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## Welcome New Board Members Abram and Palovik

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing proudly welcomes two new Board members, Cathy Abram, BSHA, MAED/AET, LPN, and Janice (Jan) Palovik, MSA, RN, APRN-CRNA. Both Abram and Palovik were recently appointed by Governor Fallin to five-year terms.

Cathy Abram graduated from Afton Technology Center practical nursing program, and later obtained from the University of Phoenix, a Bachelor's degree in Health Administration and a Master's degree in Adult Education. Cathy is currently employed at Northeast Technology Center as an instructor for the Adult Education Certified Nurse Aide program and as adjunct faculty for Constructive Trades and Industry Training. Cathy's nursing background includes psych-mental health nursing and educating care providers of the developmentally disabled. Cathy serves on multiple statewide committees and is involved with community Hospice and free health clinics in her hometown of Vinita, Oklahoma.

Jan Palovik was initially licensed as an RN in Oklahoma following graduation from Northern Oklahoma College with an Associate of Applied Science nursing degree. She later completed her baccalaureate degree in nursing at Northwestern Oklahoma State University and graduated from Texas Wesleyan University with a Master's of Science in nurse anesthesia. Prior to practicing as an APRN-CRNA, Jan practiced nursing in medical/surgical patient care units, pediatrics and surgery. She served as an administrator in the first Home Health Agency in Woodward, Oklahoma and pioneered the first Peri-natal Continuing Education Program in rural Oklahoma. Jan currently practices as a CRNA with Duncan Anesthesia Associates. Jan's professional memberships include ONA, OANA, AANA and Sigma Theta Tau. Jan resides in Marlow, Oklahoma, and actively serves her community through Leadership Duncan, Kindred Community (a widow's ministry of which she co-founded), and the Beautiful Day Foundation.

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## The Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC)

A new era of nursing licensure was ushered on July 20, 2017, when the 26th state necessary for eNLC enactment signed legislation into law. The Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators, the governing body of the eNLC, set the date of **Jan. 19, 2018**, for eNLC implementation.

### So what does this mean for you?

The eNLC, which is an updated version of the original Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC), allows for registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) to have one multistate license, with the ability to practice in person or via telehealth in both their home state and other eNLC states. All applicants for a multistate license are required to meet the same licensing requirements, which include federal and state criminal background checks, which may be biometric.

On Jan. 19, 2018, nurses with eNLC multistate licenses may begin practicing in the 26 eNLC states. In original NLC states that have enacted eNLC legislation, a nurse who holds a multistate license as of July 20, 2017, will be grandfathered into the eNLC and will be able to practice in other eNLC states beginning on the implementation date. A nurse residing in a state that is new to the eNLC, like Oklahoma, will be able to practice in other eNLC states contingent upon the board of nursing issuing the nurse a multistate license.

The current states in the eNLC include: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming. Work will continue toward the ultimate goal of having all 50 states in the compact.

## What do you need to do if you want a multistate license?

Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses who currently hold an Oklahoma nursing license and want a multistate license must apply for a multistate license through the [Oklahoma Board of Nursing website](#). On the application for a multistate license, you will be required to declare your primary state of residency. Primary state of residence is your state of legal residency which can be proven via official documents such as a state driver's license with a home address, voter registration card displaying a home address, federal income tax return declaring the primary state of residence, Military Form No. 2058 – state of legal residence certificate; and/or W2 from US Government or any bureau, division or agency thereof indicating the state or residence.

You must also meet the additional requirements for a multistate license. These are the [Uniform Licensure Requirements \(ULRs\)](#). If you do not meet all of the ULRs, you may still retain your single-state license. If you need to practice across a state border, you can do so by applying for a single-state license in that state (or using an active license that has been issued to you by that state).

You have to keep in mind that your nursing practice takes place where the patient is located. If the patient is located in another state, you need to be licensed to practice nursing in that state. A multistate license helps to facilitate that; however, you still must adhere to the laws and regulations of the state in which you are practicing whether that be in person or via telehealth. The practice of nursing is not limited to patient care and does include all nursing practice as defined by state practice laws of the state in which the patient/client is located.

If you need to practice in a state that is not a member of the eNLC, you need a single state license issued from that state regardless of whether you hold a multistate license.

Additional information about the eNLC can be found at <http://nursing.ok.gov/>, <https://www.ncsbn.org/enhanced-nlc-implementation.htm> or [www.nursecompact.com](http://www.nursecompact.com). You can also check out the [video](#) about the eNLC. For the latest information, follow the eNLC on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).

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## Nursys e-Notify Resources Notification

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing provides the Nursys e-Notify system resources to both licensed nurses and employers of licensed nurses. Nursys e-Notify is an innovative national nurse licensure notification system that provides subscribed employers of licensed nurses real-time notifications, alerting the subscribed party when changes such as license status, license expiration, pending license renewals and public disciplinary action are made to a nurse's license record. Nursys e-Notify is a FREE, convenient way for nurses to receive license expiration reminders and status updates of their nursing license, and to track license verifications for endorsement. **Effective December 1, 2017**, licensed nurses and employers of licensed nurses may subscribe to the service FREE of charge at: <https://www.nursys.com/EN/ENDefault.aspx>

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## Certified Verifications Shifting to Nursys

Effective December 1, 2017, certified verifications of licensure for **Registered Nurse** and **Licensed Practical Nurse** endorsement into other states will no longer be processed through the Oklahoma Board of Nursing. Instead, the services will be provided through the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's national database for licensure verification, Nursys®. Nursys® is designated as a primary source equivalent database through a written agreement with the Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

Nursys® is live and dynamic, reflecting immediately all updates pushed frequently and securely from participating boards of nursing to the system. Nursys® is a 24/7 nationwide database for verification of nurse licensure, discipline and practice privileges; and, makes such information immediately available to the board of nursing where the individual is applying for licensure. The nurse licensure verification service enables nurses to verify their license(s) from a Nursys verification participating board when applying for endorsement into another state. Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses can verify their licenses by completing the Nursys verification process for \$30 per license type, per each board of nursing where the nurse is applying. The nurse's license verification is available immediately to the endorsing board of nursing. As of November 1, 2017, Oklahoma-licensed Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses can request certified licensure verification through Nursys® at: <https://www.nursys.com/NLV/NLVTerms.aspx>

Certified verifications of licensure for **Advanced Practice Registered Nurse** endorsement into other states will continue to be processed through the Oklahoma Board of Nursing. The request form is available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/writverify.pdf>

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## Oklahoma Board of Nursing Transitions to Less-Paper, Verifiable Licensure

Effective December 1, 2017, the Oklahoma Board of Nursing will no longer print traditional license cards. A process will be in place in which the licensee will be able to access the Board of Nursing website and, after entering an individual personal identification number and answering security questions, print a paper license card to include the licensee's name, level of licensure, license number and links to both the Board of Nursing verification site and Nursys national license database, where the current status of the license can be verified.

Cause for moving to a less-paper, verifiable system is multi-faceted. With increased reports of lost or stolen license cards, and cards never received in the mail, the new system will reduce the risk of fraud and impersonation of Oklahoma-licensed nurses. Implementation of the new system enhances employer ability to verify current license status of licensed nurses employed and/or prospective employees, by going to a primary source to verify licensure. Employers may verify licensure through the Board of Nursing website at <https://apps.ok.gov/nursing/verify/index.php> or Nursys at <https://www.nursys.com/LQC/QCTerms.aspx>. In addition, the less-paper, verifiable system reduces cost to licensees for duplicating misplaced or lost license cards. Currently, fifty-three percent of all state boards of nursing use paperless initial license while sixty-seven percent of all states have paperless licensure renewal. Once the system is in place, all Oklahoma actively-licensed nurses will receive an email notification to include instructions for printing a paper license card.

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## Recent Policy Revisions

The following policies have been reviewed/approved and are available for review by hyperlink provided.

### Approved Policies/Guidelines during the May 2017 Board Meeting:

Nursing Competencies by Educational Level: Guidelines for Nursing Practice and Education in Oklahoma, #P-21 available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/ed-goals.pdf>

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Certification Examinations Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, #P-52A available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/prac-natlcert.pdf>

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Certification Examinations **No Longer** Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, #P-52B available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/prac-natlcert.pdf>

### Approved Policies/Guidelines during the July 2017 Board Meeting:

Position Statement on Entry into Practice, OBN Position Statement available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/entryintopractice.pdf>

CRNA Inclusionary Formulary, #P-50A available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/prac-crnafrm.pdf>

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## Routine Reminders and Links

### Reminder for Change of Name

Licensees must provide certified evidence (a copy of marriage license or court action) regarding any change of name within 30 days of the change. To change your name, you must complete the Name Change Request form. The form is available on the Board of Nursing website at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/namechange.pdf>

### Reminder for Change of Address

Have you had a change of address? If so, you **must** notify the Board office in writing within 30 days of the change. You may submit a signed and dated statement with your license number or Social Security number, your full name, and your new address. Alternatively, you may complete your change of address on the Board's website: <https://pay.apps.ok.gov/nursing/renewal/login.php>

### Notice to Licensees Submitting Online Renewals

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing online renewal system provides a convenient way for you to submit your renewal. However, it is essential that you protect the security of your online information. **Your PIN number, which is required for the renewal, should not be shared with anyone, not even with your spouse or support staff at your place of employment.** Your responsibility to renew your license **cannot** be delegated to another person. **You are the only person who can complete and submit the online renewal application!**

To access the online renewal: <https://pay.apps.ok.gov/nursing/renewal/index.php>

In preparing to submit your online renewal application, please visit the following link specific to Continuing Qualifications for License Renewal Guidelines: <http://nursing.ok.gov/cqlicenserenewal.pdf>

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## Online Applications

All nursing licensure applications and applications for Advanced Unlicensed Assistants have been available online since 2009. Since this time, the Board has seen a marked improvement in processing times of applications and improved stakeholder satisfaction. The transition to online applications supports the "Go Green" direction of state government, contributes to efficiencies within the Board of Nursing, and promotes lower application processing times.

For those applicants who do not have personal access to a computer through home, work, school or a nearby library, computers are available for public use in the Board office. If an applicant cannot access an online application by any of these means, a paper copy may be requested by the individual applicant by submitting a written request for such to the Board office. A self-addressed, postage-paid (approximately \$1.06) 8 ½" x 11" envelope must accompany the written request for a paper copy of the application.

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