Bill No. 34-0040
Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC)

Committee on Health, Hospitals and Human Services

April 13, 2021
10:00 am

Submitted by
Jim Puente, Director, NLC
**What is the Nurse Licensure Compact?**

A statutory agreement between two or more states established for the purpose of remedying a particular problem of multistate concern.

Each party state is a signatory to the same contract. For that reason there is a need for "substantive sameness."

The NLC allows for a nurse to have one multistate license (issued from his/her primary state of residency).

The NLC permits the nurse to practice in other compact states (physically or via telehealth) subject to each states laws.

---

**Which States are Members of the NLC?**

- **35** States have enacted the NLC
- **2M** Nurses hold a multistate license

![Map of NLC Member States]
Ready or Not: PROTECTING THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH FROM DISEASES, DISASTERS, AND BIOTERRORISM

TABLE 1: Top-Priority Indicators of State Public Health Preparedness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATORS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Incident Management: Adoption of the Nurse Licensure Compact</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-Sector Community Collaboration: Percentage of hospitals participating in healthcare coalitions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Quality: Accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Quality: Accreditation by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Quality: Size of the state public health budget compared with the past year</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Security: Percentage of the population that used a community water system that failed to meet all applicable health-based standards.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce Resilience and Infection Control: Percentage of employed population that used paid time off.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countermeasures Utilization: Percentage of people ages 6 months or older who received a seasonal flu vaccination.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient Safety: Percentage of hospitals with a top-quality ranking (A grade) on the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Surveillance: The public health laboratory has a plan for a six-to-eight week surge in testing capacity.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://www.tfah.org/report-details/ready-or-not-2021/

NLC supporters across the U.S.

- Air & Surface Transport Nurses Association
- American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing
- American Association of Neuroscience Nurses
- American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN)
- American Association of Poison Control Centers
- American Nephrology Nurses Association
- American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE)
- American Telemedicine Association (ATA)
- Association of Camp Nurses
- Association for Vascular Access
- Case Management Society of America (CMSA)
- Center for Telehealth and E Health Law
- CFNS International, Inc.
- Citizen Advocacy Center (CAC)
- Commission for Case Manager Certification
- Cross Country Healthcare
- Emergency Nurses Association (ENA)
- Health IT Now
- Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) Healthcare
- National Military Family Association
- National Governors Association Center for Best Practices
- National League for Nursing
- National Patient Safety Foundation
- National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA)
- Oncology Nursing Society
- Optum
- Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
- Population Health Alliance
- Telehealth Leadership Council
- U.S. Department of Commerce
- WorldWide HealthStaff Solutions Ltd.
- American Red Cross
Eligibility for a Multistate License...

To receive a multistate license, a nurse must:

1. Meet the home state’s qualifications
2. Graduate from qualifying education program (or graduated from a foreign program verified by independent credentials review agency)
3. Passed English proficiency exam if foreign grad
4. Pass the NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® exam (or state board test pool exam).
5. Have no active discipline on a license.
6. Submit to state/federal fingerprint-based criminal background check.
7. Not be currently enrolled in an alternative program.
Eligibility for a Multistate License...

To receive a **multistate** license, a nurse must:

1. Self-disclose participation in an alternative program.
2. Have no misdemeanors related to practice of nursing as determined by the state board of nursing on a case by case basis.
3. Have no prior state or federal felony convictions.
4. Have a valid U.S. Social Security number.

How Discipline Works

A remote state may take adverse action against the licensee's Privilege to Practice within that remote state.

The home state may take action against the license. The home state's action removes all multistate privileges. This protects all compact states from the licensee. The license becomes a single state license.
Interstate Commission

- Governing body that is also a public agency (The term “Commission” is commonly used by other modern interstate compact governing bodies)
- Elected leadership: Executive Committee
- Commissioners: “the head of the board of nursing” or designee; (usually the executive director)

Assistance with Expenses

NCSBN’s NLC Grant covers:

- Expenses of implementing NLC (largely IT)
  - Includes temporary staffing expenses
- Expenses of implementing criminal background checks (CBC)
  - Federal and territorial fingerprint-based CBC
- Expenses to promote the NLC and educate nurses and hospitals
THANK YOU!

Questions?

Jim Puente, MS, MJ, CAE
Director, NLC

Email: nursecompact@ncsbn.org

Toolkit: www.NLC.gov