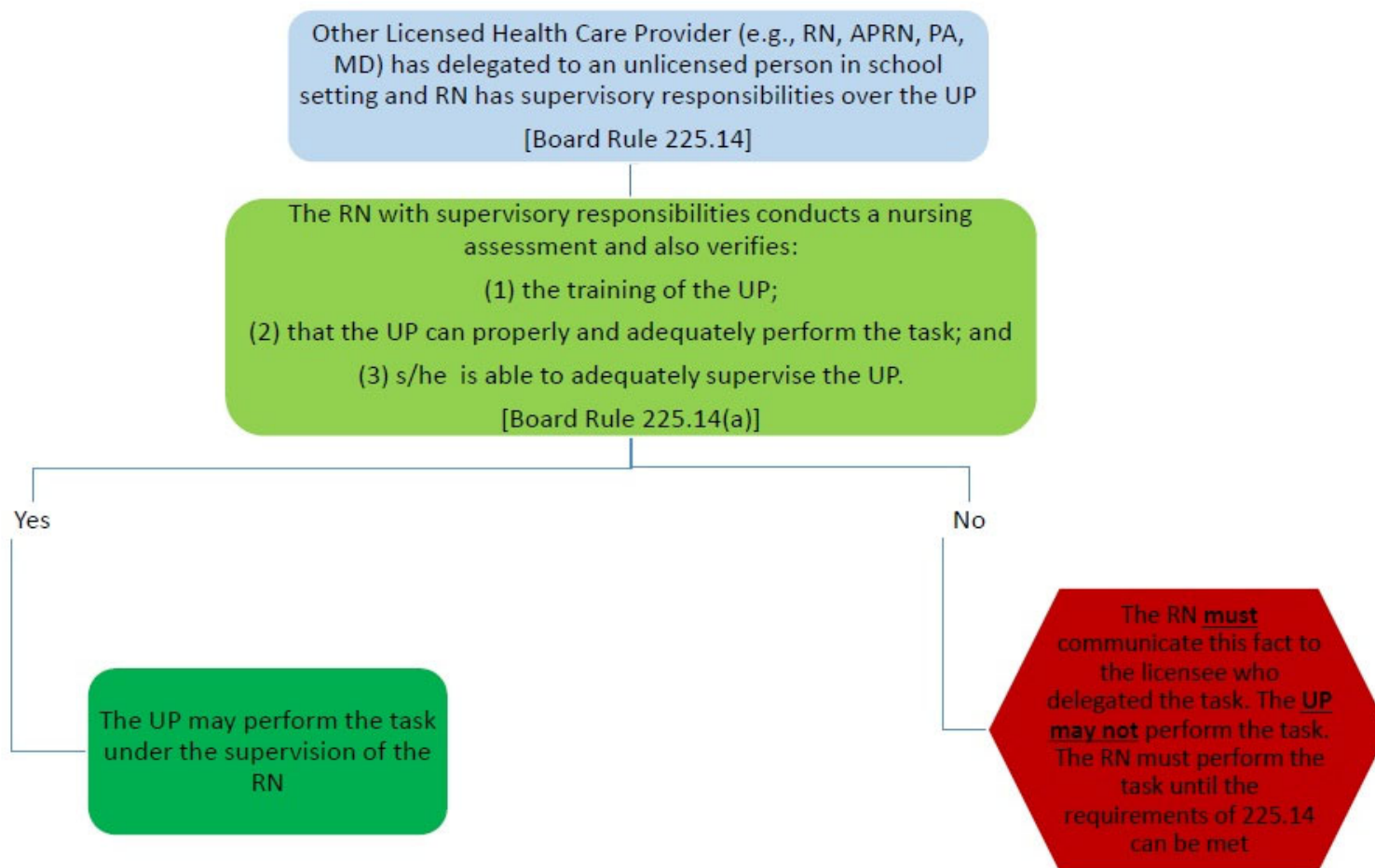




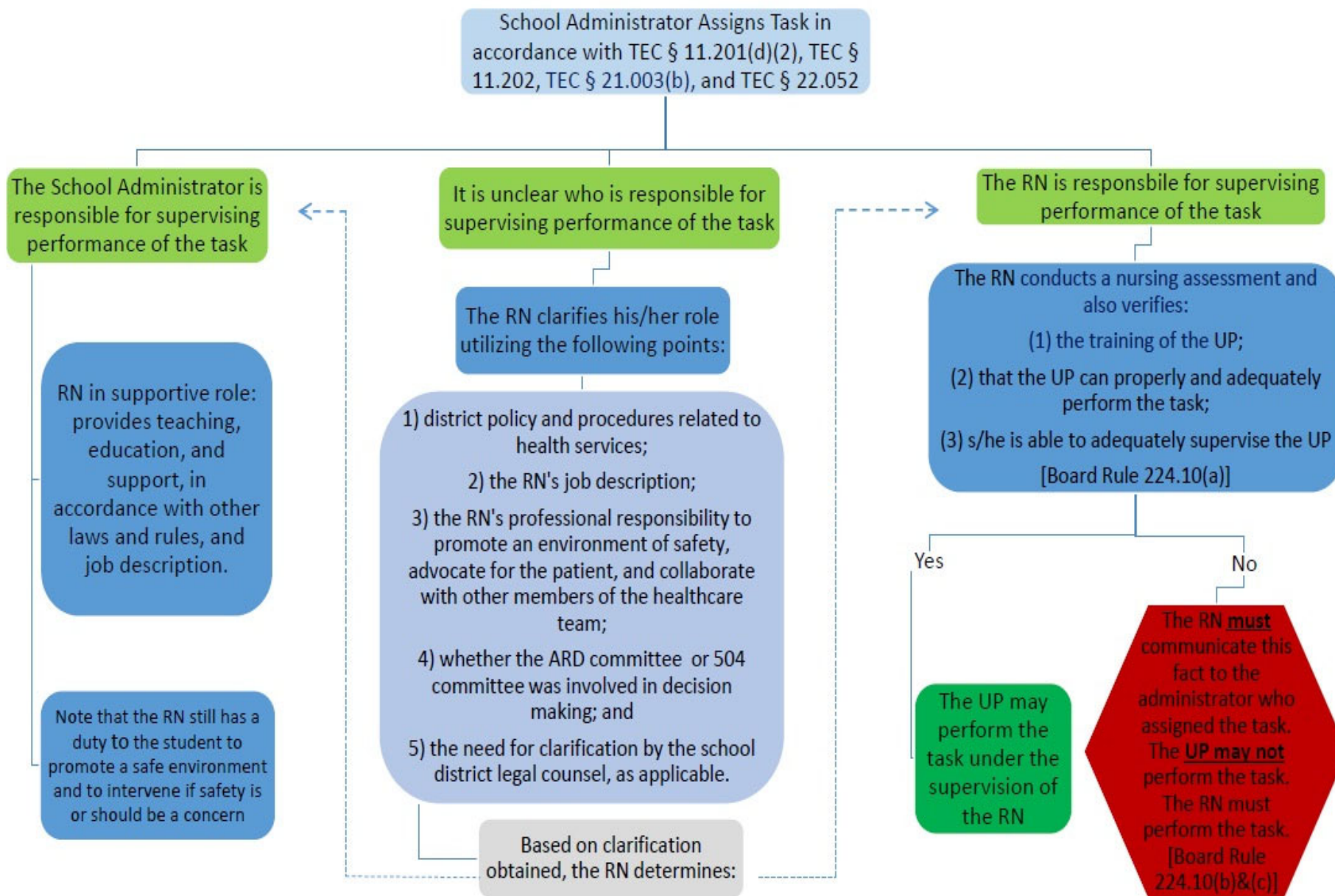
## School Nurse (RN) Role for Delegation to UP by Other Licensed Health Care Providers

## School Nurse (RN) Supervision of UP Performing Task Delegated by Other Licensed Health Care Providers

### Board Rule 225.14



## School Nurse (RN) Role when Tasks are Assigned to UP by School Administration



# BON Position Statements



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### Practice - Delegation Resource Packet

The RN delegation rules have been revised on several occasions, most recently on February 19, 2003. As the rule title indicates, the Professional Nurses to Unlicensed Personnel for Long-Term Care Facilities and Residential Care Facilities rules govern RN delegation to unlicensed personnel with acute conditions. [Rule 225 RN Delegation to Unlicensed Personnel in Independent Living Environments](#) relates to RN delegation and tasks that may be delegated in independent living environments. This rule adds clarity and guidance for RNs choosing to delegate in a perplexing concept with multiple nuances. This information provides direction for delegation in a variety of settings there.

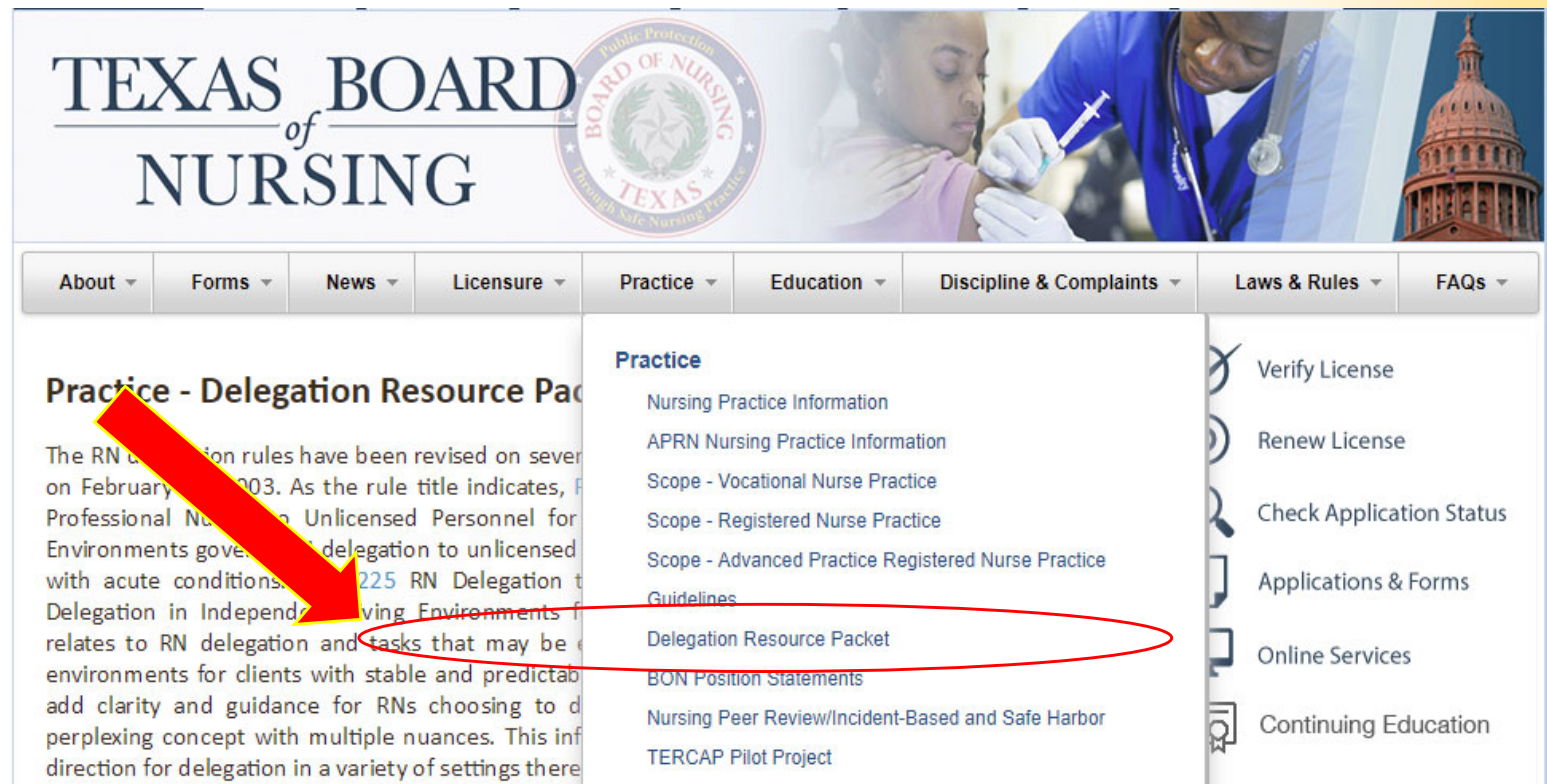
#### Practice

- Nursing Practice Information
- APRN Nursing Practice Information
- Scope - Vocational Nurse Practice
- Scope - Registered Nurse Practice
- Scope - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Practice
- Guidelines
- Delegation Resource Packet
- BON Position Statements**
- Nursing Peer Review/Incident-Based and Safe Harbor
- TERCAP Pilot Project

- Verify License
- Renew License
- Check Application Status
- Applications & Forms
- Online Services
- Continuing Education



# Delegation Resource Packet



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**Practice - Delegation Resource Packet**

The RN Delegation rules have been revised on several occasions, most recently on February 1, 2003. As the rule title indicates, the Professional Nurse and Unlicensed Personnel for Long-Term Care Facilities and Residential Care Facilities have been revised. The 225 RN Delegation to Unlicensed Personnel in Independent Living Environments relates to RN delegation and tasks that may be delegated in independent living environments for clients with stable and predictable conditions. This information adds clarity and guidance for RNs choosing to delegate in a perplexing concept with multiple nuances. This information provides direction for delegation in a variety of settings there.

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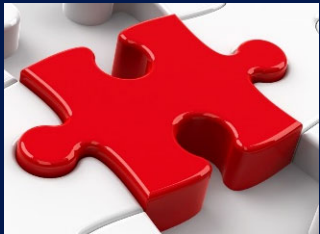
# **BON Position Statements**

- 15.13 Role of LVNS & RNs in School Health
- 15.14 Duty of a Nurse in any Practice Setting
- 15.27 The LVN Scope of Practice
- 15.28 The RN Scope of Practice



# NASN Resources

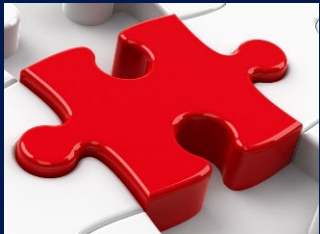
- Unlicensed assistive personnel: Their role on the school health services team
- Nursing delegation to unlicensed assistive personnel in the school setting





# Resources

1. Mueller C, Vogelsmeier A. Effective delegation: understanding responsibility, authority, and accountability. *J Nurs Regul.* 2013; 4(3):20-27.
2. Anthony MK, Vidal K. Mindful communication: a novel approach to improving delegation and increasing patient safety. *The Online Journal of Issues in Nursing.* 2010; 15(2).
3. Resha C. Delegation in the school setting: is it a safe practice? *The Online Journal of Issues in Nursing.* 2010;15(2)
4. Shannon, RA, Kubelka S. Reducing the risks of delegation: use of procedure skills checklists for unlicensed assistive personnel in schools, Part 1. *NASN Sch Nurse.* 2013;28(4): 178-181.
5. Shannon RA, Kubelka S. Reducing the risks of delegation: use of procedure skills checklists for unlicensed assistive personnel in schools, Part 2. *NASN Sch Nurse.* 2013; 28(5): 222-226.
6. Davis-Alldritt L. If I delegate, am I as risk? *NASN Sch Nurse.* 2009; 24(5): 180, 182-183
7. Texas Board of Nursing Website-Delegation Tool Kit
8. DSHS School Nurse Notes Website





# Thank you!

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