

Delaware Nursing Regulation & Independent Practice Update

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Delaware Board of Nursing (BON) – Mission

- What is the mission of the Delaware Board of Nursing?
- The mission of the BON is to:
 - Protect the public!
 - Protection in part by issuing professional licenses that set minimal qualifications & competencies for safe entry-level practice
 - Regulation is necessary since nursing profession poses a risk of harm if practiced by someone unprepared and/or incompetent
 - Provides assurance to the public that the nurse has met predetermined standards



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Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact – ENLC

- The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) increases access to care, protects patient safety, & reduces costs while supporting state-of-the-art health care delivery
- NLC allows for RNs & LPN/VNs to have one multistate license with the privilege to practice in their home state & other NLC states without obtaining additional licenses
- NLC has been operational and successful for more than 19 years and continues to grow each year with the addition of new states



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Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact – ENLC

- Delaware is an original compact and eNLC state!
- NLC has uniform licensure requirements so that all states can be confident that new nurses practicing within the NLC have met a set of minimum requirements, regardless of the home state in which they are licensed
- All states that participate in the NLC conduct federal criminal background checks to determine eligibility for a multistate license



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Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact – ENLC

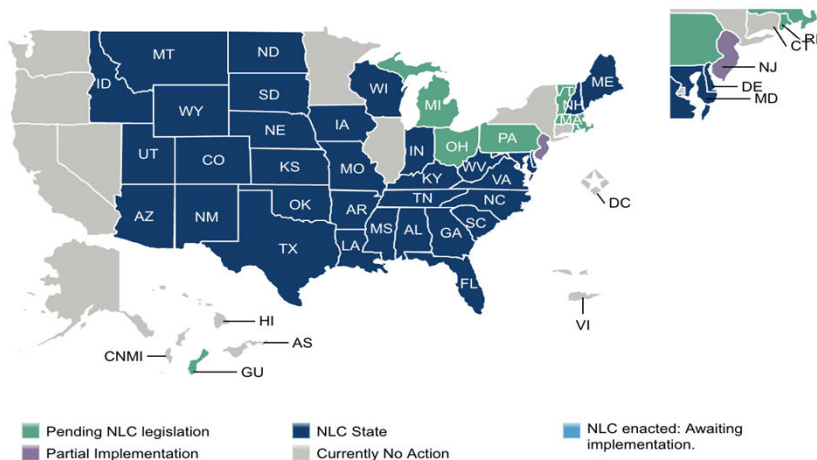
- The eNLC allows nurses to quickly & easily respond to provide nursing services during disasters in other eNLC states
- <https://www.ncsbn.org/13837.htm>



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Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact – ENLC



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APRN Compact



- So, what about APRNs?
- Is there an APRN Compact?
- Concept in existence since 2015
- Only 3 states (ID, WY, ND) have enacted APRN Compact legislation
- Progress stalled, but NCSBN developed a task force to examine data, etc. to make recommendations to update/improve APRN Compact language



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APRN Compact



- APRN Compact adopted August 12, 2020 at NCSBN Annual Meeting by Delegates
- allows an APRN to hold one multistate license with a privilege to practice in other compact states
- APRN Compact will be implemented when 7 states have enacted the legislation
- Eligible APRN will need to have practiced for at least 2,080 hours in role and population focus congruent with the applicant's education and training



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APRN Compact



- 2,080 hours are completed by APRN under his/her single-state license & in accordance with state law in the state, or states, seeking licensure
- APRN Compact supersedes any transition-to-practice hours beyond the first year that a licensee would otherwise be subject to under a single state license
- Stay tuned – again, individual states need to pass this legislation first, & Compact will not become “active” until 7 states enact this legislation



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Delaware Board of Nursing (BON) – How Many Licensees?

- 25,055 nursing licenses in Delaware
- 19,926 active RN licenses
- 2,820 active LPN licenses
- 2,297 active APRN licenses
 - 1,745 CNP licenses
 - 357 CRNA licenses
 - 147 CNS licenses
 - 48 CNM licenses



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Delaware Board of Nursing (BON) - ARPN Committee

- Applications for independent practice have been approved since March 2017
- Eligibility for all 4 APRN roles (CNP, CRNA, CNM, CNS)
- 241 independent practice applicants approved (61 additional since this time last year)



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Delaware Board of Nursing (BON) – Independent Practice

- The APRN must meet **all** of the following requirements for the role and population focus for which you are applying:
 - Practice as an APRN for at least 2 years with a collaborative agreement, **and**
 - Practice as an APRN for at least 4,000 hours of clinical APRN practice with a collaborative agreement, **and**
 - Completion of the clinical experience within 5 years before applying for independent practice



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Delaware Board of Nursing (BON) – How to Serve

- First step is to complete an application
- Governor John Carney – Boards & Commissions Application
- APRN seats (2) on BON
- Must be in different APRN roles
- Currently CNP & CRNA on BON
- <https://governor.delaware.gov/boards-commissions/>



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NURSYS



- Nursys
 - Licensure & disciplinary database
 - Repository of data provided directly from state BONs
 - only national database for verification of nurse licensure, discipline, & practice privileges for RNs, LPN/VNs licensed in participating boards of nursing, including all states in the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC/eNLC)
- Nursys.com provides online verification for endorsement to a nurse requesting to practice in another state and anyone who wants to verify a nurse license



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NURSYS



- Nursys E-Notify
 - FREE notification service providing automated license status updates
 - Nurses can create account/sign up for license expiration reminders & status updates via email for all of your licenses from participating BONs

<https://www.nursys.com/Help/HelpVideoPlayer.aspx?VID=EN#hdrNurses>



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Learning Extension



- Also offered by NCSBN
- Provides continuing education offerings, some complimentary
- **Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing (4.0 contact hours) – FREE**
- **Nurse Manager Guidelines for Substance Use Disorder (3.0 contact hours) – FREE**
- Register at learningext.com



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DELPROS (Delaware Professional Regulation Online Service)

- New licensure system in Delaware
- ~ July 15th – email & security code to register
- complete online solution to apply, manage, & renew all professional licenses
- it will provide a place to verify professional licenses and file complaints



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DELPROS (Delaware Professional Regulation Online Service)

- DELPROS will be a totally online license application & renewal system
- Manage your account information online
- For continuing education, there is a feature to maintain a course hours acquired
- License renewals will be a self-service feature



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DELPROS (Delaware Professional Regulation Online Service)

- Paper applications are eliminated
- Licensee can print a paper license when the license is active
- Applicants will have the ability to upload documents
- All payments for fees and fines will be done online
- customerservice.dpr@delaware.gov



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QUESTIONS???

Thank you!

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