

# IS IT CONTINUING EDUCATION?

## GUIDELINES FOR DIFFERENTIATING LEVELS OF EDUCATION

**BASIC EDUCATION** -- Target audience: students preparing for entry into the nursing profession and baccalaureate completion programs

- Basic educational information
- Prepares for entry into nursing practice
- Addresses basic standards of nursing practice

**ORIENTATION** -- Target audience: nurses preparing for a new position or career role

- Educates for work at a specific institution/employer
- Teaches and tests for skill competency
- Addresses institution/employer-based standards of nursing practice

**IN-SERVICE** -- Target audience: nurses preparing to utilize new tools/information specific to work setting/nursing role

- Educates to new procedures, roles, medications, or equipment
- Enables or increases skill competence
- Involves practice of previously learned skills/knowledge
- Addresses institution/employer-based standards of nursing practice

**PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT** -- Target audience: general population

- Educates individuals in topics pertaining to financial management, personal hygiene/beautification, personal conduct, and other topics that do not pertain to the practice of nursing or to healthcare in general

**CONTINUING EDUCATION** -- Target audience: nurses seeking enhanced professionalism and utilization of advanced nursing decisions and practice.

- Gains new knowledge and skills to assist with advanced clinical decision making
- Acquires greater depth of knowledge and skills in a particular area of nursing practice
- Enhances professional attitudes and behaviors
- Advances career goals
- Promotes professional development
- Supports innovation and creativity in nursing practice
- Implements change within the individual's nursing practice and within healthcare
- Addresses new/developing standards of nursing practice.