



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
South Carolina Board of Nursing
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South Carolina Board of Nursing October 2014 Insert into the SC Nurse Newsletter

MISSION OF THE BOARD OF NURSING

The mission of the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina is the protection of public health, safety, and welfare by assuring safe and competent practice of nursing.

This mission is accomplished by assuring safe initial practice as well as continuing competency in the practice of nursing and by promoting nursing excellence in the areas of education and practice. The Board licenses qualified individuals as licensed practical nurses, registered nurses or advanced practice registered nurses. Complaints against nurses are investigated and disciplinary action taken when necessary. Schools of nursing are surveyed and approved to ensure quality education for future nurses.

BOARD VACANCIES

There are currently four vacancies on the South Carolina State Board of Nursing. Board members serve terms of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualify. Board members must be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Vacancies must be filled for the unexpired portion of a term by appointment of the Governor.

Pursuant to Section 40-33-10(A) of the Nurse Practice Act, when appointing members to the Board of Nursing, the Governor will give consideration to include a diverse representation of principal areas of nursing, but not limited to hospital, acute care, advanced practice, community health, and nursing education. Registered nurse and licensed practical nurse members must be licensed in South Carolina, be employed in nursing, have at least three years of practice in their respective professions immediately preceding their appointment, and reside in the district they represent. Lay members represent the public at large as consumers of nursing services and may not be licensed or employed as a health care provider. No Board member may serve as an officer of a professional health-related state association.

There are two vacancies for Licensed Practical Nurse representatives from the state at large and two Registered Nurse vacancies - one representing Congressional District 1 and one representing Congressional District 6. An individual, group or association may nominate qualified persons and submit written requests to the Governor's Office for consideration and appointment to the State Board of Nursing. If you or someone you know is interested in the licensed practical nurse positions on the Board of Nursing, a letter of request, along with a resume or curriculum vitae, should be submitted to Boards and Commissions, Office of the Governor, Post Office Box 11829, Columbia, SC 29211-1829.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Nomination forms for vacancies on the Advanced Practice Committee, Advisory Committee on Nursing and Nursing Practice and Standards Committee can be found on the Board's website

(www.llr.sc.gov/pol/nursing) under Applications/Forms. A list of meeting dates for this year is located in this newsletter.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NURSING (ACON)

The Advisory Committee on Nursing (ACON) assists the Board with long-range planning for nursing and facilitates collaboration between education and practice. ACON meets on the third Tuesday in February, April, June, and October. It meets on the last Tuesday in August and first Tuesday in December each year. There currently are positions open for two ADN Educators and a Nursing Services Administration-Mental Health Representative.

All ACON members must be currently licensed in South Carolina, practicing in the area they represent and not be under a current disciplinary order. Members are appointed by the Board for an initial term of two years with the possibility of reappointment for three years to provide for staggering of terms. All nominations, as well as requests for reappointment, are submitted to the Board for review. Members' perspectives and participation are valued and necessary for continuity, so regular committee meeting attendance is very important. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the ACON, submit a completed nomination form, along with a curriculum vitae, to LLR-Board of Nursing, PO Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211.

ADVANCED PRACTICE COMMITTEE (APC)

The Advanced Practice Committee (APC) is a standing, Board-appointed committee established to review current advanced practice registered nursing (APRN) trends and practice. APC advises the Board and nursing community on the safe and competent practice of APRNs. APC meets quarterly on the first Friday in February, May, August, and November of each year. There currently is a position open for a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) – Psychiatric Mental Health Representative.

All APC members must be currently licensed in South Carolina, not under a current disciplinary order, certified and practicing in the area they represent. APC members are appointed for an initial term of two years with the possibility of reappointment by the Board for three years to provide for staggering of terms. Information from all interested parties is submitted to the Board for review and appointment/reappointment. Members' perspectives and participation are valued and necessary for continuity, so regular committee meeting attendance is very important. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the APC, submit a completed nomination form, along with a curriculum vitae, to LLR-Board of Nursing, PO Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211.

NURSING PRACTICE AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE (NPSC)

The Nursing Practice and Standards Committee (NPSC) assists the Board of Nursing with issues affecting nursing practice in the state. The NPSC is charged with developing and revising advisory opinions and position statements. The NPSC meets quarterly on the third Thursday in January, April, July and October each year. There currently are positions available on NPSC for a Registered Nurse Acute Care Representative, a Registered Nurse Education Representative, a Registered Nurse School Health Nursing Representative, and a Licensed Practical Nurse Representative.

All NPSC members must be currently licensed in South Carolina, practicing in the area they represent and not be under a current disciplinary order. Members' perspectives and participation are valued and necessary for continuity. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the NPSC, submit a completed nomination form, along with a curriculum vitae, to LLR-Board of Nursing, PO Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

When is the last time you visited the Board of Nursing's website?

The Board recommends that all nurses licensed by or working in South Carolina visit its website (www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/) *at least* monthly for up-to-date information on nursing licensure in South Carolina. The Board of Nursing website contains the Nurse Practice Act (Chapter 33-Laws Governing Nursing in South Carolina), Regulations (Chapter 91), Compact Information, Advisory Opinions, Position Statements, Licensure Applications, Continued Competency Requirements/Criteria, Application Status, Licensee Lookup, Disciplinary Actions, and other valuable tools and information. When a new advisory opinion is issued or a current advisory opinion revised, it is updated on the website after Board approval.

The Advisory Opinions, Position Statements and the Nurse Practice Act are located under Laws/Policies. The Competency Requirement and Competency Requirement Criteria, which includes continuing education contact hours, are located under Licensure.

The Board hopes you will find this information useful in your nursing practice.

BOARD REVIEWS ADVISORY OPINIONS

At its May 2014 meeting, the Board reviewed Advisory Opinions #11, 30, 40, 46, and 56 and Advisory Opinion Supplement on the Nursing Management of Invasive Devices-Cardiovascular RN and LPN and approved with no changes, as recommended by the Nursing Practice and Standards Committee (NPSC). Advisory Opinions can be found on the Board's website (www.llronline.com/POL/Nursing) under Laws/Policies.

REVISED ADVISORY OPINIONS

At its May 2014 meeting, the Board approved revisions to Advisory Opinions #4, 6, 8, 9A, 9B, 10, 16, 17, 23, 28, 38, 42, and 47. These revised Advisory Opinions can be found on the Board's website (www.llronline.com/POL/Nursing) under Laws/Policies.

The following information is published with permission from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN).

NCSBN Provides Nursys e-Notify Free of Charge to Nurse Employers

Chicago – The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) will now provide automatic licensure, discipline, and publicly available notifications quickly, easily, securely, and free of charge to institutions that employ nurses or maintain a registry of nurses free of charge through Nursys e-Notify.

Nursys is the only national database for licensure verification, discipline for registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs). Nursys data is pushed directly from participating boards of nursing's (BONs) databases (except Alabama, Hawaii, Kansas and Oklahoma) through frequent, secured updates. Nursys is live and dynamic, and all updates to the system are reflected immediately.

Nursys is designated as a primary source equivalent database through a written agreement with participating BONs. NCSBN posts licensure and discipline information in Nursys as it is submitted by individual BONs.

Institutions who subscribe to this innovative service do not have to proactively seek licensure or discipline information about their nurses because that information will be sent to them automatically. The e-Notify system alerts subscribers when modifications are made to a nurse's record, including changes to:

- License status;
- License expirations;
- License renewal; and
- Public disciplinary actions/resolutions and alerts/notifications.

If a nurse's license is about to expire, the system will send a notification to the institution about the expiration date. If a nurse was disciplined by a BON, his/her institution will immediately learn about the disciplinary action, including access to available documents.

Institutions can learn more about Nursys e-Notify by viewing an introductory video at www.nursys.com.

For questions, contact nursysenotify@ncsbn.org.

NURSE LICENSURE COMPACT

What Is the Multi-State Nurse Licensure Compact?

Similar to the driver's license model, the Multi-State Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact) allows a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse who is licensed in a Compact state to practice nursing in another Compact state without having to obtain a license in the other state. A Compact (or party) state is a state that has passed legislation and has been approved by the NLCA to implement the Compact. The following states have implemented the Compact to date: AR, AZ, CO, DE, ID, IA, KY, ME, MD, MS, MO, NE, NH, NM, NC, ND, RI, **SC**, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, and WI. You may visit the National Council of State Boards of Nursing website (www.ncsbn.org) for updates as more states join and implement the Compact.

In May 2005, Governor Mark Sanford signed the Nurse Licensure Compact Act into law. South Carolina implemented the Multi-state Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact) in 2006.

IMPORTANT COMPACT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - FOR LICENSEES

How does the Compact affect nurses who live in South Carolina?

A nurse who resides in South Carolina (S.C.) and holds an *unencumbered* S.C. nursing license will have the 'privilege to practice' in any other Compact state with their S.C. multi-state license. Pursuant to Regulation 91-2 (B)(6), when a nurse changes residency from one Compact state to another, he/she is required to apply for and obtain a nursing license in that state **within 90 days**. The Compact license in the previous Compact state will be made inactive. When a nurse changes residency to a non-Compact state, he/she must apply for and obtain a nursing license in that state. The S.C. license will then become "valid in South Carolina only." Nurses must meet the requirements for licensure to obtain and renew the license in the primary state of residence. The Nurse Practice Act and Regulations can be found on the Board's website (www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing) under Laws/Policies.

How is primary state of residence for licensure determined?

Primary state of residence means "*the person's fixed permanent and principle home for legal purposes; domicile.*" Compact rules require each nurse to declare in writing his/her primary state of residence upon initial application and licensure renewal. Sources of proof used to verify primary residence include, but are not limited to, 1) Driver's license with a home address; 2) Voter registration card displaying a home address; 3) Federal income tax return declaring the primary state of residence. 4) Military Form # 2058 - state of legal residence certificate; or 5) W2 from U.S. Government or any bureau, division or agency thereof indicating the declared state of residence. Section 40-33-38(C) of the Nurse Practice Act requires a nurse to notify the Board of Nursing *within 15 days* of a change of address.

How does the Compact affect someone who is in the military or works for the federal government?

Nurses in the military or working for the federal government shall continue to be licensed in accordance with the rules of the military branch or federal agency where employed. If the nurse has a license in a Compact state, the nurse will have the Multi-state licensure privilege to practice in other Compact states. If a nurse has a license in a non-Compact state, Compact rules do not apply. Should the nurse choose to work outside the military or federal agency, the nurse must comply with the licensure requirements of that state.

Does the Compact affect APRNs?

The Compact does not include Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). APRNs will need to obtain licensure for advanced nursing practice in every state in which they practice.

How will S.C. APRNs be authorized to practice in other Compact states?

South Carolina APRNs will be authorized to practice as Registered Nurses in Compact states. The South Carolina APRN license will be designated as a multi-state Registered Nurse license with APRN practice privileges in "South Carolina only."

What is the accountability for practice with a Compact license?

The Compact requires nurses to adhere to the nursing practice laws of the state in which the nursing practice occurs. Boards of nursing have online access to their nurse practice act on their websites. In the case of electronic nursing (telenursing), the nurse must adhere to the practice standards of the state where the client receives care.

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE COMPACT - FOR EMPLOYERS

What are my responsibilities as an employer in a Compact state?

A major responsibility for employers is to assure that every nurse employed by you is properly licensed and practices within the scope of practice defined in the Nurse Practice Act. It is important to visually inspect each license as nurses are practicing from other Compact states. Licenses may appear different from what you are accustomed to seeing. Some states, including South Carolina, have now gone paperless and do not issue license cards. Verification of licensure and disciplinary status is essential to safe nursing practice. Providing information to the nurse on the scope of practice in South Carolina will also be essential to assure safe practice. Additional resources are available through www.ncsbn.org.

What is the process for notifying the Board when a nurse from a party state is employed?

The Board of Nursing has created a Multi-State Licensure Privilege Notification Form available for download on the website located within applications and forms. When a nurse begins employment on a Compact license from another state, the employer is asked to provide the form to the nurse for completion and to forward the form to the Board office for statistical purposes.

How will employers and members of the public verify licensure status of nurses under the Compact?

There are three ways to verify the status of a licensee:

- **For S.C. Licensees - Licensee Lookup**, go to: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/, click on Licensee Lookup and choose Nursing. As you enter information, it is recommended that you enter a portion of the nurse's name only. You will be provided with the nurse's name, city and state, license number, license type, date issued/expires, license status, and whether the license is multi-state or single-state.
- **Nursys QuickConfirm** - Go to <https://www.nursys.com/> click on QuickConfirm and follow the instructions. You will be provided with the Nurse's name, state of licensure, license type and number, license status, license expiration date and discipline status. The following states participate in QuickConfirm: AK, AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, ID, IN,

IA, KY, LA-RN, ME, MD, MA, MN, MS, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NC, ND, OH, OR, RI, **SC**, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, US Virgin Islands, VA, WV-PN, WI, WY. Go to NCSBN.org for updates as states are added.

- **Boards of Nursing websites:** If verifying a license in a state that does not participate in Nursys QuickConfirm, you may go to that state's website. There is a map of all states with links to their websites at www.ncsbn.org.

How are complaints about nursing practice handled within the Compact?

The Compact authorizes the nurse licensing board of any Compact state to investigate allegations of unsafe practice by any nurse practicing in the state. Based upon the outcome of the investigation, a remote state licensing board may deny the nurse's privilege to practice in that state. Only the nurse's home state (primary state of residence) licensing board may take disciplinary action against the nurse's license. States will continue to apply the same administrative and due process procedures for imposing discipline as they have always done.

What is the process for obtaining licensure for nurses moving into South Carolina from another party state?

Pursuant to Regulation 91-2 (B)(6), when a nurse changes residency from one Compact state to another he/she is required to apply for and obtain a multi-state nursing license in that state **within 90 days**.

What is the process for obtaining licensure for nurses moving into South Carolina from a non-Compact state?

There is no change in the requirements for obtaining nursing licensure by endorsement. The nurse must have a valid license to practice prior to beginning employment in this state.

HOW CAN MY EMPLOYER VERIFY THAT I HAVE A NURSING LICENSE?

If you need paper evidence of your nursing license and the expiration date, you may gain this information one of two ways:

- 1) Click on Licensee Lookup on the Board of Nursing website. Enter the bare minimum information (i.e. your last/ first name or license number only [no letters like RN, R, etc.]). You may print this page. If you type information in all blocks and it is not entered 100% the way it is in the system, you will receive an error message (appearing as if the nurse doesn't hold a license in the state).
- 1) Licensees now have the capability, through LLR's website, to download and print a wallet card *as a courtesy* after the license has been issued, reinstated or renewed. The cards can be printed from your printer. You will need Adobe Reader installed on your PC to view and print the card. For best results, use card stock instead of copy paper to print a more durable card. To print a wallet card, go to <https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/SecurePortal/Login.aspx>. Click on "Print License Card" and follow the instructions.

HOW CAN I CHECK A LICENSE?

To check a nursing license, you may utilize one or all of the following options:

1. SC Licensee Lookup - Go to <https://verify.llr.sc.gov/LicLookup/Nurse/Nurse.aspx?div=17> As you enter information, it is recommended that you enter a portion of the nurse's name only. You will be provided with the nurse's name, city and state, license number, license type, date issued/expires, license status, and whether the license is multi-state or single-state.
2. Nursys QuickConfirm - Go to <https://www.nursys.com/> click on QuickConfirm and follow the instructions. You will be provided with the nurse's name, state of licensure, license type and number, license status, license expiration date and discipline status. The following states participate in QuickConfirm: AK, AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, ID, IN, IA, KY, LA-RN, ME, MD, MA, MN, MS, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NC, ND, OH, OR, RI, **SC**, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, US Virgin Islands, VA, WV-PN, WI, and WY. Go to NCSBN.org for updates as states are added.
3. Other States - Most states have licensee lookup/licensure verification on their websites. Links to boards of nursing can be found at www.ncsbn.org.

You may check for discipline against a South Carolina nursing license on the Board's website at www.llr.sc.gov/pol/nursing/ under Board Orders.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Section 40-33-38(C) of the South Carolina Code of Laws (Nurse Practice Act) requires that *all* licensees notify the Board *in writing* within 15 days of *any* address change. So you do not miss important time-sensitive information from the Board, such as your courtesy renewal notice, audit notice or other important licensure information, be sure to notify the Board immediately whenever you change your address. Failure to notify the Board of an address change may result in discipline. You may change your address online utilizing the address change form under Online Services found on the Board's website.

Note: *Changing your address with the South Carolina Nurses Association (SCNA) does not change your address on your licensing records with the South Carolina State Board of Nursing.*

BOARD MEMBERS

Samuel H. McNutt, RN, CRNA, MHSA, Congressional District 5 - *President*
Carol A. Moody, RN, MAS, NEA-BC, Congressional District 4 - *Vice President*
Amanda E. Baker, RN, MSN, MNA, CRNA, Congressional District 2 - *Secretary*
Vacant, Congressional District 1
W. Kay Swisher, RNC, MSN, Congressional District 3
Vacant, Congressional District 6
Karen R. Hazzard MSN, RN, NE-BC, Congressional District 7
Anne Crook, PhD, Public Member
James E. Mallory, EdD, Public Member
Vacant, (2) Licensed Practical Nurses At Large

Vacancies: [See Section 40-33-10(A) of the Nurse Practice Act for prerequisites and requirements]

S.C. BOARD OF NURSING CONTACT INFORMATION:

Main Telephone Line (803) 896-4550
Fax Line (803) 896-4515
General Email nurseboard@llr.sc.gov
Website www.llr.sc.gov/pol/nursing/

The Board of Nursing is located at Synergy Business Park, Kingtree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Suite 202, Columbia, SC 29210. Directions to the office can be found on the website - www.llr.sc.gov - at the bottom of the page. The Board's mailing address is LLR - Office of Board Services - SC Board of Nursing, Post Office Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211-2367.

Normal agency business hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Offices are closed for holidays designated by the state.

BOARD OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION

Nancy G. Murphy, Administrator nancy.murphy@llr.sc.gov
Karen Blizzard, Assistant to the Administrator karen.blizzard@llr.sc.gov

OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

Main Telephone Line (803) 896-4470

BOARD OF NURSING MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2014

Board and Committee meeting agendas are posted on the Board's website at least 24 hours prior to meeting.

<u>Board of Nursing Meeting</u>	November 20-21, 2014
Advanced Practice Committee	November 7, 2014
Advisory Committee on Nursing	October 21, 2014
Advisory Committee on Nursing	December 2, 2014
Nursing Practice & Standards Committee	October 9, 2014

DESIGNATED 2014 STATE HOLIDAYS

OBSERVED ON

Veterans Day	November 11, 2014
Thanksgiving Day	November 27, 2014
Day After Thanksgiving	November 28, 2014
Christmas Eve	December 24, 2014
Christmas Day	December 25, 2014
Day After Christmas	December 26, 2014