**Grading criteria**

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| **CRITERIA** | **SCORE** | **COMMENTS** |
| * Health system/ policy issue clearly identified (10)   + Clearly stated   + Concise   + Thorough |  |  |
| * Position statement (20)   + Clearly stated   + Concise   + Thorough   + Incorporate rationale supporting position statement |  |  |
| * Background information/ history (20)   + Pertinent   + Incorporated evidence-based research (EBR)   + Summarized/ synthesized EBR   + Thorough   + Concise   + Substantive   + Covered all aspects of the issue   + Logical reasoning used to support evaluation of issue using facts & evidence |  |  |
| * Potential Solution and Defense (10)   + Proposed possible solutions to identified issue   + Made the argument as to why proposed solution is feasible, attainable with the available amount of resources, accurate and beneficial |  |  |
| * Concluded with summary of discussion (10)   + Thorough   + Concise/ clear   + Synthesis of evidence into discussion |  |  |
| **Overall (30)** | | |
| * Focused * Continuity/ flow in presentation of ideas * Clarity, logical * Organization of Information * Overall Style/ writing * Compliance with APA format * Met criteria (10-15 pages, double spaced) |  |  |
| **FINAL OVERALL SCORE/GRADE**  **(0-100 possible)** |  |  |

**Dear writer:**

This is a position paper that I need to write. This is a DNP nursing program, I am to find an issue that affects my profession and write a paper that I can send to a legislator here in Florida in order to get the law to change. The problem I want to address is unsafe staffing of nurses in Florida, nurses get assigned way too many patients, and this goes against patient’s safety. When a nurse has too many patients to look after, things go wrong, patients could die. There is a RN staffing patient ratio law that was implemented in California (I think in 2003), they did stablish the maximum nurse patient ratio per unit. I want to show positive results regarding patient care after they implemented this law in California, so I can argue that it should be implemented in Florida. The reason that health care administrators give too many patients for nurses to take care of, is that they are trying to save money, however, if they have a high incidence of patient’s injuries and death due to poor RN staffing, in the long run they are losing millions. I want to argue that implementing this law in the state of Florida, they are going to save money due to they are going to have less lawsuits. I need at least 7 references, (they must be peer reviewed journals not older than 2007).

**Position Paper** (this are assignment instructions from my teacher)

Your local, state, or federal legislator is aware that you are a DNP recognized as a nurse leader, health care expert, and constituent in their local community. As a recognized subject matter expert, they ask you to assist them in evaluating pending health legislation by submitting a position paper on this health policy issue. You are to identify a current or emerging health care system and/or policy issue identified as critical to the future of health care in your community. This position paper should include a summary of evidence-based research and pertinent background information on the topic providing the legislator with a substantive yet concise briefing on all aspects of the health policy issue. Be sure to provide and cite substantial (pertinent) evidence from the literature that supports your discussion.

Paper title: RN staffing patient ratio law implementation in the state of Florida

This paper must include:

1. **Identification of the issue** (patients dying due to unsafe nurse patient ratio in florida)

2. **Position statements** (I am in favor of implementing a minimum nurse to patient ratio for each unit in the hospital, in order to decrease patient mortality)

3. **Substantive background information** (peer review journals, not older than 2007).

4. **Supportive evidence for both sides** (implementing a minimum nurse patient ration decreases patient mortality, retains nurses in their job, saves hospital money)

5. **Potential solutions** (implementing minimum nurse to patient ratio assignments)

6. **Defense of position/ making the argument for the position** (increases patient safety, decreases patient’s mortality, hospital saves money due to less lawsuits from patients)

7. **ONE PAGE Summary/ conclusion of argument with position statement**

I included here the table in the beginning, which is the grading criteria my teacher is using to grade this paper and also can be used as an outline to write this paper. It is imperative that you follow these instructions.

I truly appreciate your help. Thank you