

Course Planning Tip Sheet

ANCC vs. BRN

The American Nursing Credentialing Center (ANCC) and the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) are two entities which provide contact hours to nurses to support their nursing license and their professional certifications. ANCC is nationally recognized, while the BRN is state-based. UCLA Health is an approved provider of both ANCC and BRN contact hours.

All UCLA Health continuing nursing education activities that are awarded ANCC contact hours are automatically awarded BRN contact hours. Course Coordinators should consider offering ANCC contact hours because many certifications held by UCLA nurses require ANCC contact hours for renewal. Furthermore, ANCC approved courses provide a perceptible difference to the learner about the quality of the activity. This can be an important marketing technique. *Note: The BRN accepts contact hours that have been approved by ANCC to support the RN license only if that course is taken out-of-state. This means that if a nurse takes an ANCC course in a state other than California, those contact hours can be used to support the renewal of his or her nursing license. Because of this, any educational activity at UCLA health which meets the requirements for ANCC contact hours are automatically awarded BRN contact hours.*

The process for requesting contact hours for ANCC and BRN is the same.

References:

1. 2015 ANCC Primary Accreditation Provider Application Manual.
2. California Board of Registered Nursing, Title 16.