

## Alternative Careers in Nursing

### Assessment 3-6 Nursing Expertise

As a nurse entrepreneur, you are marketing something very special: Your professional nursing expertise. Your clients will expect you to understand the intrinsic nature of nursing and its unique role in today's health-care systems. In this assessment, you will evaluate the degree to which you maintain the ideals of professionalism in your nursing practice.

**Instructions:** Rate yourself on each of the following 15 statements using the 0 to 6 scale implemented in the previous four assessments.

Statement	<u>Score</u>						
	Never True 0	1	2	3	4	5	Always True 6
1. I maintain a consistent pattern of continuing education.							
2. I can explain how I integrate nursing theory as a framework for my practice with clients.							
3. I conduct or utilize the results of research as a basis for change in the way I implement my role.							
4. I establish client relationships by mutually defining goals for care or interventions.							
5. I utilize nursing diagnosis as a basis for care with patients.							
6. I belong to a professional organization.							
7. I am active in a professional organization.							
8. I act as an advocate for the role of professional nursing.							
9. I act as a patient advocate.							
10. I can establish effective client relationships.							
11. I keep current with what happens in professional nursing.							
12. I have had successful leadership positions in nursing.							
13. I have a broad base of professional contacts in the community.							
14. I am experienced in helping others learn.							
15. I actively implement a quality assurance process as part of my professional role.							

**Scoring.** Add your scores for the 15 statements. A total score of 75 to 90 indicates that your credibility and marketability as a nurse expert are excellent. A score of 45 to 74 indicates that you might experience difficulty in being recognized as a nurse expert by potential clients. A score of less than 45 indicates that nursing clients are relatively unlikely to identify you as a nurse expert. Since your credibility as a nurse expert has a direct impact on your ability to influence others, low scores here should encourage you to expand your knowledge. Each of the statements suggests a strategy for broadening your nursing expertise.