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Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact Update

The enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC), which was enacted by the state of Oklahoma in April 2016, is an updated version of the current Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC), allowing registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) to have one multistate license, with the ability to practice in both their home state and other NLC states. At this time, the eNLC is not an operating compact because it does not go into effect until 26 states pass and enact the eNLC legislation, or on Dec. 31, 2018, whichever is sooner. Currently, 23 states, including Oklahoma, have enacted the eNLC but until the implementation date is reached, Oklahoma cannot issue eNLC licenses.

Once 26 states have enacted the eNLC, every licensed nurse in Oklahoma will receive a letter informing them of the estimated date when the eNLC will be implemented. This letter will be sent to the mailing address that the Oklahoma Board of Nursing (OBON) has on file. In compliance with the Board of Nursing Rules, specifically Oklahoma Administrative Code 485:10-7-9(c), notice of change of address must be submitted within 30 days of the change.

Under the eNLC, a multistate license is not automatically granted to all nurses licensed in Oklahoma. Once the eNLC is implemented, interested nurses may apply for a multistate license. The eNLC increases access to care while maintaining public protection. Patient safety being of paramount importance led to the addition of new features found in the eNLC including a requirement for state and federal background checks for all applicants who choose to apply for an eNLC license. Additionally, the eNLC includes 11 uniform licensure requirements a nurse must meet to obtain an eNLC license to ensure all nurses practicing with an eNLC license have met the same high licensure standards. Licensed nurses not meeting the uniform core licensure requirements, and those nurses not interested in obtaining a multistate license, may continue to hold single state licensure provided the requirements of maintaining licensure are met.

You will receive additional information as soon as Oklahoma is able to start issuing Oklahoma eNLC licenses to its nurses. Additional information about the eNLC can be found at www.nursecompact.org. To keep up-to-date on the eNLC you can like the [NLC Facebook page](#) or follow the NLC on [Twitter](#).

Employment of Nursing Students or Non-Licensed Graduates Guidelines

Board staff members are frequently asked about appropriate employment roles for nursing students and graduates of nursing education programs who are not yet licensed. According to the Employment of Nursing Students or Non-Licensed Graduates Guidelines, #E-04, the definition of a Nurse Technician/Practical Nurse Technician is an individual who is currently enrolled in a program of registered or practical nursing or is between terms/semesters; or has completed a program of registered or practical nursing and has applied to take the licensure examination. The graduate may continue to be employed in a Nurse Technician role until licensed in ANY state, territory, or country provided that the first licensure examination is taken within 90 days after graduation and the examination is passed within 6 months of graduation, on either the first or the second attempt.

The Nurse Technician/Practical Nurse Technician **may not**: administer medications including but not limited to blood products and intravenous fluids; perform assessments; act in a supervisory position; take verbal orders from the physician or other health care provider; or develop the plan of care.

The guideline in its entirety can be accessed at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/ed-guide.pdf>

Substance Use Disorder Educational Courses Free to Nurses and Nursing Students

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) provides NCSBN courses "Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing" and "Nurse Manager Guidelines for Substance Use Disorder" free of charge to all nurses and nursing students. NCSBN's Substance Use Disorder (SUD) toolkit, brochures, posters, a book and the two continuing education courses were developed so that nurses can identify the warning signs of SUD in patients, nurses and the general public and provide guidelines for prevention, education and intervention. Please access the following link for additional information: [Substance Use Disorder Educational Courses Free to Nurses and Nursing Students](#).

Recent Policy Revisions

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

Approved Policies/Guidelines during the March 2017 Board Meeting:

Reports Submitted from Nursing Education Programs on NCLEX Pass Rate and Program Completion Rate Report Guidelines, #E-07 accessible at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/passrate.pdf>

Employment of Nursing Students or Non-Licensed Graduates Guidelines, #E-04 accessible at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/ed-guide.pdf>

Refresher Courses for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses Policy, #P-54 accessible at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/apnrefresher.pdf>

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

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

Complete March 2017 Board Meeting Minutes are available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/bdminmar17.pdf>

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/cqlicenser renewal.pdf>

This publication is issued by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing as authorized by the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act [59 O.S. § 567.1, et seq.] and is located at the following website: <http://nursing.ok.gov/pubs.html>

This publication has been submitted in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

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