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Welcome New Board Member, Carmen Nickel!

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing welcomes new Board member, Carmen Nickel, BSN, MS, RN. Carmen serves as freshman nursing faculty at Western Oklahoma State College. Carmen graduated from Southwestern Oklahoma State University with a BS in Nursing and, in 2014, she graduated from Northeastern State University with a Master's of Science in Nursing Education. Carmen began her nursing career in Labor and Delivery, and served in a variety of nursing leadership roles for seventeen years. She began teaching in 2011, serving as an adjunct instructor and lecturer, and in 2014 Carmen began in her current nursing faculty position at Western Oklahoma State College. Carmen is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, and several state and national nursing associations. The Board of Nursing welcomes Carmen to the Board!

Medic Veteran to Licensed Practical Nurse Bridge Course Guideline Approved

In accordance with the Nursing Practice Act [59 O.S. § 567.20], on or before December 31, 2015, the Oklahoma Board of Nursing shall develop program guidelines for approved nursing education programs to utilize in transitioning veterans with prior military medical training and experience into nursing education programs. A subcommittee of the Board's Future of Nursing Education Regulation task force volunteered to draft the guideline.

The guideline supports legislative efforts that will transition Veterans into the civilian workplace. Coursework, designed to bridge previously gained healthcare knowledge, skills and abilities of the military Veteran student to the role of the practical nurse, includes didactic, laboratory and clinical experiences supervised by faculty of the approved nursing education program. Those eligible to participate include Veterans who have completed Basic Medical Technician Corpsman Program (Navy/Air Force), Air Force Independent Duty Medical Technician, or Army Health Care Specialist Training. Board-approved practical nurse programs may accept Veterans with prior military medical training and award advance standing for previously gained healthcare knowledge, skills and abilities following the program's advance standing policy.

The following are recognized for their contributions and work in developing the guideline: Mary Allen, Douglas Johnston, LaDonna Meyer, Lisa Morlan, JR Polzien, Cindy Schneider, LaDonna Selvidge and Barbara Simmons. The guideline can be accessed at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/medicveteranbridgegl.pdf>

Remember Your Name Badge

Did you know the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act addresses name badges? The law specifically reads, "Any person licensed or certified by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing who provides direct care to patients shall, while on duty, wear an insignia or badge identifying the license or certification issued to such person by the Board". [59 O.S. § 567.14.B.] This applies to all **licensed** nurses as well as **certified** Advanced Unlicensed Assistants.

How the name is displayed on the badge may vary. Some organizations print first name and license, some print both names and license, and some print only the last name and license issued to such person by the Board. It is important that the public be aware of your licensure or certification as you provide nursing care.

All Advanced Practice Registered Nurses including Certified Nurse Practitioners (CNP), Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM), Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS), and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA), are required to use the title Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) and their specific specialty role title (CNP, CNM, CNS, or CRNA) in their communication with the public. For example the APRN might display or sign his or her name "Jane Doe, APRN-CNP". The law does not specify whether a dash, comma, or space should separate the two portions of the title.

The title nurse is not protected in law. However, the titles of Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) [59 O.S § 567.6.F], Registered Nurse (RN) [59 O.S. § 567.5.E], and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) [59 O.S. § 567.3a.5] are protected in the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act. The title Advanced Unlicensed Assistant (AUA) is also protected [59 O.S. § 567.6a.D]. A criminal penalty exists for anyone using the title or such abbreviation or any other words, letters, signs or figures to indicate such licensure or certification of AUA, LPN, RN or APRN, if the user is not in fact licensed by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

Oklahoma Health Care Providers' Responsibilities and Rights Under Certain Medical Treatment Laws

In accordance with Oklahoma state law [63 O.S. § 3162], the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (OSBMLS) developed a brochure and an online presentation regarding medical treatment laws. The brochure is entitled, "Oklahoma Health Care Providers' Responsibilities and Rights under Certain Medical Treatment Laws".

As directed in the brochure, in-patient health care services entities shall ensure that all health care providers and other defined officials associated with the in-patient health care services entity are provided a copy of the brochure and sign a certification validating that they have read the brochure and are familiar with their responsibilities and rights as set forth therein. Additional requirements are noted within the brochure.

The brochure can be accessed at:

<http://www.okmedicalboard.org/download/738/HEALTH+CARE>

The online presentation can be accessed at:

<http://secure.okmedicalboard.org>.

Following successful completion of the course, the individual is provided the opportunity to print a certificate of completion. According to instructions, the individual is to retain this certificate for individual or employer's records. The individual does NOT need to send the certificate to the Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

Online Applications

Effective March 2, 2015, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse initial applications, Prescriptive Authority initial applications and Reinstatement applications are available primarily as online applications. This transition supports the "Go Green" direction of state government, contributes to efficiencies within the Board of Nursing and promotes lower application processing time.

All applications have been available online since 2009. Since this time, the Board has seen a marked improvement in processing time of applications and improved stakeholder satisfaction.

For those applicants who do not have personal access 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 by submitting a written request for such to the Board office. A self-addressed, postage paid (approximately \$1.06) 8 1/2" x 11" envelope must accompany the written request for a paper copy of the application.

Recent Policy Revisions

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

Approved Policies/Guidelines during the May 2015 Board Meeting:

CRNA Inclusionary Formulary, #P-50A, available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/prac-cmafrm.pdf>

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Certification Examinations Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, #P-52A, available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/prac-natlcert.pdf>

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Certification Examinations **No Longer** Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, #P-52B, available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/prac-natlcert.pdf>

IV Medication Administration by Licensed Practical Nurses Guidelines, #P-12, available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/IVMed.pdf>

Monitoring of the Moderate (Conscious) Sedation Patient by Licensed Practical Nurse Guidelines, #P-07, available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/prac-lpnquid.pdf>

Complete May 2015 Board Meeting Minutes are available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/bdminmay15.pdf>

Approved Policies/Guidelines during the August 2015 Board Meeting:

School Nurse Position Statement, available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/schlnurse.pdf>

Position Statement on Entry Into Practice, available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/entryintopractice.pdf>

Board Document Definitions, #P-20, available at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/docdefin.pdf>

Complete August 2015 Board Meeting Minutes will be available **following** the September 2015 Board Meeting at:

<https://www.ok.gov/nursing/bdminaug15.pdf>

Reminder for Change of Name

To change your name, you must complete the Name Change Request form. The form is available on the Board of Nursing website at:

<http://www.ok.gov/nursing/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://www.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://www.ok.gov/nursing/renewal/index.php>

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://www.ok.gov/nursing/pubs.html>

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

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