

South Carolina Board of Nursing
April 2005 Insert into the SC Nurse Newsletter

BOARD MISSION

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

The Nurse Practice Act signed by Governor Sanford on May 11, 2004 established an additional lay member for the Board. There is one lay member vacancy on the Board of Nursing at this time. Lay members represent the public at large as a consumer 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. If you are or know someone who is interested in this position, please submit a letter of request, along with resume to Boards & Commissions, Governor's Office, Post Office Box 11829, Columbia, SC 29211.

CONTINUED COMPETENCY

On May 11, 2004, Governor Mark Sanford, signed the new Nurse Practice Act into law. A copy of the new Act is available on the Board's Web site: www.llr.sc.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/. Section 40-33-40 of the Nurse Practice Act explains the requirements for continued competency. Continuing education is only one of the four options for documented evidence of continued competency for renewal. The four options for documented evidence for renewal during the licensure period are: (a) completion of 30 contact hours from a Board recognized continuing education provider; (b) maintenance of certification or re-certification by a Board recognized national certifying body; (c) completion of Board recognized academic program of study in nursing or a related field; or (d) verification of competency and the number of hours practiced, as evidenced by employer certification on a Board approved form.

Option (d) still allows nurses to renew their licenses based on practice hours. There is no set number of hours a nurse must work; however, they must practice enough hours for an employer to verify competency. Nurses need to make sure that their employer can, by their company/facility policies, complete and sign the form required by the Board to document practice hours, if this option is chosen. The Employer Certification –Verification of Competency and Nursing Practice Hours Worked is available on our website under Forms.

Information regarding courses and certification/re-certification as well as completion of an academic program can also be found on our website under Competency Requirement Criteria. The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina will accept continuing education contact hours approved by the providers/ organizations listed in the criteria. A list of certifying bodies accepted by the Board is provided on this site. The Board will accept completion of an academic program of study awarding an advanced degree in nursing, which must be a level above basic nursing educational preparation for licensure.

Documentation of continued competency should not be submitted with the renewal application; however, if audited, a nurse must be able provide the requested documentation within five business days. Failure to provide satisfactory documented evidence of compliance within the prescribed time will result in the immediate temporary suspension or cancellation of the license pending compliance

with all requirements for licensure and until order of the Board. If you have any further questions regarding continued competency, please contact our licensure department by email at Nurseboard@llr.sc.gov or by phone at 803-896-4550.

APRN LICENSES

The new Nurse Practice Act authorizes the Board of Nursing to issue Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) licenses. New license pocket cards will be sent out in January 2005. This takes the place of licenses and recognition previously issued. The official title of this license is APRN. Due to computer constraints, we were only able to put APN on the wall certificate.

Prescriptive authority numbers will be the letter representing the APRN specialty plus the license number. For example, a midwife would use M22; family nurse practitioner would use F333; acute care nurse practitioner AC1234; etc. APRNs should not use APN and the license number as their prescriptive authority number. The DHEC Bureau of Drug Control has been notified of the new license numbers for those APRNs with prescriptive authority. APRNs with prescriptive authority should make arrangements for new prescription pads to be printed with the new license number. With revisions in the Nurse Practice Act, all APRNs with prescriptive authority who wish to prescribe controlled substances, will have to obtain a DHEC and Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Controlled Substances Registration. To obtain the DHEC application, you can e-mail Teresa Young (803-896-0634) at youngts@dhec.sc.gov, or Diana Granger at granged@dhec.sc.gov.

Requirements for licensure as an APRN can be found in Section 40-33-34 of the Nurse Practice Act, which can be found on our website (www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/). If you have questions, please contact Maggie Johnson at 803-896-4522.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Section 40-33-38 (C) of the Nurse Practice Act requires that all licensees notify the Board *in writing* within 15 days of an address change. So that you do not miss important information such as your renewal, please be sure to promptly notify the Board whenever you change address. You may use the form included at the top of your license mailer or submit a letter including your name (as shown on your license), license number, former address and new address as well as your new telephone number and email address. Address change requests should be sent to: Board of Nursing, Post Office Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211-2367.

RETURNED CHECKS

When submitting any fees to the Board of Nursing by check, please be certain there are sufficient funds in your account to cover your check and that the check has cleared before closing an account. Section 40-1-50(G) of the S.C. Code of Laws states that a license may be suspended if a fee payment is made by a check that is subsequently returned by the financial institution unpaid and is not made good within 10 days of official notification. Unpaid checks constitute a non-payment of license fees. Notifications are sent to the address of record on the licensee's file. When a check is returned, replacement funds plus the returned check fee allowed by law must be submitted in the form of a cashier's check or money order. The Board will not accept another check to replace the returned check and cannot provide any further licensure services until the check is made good. Notice of the suspension is sent to the licensee's employer(s) if the check is not made good within 10 days of official notification.

S.C. BOARD OF NURSING BOARD MEMBERS

Sylvia A. Whiting, RN, PhD, CS, Congressional District 1 –*President*
Suzanne Kanipe White, RN, MN, FAAN, FCCM, CNAA, Congressional District 4 –*Vice-President*
Brenda Yates Martin, RNC, MN, CNAA, Congressional District 5 –*Secretary*
Carrie Houser James, RN, MSN, Congressional District 6
Mattie Smalls Jenkins, LPN, Region I, Congressional District 1
Rose Kearney-Nunnery, RN, PhD, Congressional District 2
C. Lynn Lewis, RN, EdD, MHS, Congressional District 3
Debra J. Newton, LPN, Region II, Congressional District 4
James P. Rogers, Esquire, Public Member
Vacant – Second Public Member [*See Section 40-33-10(A)*]

S.C. BOARD OF NURSING CONTACT INFORMATION:

Main Telephone Line (803) 896-4550
Fax Line (803) 896-4525
Email Nurseboard@llr.sc.gov
Website www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/

LPN / RN / APRN Licensure

Telephone 803-896-4550
Email Nurseboard@llr.sc.gov
David Christian, III, Program Coordinator
Annette Disher, Program Coordinator
Edwina Garrett, Examinations
Pamela Holmes, Data Coordinator
John Mayer, Revenue Entry / Renewals
Theresa Richardson, Reinstatements / Changes
Brandi Risher, Endorsements
Michael Roland, Advanced Practice
Kathryn Spires, Verifications / Changes

Advanced Practice / Nursing Practice

Maggie Johnson, Program Nurse Consultant johnsonm@llr.sc.gov (803) 896-4522
Advanced Practice Licensure (803) 896-4522

Education/Refresher Courses

Nancy Murphy, Nurse Consultant murphyn@llr.sc.gov (803) 896-4529
Judy Moore, Administrative Specialist moorej@llr.sc.gov (803) 896-4743

Compliance/Disciplinary

Telephone 803-896-4470

Administration

Pam Dunkin, Office Manager dunkinp@llr.sc.gov (803) 896-6949
Tammy Haynes, Receptionist haynest@llr.sc.gov (803) 896-4550
Dottie Buchanan, Administrative Assistant dbuchana@llr.sc.gov (803) 896-4533
Martha Bursinger, Administrator bursingerm@llr.sc.gov (803) 896-4550

OFFICE LOCATION/HOURS OF OPERATION

The Board of Nursing is located at Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Suite 202, Columbia, SC 29210. Directions to our office can be found on our Web site.

Our mailing address is Post Office Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211-2367.

Normal business hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday, except for holidays designated by the State.

DESIGNATED STATE HOLIDAYS FOR 2005

May 10, 1005	Confederate Memorial Day
May 30, 2005	National Memorial Day
July 4, 2005	Independence Day
Sep 5, 2005	Labor Day
Nov 11, 2005	Veteran's Day
Nov 24-25, 2005	Thanksgiving
Dec 26-27, 2005	Christmas

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2005

Apr 19, 2005	Advisory Committee on Nursing
Apr 21, 2005	Nursing Practice and Standards Committee
May 20, 2005	Advanced Practice Committee
May 26-27, 2005	Board Meeting
Jun 16, 2005	Nursing Practice and Standards Committee
Jun 21, 2005	Advisory Committee on Nursing
Jul 15, 2005	Advanced Practice Committee
Jul 28-29, 2005	Board Meeting
Aug 18, 2005	Nursing Practice and Standards Committee
Aug 30, 2005	Advisory Committee on Nursing
Sep 16, 2005	Advanced Practice Committee
Sept 29-30, 2005	Board Meeting
Oct 18, 2005	Advisory Committee on Nursing
Oct 20, 2005	Nursing Practice and Standards Committee
Nov 17-18, 2005	Board Meeting
Nov 18, 2005	Advanced Practice Committee
Dec 8, 2005	Nursing Practice and Standards Committee
Dec 13, 2005	Advisory Committee on Nursing

VISIT US ON OUR WEB SITE: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/

The Board of Nursing Web site contains the New Nurse Practice Act, Regulations, Advisory Opinions, Licensee Lookup, Disciplinary Actions, and other information.