

Paperless Licensure Beginning with the 2012 Renewal Season

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Beginning with the 2012 renewal season which opens on October 1, 2011, the LSBN is going paperless. All renewed licenses for 2012 will be issued electronically only. Temporary **paper** permits for initial licensure by exam and endorsement will no longer be issued beginning January 1, 2012. Newly licensed Registered Nurses will continue to receive a Certificate of Registration which carries a permanent registration number, the date of issuance, and the authorization to practice as a registered nurse in Louisiana. All licenses will be issued electronically and must be verified through the LSBN website. Revisions to Chapter 33, Subchapter C. Registration and Registered Nurse Licensure, 3329. Verification of Licensure, 3341. Fees for Registration and Licensure, and Chapter 45, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, Section 4507. Licensure as Advanced Practice Registered Nurse have been adopted to reflect the new paperless licensure system.

The Paperless Licensure System has several advantages:

- ✦ Eliminates Lost, Stolen and Duplicate Licenses
- ✦ Eliminates Imposters using fraudulent paper licenses
- ✦ Assists employers in satisfying JCAHO standards requiring the use of primary source data for license verification
- ✦ Increases the efficiency and effectiveness of the Board of Nursing in administering its regulatory activities
- ✦ Provides quicker access by employers and the public to disciplinary action

After implementation of the paperless licenses, LSBN will begin working on an automatic notification system which pursue a subscription service to allow employers to receive instant e-mail notification of licensure status change.

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For the scoop on what's going on at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, visit
<http://www.lsbn.state.la.us>

Board Notices

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. What am I going to show my employer? They always want to see my license.

R1. Your employer can access your licensure information directly from the LSBN database, which is the primary source for nurse licensure information. The database can be accessed on our website www.lsbn.state.la.us

Q2. I just received my initial paper license in June, is my paper license still valid while the paperless license system is being implemented?

R2. Paperless licenses will be in existence until January 31, 2012. However, your current paper license is for information purposes only and does not serve as the primary source for licensure verification. The statement on the reverse of your license reads: *This license is provided for information purposes only. Status of licensure must be obtained from primary source at LSBN website (www.lsbn.state.la.us) or Nursys.com*

Q3. If I don't get my paper license, how will I know when my license will expire?

R3. You will receive a renewal postcard before the start of renewal season at the last known address on file at the Board. It is extremely important to keep a current address on file with the Board. There is a Quick Link for address changes on the LSBN Home Page. Additionally, you will receive renewal notices via e-mail. E-mails are sent out every month during renewal season to those Registered Nurses who have not renewed. It is extremely important to have a current e-mail address on file with the Board.

Q4. As an employer of registered nurses, what do I need to verify on line?

R4. Before employing a registered nurse or advanced practice registered nurse and annually on or before January 31, current licensure should be verified on-line. Only the correct spelling of the name of the person is required or you may use the RN license number. If for some reason the LSBN website is not accessible current licensure information may be obtained at Nursys.com or by calling the Board at (225)755-7500.