

# T H E E X A M I N E R

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In concluding my theme for this year to recognize nurses honored by the Louisiana Nurses Foundation for excellence in nursing practice and healthcare delivery, this quarter's honorees include **Carolyn Moy, BSN, RNC, Katherine Roberts, MSN, RN, CCRN, Diane Fulton,**

**MSN, RN, Marirose Bernard, MN, APRN, NE<sub>BC</sub>, and Carol Tingle, PhD, MSN, RN.** Carolyn Moy was honored as ***Clinical Practice Nurse of the Year***. She is a labor and delivery nurse at St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, LA. She maintains certification as an Inpatient Obstetrics nurse and has a special gift for helping laboring mothers. She is a mentor to new graduates and a trusted confidante of physicians, staff, and patients. Ms. Roberts was recognized as ***Clinical Nurse Educator of the Year***. Katherine is a clinical educator at St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, LA where she has provided for the continuing nursing education needs of her colleagues for the last 4 ½ years. She has developed a Nursing Education Day, which ensures continued competency of all the nurses in the hospital. She also spearheaded efforts to lead the hospital to become a NICHE-Certified Hospital (Nurses Improving Care for Hospitalized Elderly). Diane Fulton received the award as ***Nursing Administrator of the Year***. Diane is Chief Nursing Officer at Rapides Regional Medical Center in Alexandria, LA. In her position for only 3 years, she has demonstrated true leadership in promoting nursing care excellence and serving as an advocate for her nurses, both at the hospital and in the community. Among other achievements, Diane has implemented a nursing newsletter and a new graduate residency program, reduced RN staff turnover to below the national benchmark, instituted a Resource Team to assist where needed, and was recognized by Joint Commission for best practice in discharge process. ***The Nurse Educator of the Year*** was awarded to Marirose Bernard. Ms. Bernard is the course coordinator for Women's Health Nursing Theory and Women's Health Nursing Practicum at LSUHSC School of Nursing in New Orleans, LA recognized as an APRN, CNS certified

in parent-child health and perinatal nursing. She serves as advisor to the Student Nurses Association at LSUHSC and has devoted her professional life to assisting young nurses to develop their full potential. She uses games to actively engage students in the learning process, has developed a birthing simulation, and brings great humor into the classroom. Said best by one of her students, Ms. Bernard is an "Amazing instructor! Absolute favorite clinical rotation so far. Made sure everybody had the chance to complete their own goals for the rotation. Sad to see this rotation end." Dr. Carol Tingle was honored as ***Nursing School Administrator of the Year***. Dr. Tingle is the Director of the Baton Rouge General Medical Center School of Nursing. She has been praised by both students and faculty as an advocate for student success and has promoted policies such as no major exam on the first day of class following a holiday, which recognizes that students have a life outside the classroom. This while maintaining an NCLEX-RN first time score rate of 100% in 2007, 2008, 2012, and 2013, ranking the school of nursing as #1 among more than 800 nursing programs nationwide. These individuals, as well as their peers recognized in earlier editions of ***The Examiner***, represent what is best about our profession. They are mentors and teachers, clinicians and administrators, APRNs and rookies. And they are the reason why, year to year, nursing tops the Gallup poll as the most trusted profession.

Dr. Demetrius Porche, President of the LSBN Board of Directors, and I attended the annual meeting of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing in Chicago from August 12 – 15, 2014. Some of the highlights of that meeting include:

- The APRN Interstate Compact Proposal has been withdrawn at this time in order to allow for alignment with the RN Interstate Compact.
- The NCSBN released the results of the National Simulation Study. In this study, prelicensure students were divided into 3 groups: control (students had traditional clinical experiences with no more than 10% of clinical hours spent in simulation); 25% group (students had 25% of their





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traditional clinical hours replaced by simulation); and 50% group (students had 50% of their traditional clinical hours replaced by simulation) and then groups were studied longitudinally as they progressed through their nursing programs from fall 2011 through spring 2013. Findings included

(<https://www.ncsbn.org/5172.htm>):

- o No statistical differences between groups on the ATI RN Comprehensive Predictor 2010 used to assess overall nursing knowledge;
- o On a scale of 1 to 6, all students had mean scores above 5 in clinical competency, indicating that they were all rated as clinically competent by preceptors and instructors;
- o There was no statistically significant difference in critical thinking between students in the 3 groups;
- o There was no statistically significant difference in readiness to practice between students in the 3 groups;
- o There were no statistically significant differences between the 3 groups in ATI Fundamentals of Nursing Assessment, ATI Medical-Surgical Nursing Assessment, and ATI Community Health Nursing Assessment;
- o The 50% group had statistically significant higher scores than the control group for ATI Advanced Medical-Surgical Nursing Assessment and ATI Mental Health Nursing;
- o The 50% group had statistically significant higher scores than both groups for the ATI Maternal-Newborn Nursing Assessment and the ATI Nursing Care of Children Assessment.
- o The 50% group consistently reported higher levels of feeling "prepared to practice" compared with their study peers (descriptive results only); and
- o There were no statistically significant differences between groups on any workplace factors.

- The White Paper: Nursing Regulation Recommendations for Distance Education in Prelicensure Nursing Programs was presented ([https://www.ncsbn.org/Section\\_III\\_13\(4\).pdf](https://www.ncsbn.org/Section_III_13(4).pdf). See pages 132-150)

- Report on National Nurse Aide Assessment Program and Medication Aide Certification Examination was presented.

As a final note, all Executive Officers of member boards with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing recently had the opportunity to work with Integris Performance Advisors to develop Lean Culture principles to facilitate our promotion of organizational health. Lean Culture is directed at creating a healthy organization with engaged employees, happy customers, and gratified stakeholders. To achieve this culture, Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership have been identified: Model the Way; Inspire a Shared Vision; Challenge the Process; Enable Others to Act; and Encourage the Heart. Modeling requires that we set a personal example of what we expect of others. Inspiring shared visions compels us to talk about the future trends that will influence how we get our business done. Challenging processes mandates that we seek out opportunities that test our own skills and abilities. Enabling others to act demands cooperative relationships among the people we work with. Finally, encouraging the heart, my personal favorite, requires that we praise publicly, reward creativity, celebrate accomplishments, and provide lots of appreciation and support for our team members. I challenge each of you to make a commitment to build your leadership capacity. Leadership is a journey, not a destination. Making a positive impact on our profession begins with the commitments we make today.

In Service to Nursing,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen C. Lyon".

Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS, NEA<sub>BC</sub>  
Executive Director





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Fees for Registration and Licensure  
by Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS, NEA<sub>BC</sub>  
Executive Director

Louisiana RNs and APRNs:

Please be advised that LAC Title 46, Part XLVII, Subpart 2. Registered Nurses, Chapter 33, §3341 Fees for Registration and Licensure has been amended effective September 20, 2014 as published in Volume 40, Number 9 of the **Louisiana Register**. Effective with the 2015 Licensure Renewal season, which begins October 1, 2014, RN and APRN licensure renewal fees increase from \$80 to \$100 each. Other licensure fee changes include \$50 for enrollment application, \$50 for RN/APRN late fee(s) (plus renewal fee[s]), \$100 retired license fee (one-time fee), \$100 RN/APRN endorsement temporary permit fee, \$50 APRN prescriptive authority site change, and \$100 reinstatement of prescriptive authority privileges. Additionally, a \$25 fee will be collected for any type of returned items for payment of the above fees.

Are You Ready for the 2015 Renewal Season?  
by Brenda Kelt, Licensing Analyst 2  
Practice and Credentialing Department

With the 2015 licensure renewal season beginning on October 1, 2014, board staff would like to provide you with a few helpful hints to ensure you're ready to renew your nursing license by December 31, 2014:

1. If you've had a name change in the last year, please fill out the [Name Change](#) form and fax or mail to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) as soon as possible, along with the supporting documentation indicated on the form, so board staff can update your nursing license to reflect your new name.
2. Please test your 'Username' and 'Password' required for online renewal by going to the LSBN homepage under [My Services](#) to verify and update any changes to your residential or business mailing address, phone numbers, and/or email address. If you've forgot either, please follow the instructions below the login button that reads: "[If you have lost your Password \[Username\] click here](#)"
3. Pull and review copies of each CE certificate of completion for the nursing continuing education (CE) you've completed during 2014 to ensure you have possession of sufficient American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or State Board of Nursing accredited nursing CEs to qualify for annual license renewal. Please click [here](#) for a copy of the last (3rd) editions of 'The Examiner' to read the article and embedded links related to 2015 renewals:
  - Registered Nurse (RN) CE Requirements – see pages 8 and 9;
  - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Certification and Pharmacology CE Requirements – see page 6.
4. **After** you've renewed online, wait 30 minutes for computer processing to complete, and then go back to the LSBN website to verify a successful 2015 renewal by looking yourself up under the [Licensure Verification](#) option.

**Remember** – Louisiana nursing licenses are based on the **calendar** year. To avoid paying a late renewal fee(s), you must successfully renew your license online before midnight (CST) on December 31, 2014. All licenses will automatically lapse/expire January 31, 2015 if not successfully renewed online by that deadline.





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APRN Corner  
by Jennifer Alleman, APRN, FNP, BC  
APRN Compliance Officer

### Changes in Controlled Substance Schedules

There have been very recent changes in laws and rules at the state and federal level regarding controlled substances in an attempt to impact opioid/narcotic use and misuse. The Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) sent an email on July 17, 2014 to all APRNs licensed in Louisiana who hold prescriptive authority detailing changes in laws regarding Soma and Tramadol. There have also been changes in the classification of hydrocodone products.

In the state of Louisiana, Act 397 (SB 618) became effective August 1, 2014. This law moves carisoprodol (Soma) products within the Louisiana Uniform Controlled Substances Law from the category of Schedule IV into Schedule II which is more restrictive. The only exception relates to a combination product with codeine. For more details, see the LSBN website <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/> under the "News & Events" tab as well as the following link to the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy: [http://www.pharmacy.la.gov/assets/docs/Bulletins/Bulletin\\_14-03.pdf](http://www.pharmacy.la.gov/assets/docs/Bulletins/Bulletin_14-03.pdf).

In addition, a federal rule became effective August 18, 2014 which places tramadol (Ultram) products into Schedule IV of the federal list of controlled substances. This product was previously a non-controlled substance and can no longer be prescribed by APRNs in Louisiana for the management of chronic, non-cancer related pain.

Finally, on August 21, 2014, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) announced it will move most hydrocodone products from Schedule III to Schedule II, which is more restrictive. This will go into effect October 6, 2014. For further details, see <http://www.justice.gov/dea/divisions/hq/2014/hq082114.shtml>.

APRNs who do not have controlled substance privileges can no longer prescribe tramadol (Ultram). APRNs licensed in Louisiana who do not have full Schedule II authority will not be able to prescribe the substances that are now classified within that schedule. APRNs who have a need for initial or additional controlled substance privileges in order to provide appropriate services within their patient population may apply to obtain the privileges by following the instructions and filling out the application, "Initial Request of Controlled Substances, or a Change in DEA Schedule Level for Controlled Substances." which is on our website under the advanced practice registered nurse applications. The link is at <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Portals/1/Documents/Forms/CS.pdf>. Contact the credentialing department at (225) 755-7520 if you have additional questions.

### APRNs Assisting in Surgery

The Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) authorizes additional acts or services provided by APRNs through rules and regulations or declaratory statements. In August, the LSBN adopted a new Declaratory Statement which specifically addresses APRNs serving or intending to serve as assistants in surgery. Obtaining formal education in the specialized role of an assistant in surgery is a minimum qualification and standard of practice as set forth by the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN). This standard is considered applicable to RN and APRN practices. The complexity of knowledge and skill required to competently function as a first assistant in surgery necessitates that specialized education beyond basic advanced practice nursing educational programs be formally obtained and documented.

If APRNs in Louisiana assist or intend to assist in surgery and have not yet received privileging and formal education as an assistant in surgery, they must attend and successfully complete a first assistant program that meets AORN educational standards (which includes the award of college credits and a certificate) in order to be in compliance with not only the rules and standards set forth by LSBN but also national standards. The exception to the requirement for completion of a formal educational program applies only to APRNs who were privileged and practicing as first assistants in surgery prior to August, 2014. LSBN's stance on this matter focuses upon patient safety and assuring the public that APRNs are competent.





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## RNP Corner

by Barbara McGill, MSN, RN  
Director, RNP/Monitoring

It is surprising to me that people still tell me they have never heard of the Recovering Nurse Program. July 1, 2014 marked 28 years of existence. There have been changes in policies and procedures over the years, but the program still remains dedicated to its original mission of protecting the public and helping the nurse get into recovery. Has it helped? I certainly think so. There are many nurses who have taken the necessary steps to halt their addiction and return to being safe nurses. Along the way they have mended their health, relationships, finances, and other aspects of their lives.

Is the Recovering Nurse Program easy? No. Is it simple? Yes. When people who do not suffer with the disease of addiction review what the nurse has to do to be compliant with the Recovering Nurse Program, some people consider all the requirements too strict, too time consuming, and too costly. And many nurses, upon entry into the program, think the same. However, there is nothing in the program that is meant to be punitive. The steps the nurse must take are thoughtful, have been proven over time, and are meant to help the nurse get into recovery and therefore be a safe nurse again. Of the nurses who have successfully completed the program, whether they relapsed while in the program or not, less than 6% are ever reported back to the Board, which would give us a recovery rate of 94%. That is a phenomenal number. A meta-analysis published in 2012 indicated that in 5 year follow up studies, the average recovery rate across 276 studies published since 2000 was 50.3% (White, 2012).

Why does LSBN's Recovering Nurse Program work? The program is based on the foundation that nurses have a disease which is treatable and that nurses who are in recovery are safe nurses. Good treatment is the foundation of recovery. After treatment, follow-up monitoring and professional support help the nurse put the skills he/she has learned to work. Recovery is a lifelong process. We hope that we can help the nurse get into actual recovery, but he/she must do the work to maintain sobriety. The disease of addiction is comparable to another chronic, relapsing, fatal, if left untreated, disease: diabetes. The person who becomes a diabetic can manage their life. They may need to make changes in their diet and exercise habits, and some people with that disease are hospitalized multiple times. So it is with persons with the disease of addiction. This disease never goes away. There are many lifestyle changes that are required to maintain one's sobriety, but it is certainly possible. When people successfully complete the RNP program, many have said "the RNP saved my life as well as my career."

### References:

White, William L. Recovery/Remission from Substance Use Disorders: An Analysis of Reported Outcomes in 415 Scientific Reports, 1868-2011. Rockville, MD. USDHHS. March 2012.

## Required Approval of Programs Offering Clinical Experiences in Louisiana for RN and APRN Students

by Patricia Dufrene, MSN, RN  
Director, Education and Licensure

In accordance with La Revised Statutes 17:1808, an out-of-state institution of higher learning may not offer courses/clinical experience in Louisiana unless registered with the Louisiana Board of Regents.

**Further**, La Revised Statutes 37:918 authorized the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) to approve nursing programs preparing graduates to seek licensure as a Registered Nurse (RN) or an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). Chapter 35 (LAC 46XLVII.3536) of the administrative rules of the LSBN, <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Documents/rules/fullrules.pdf>, sets the requirements for out-of-state schools preparing individuals for RN licensure and Chapter 45 (LAC 46XLVII.4509.R) sets the requirements for out-of-state schools preparing individuals for APRN licensure. Schools of nursing offering degrees that lead to licensure are required to be approved by the State Board of Nursing.





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In addition to other requirements, the programs must provide current Board of Nursing approval from the state where administrative control is located, Louisiana Board of Regents license, regional accreditation, national nursing accreditation, compliance with faculty and preceptor qualifications and clinical affiliation clearance.

If a school intends to enroll students in a program to become a RN and engage in clinical experiences in Louisiana, the school must seek approval for those clinical courses from the Louisiana State Board of Nursing by submitting an application and appearing before the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting (LAC 46XLVII.3536).

If a school intends to enroll registered nurses in a program to become an APRN and engage in clinical experiences in Louisiana, the school must seek approval for those roles and populations from the Louisiana State Board of Nursing by submitting an application and appearing before the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting. (LAC 46XLVII.4509.R)

- Schools of nursing allowing clinical experiences in Louisiana without approval will be required to cease and desist until approval is requested and granted.

If you are a student enrolled in a program to become a RN or you are a RN enrolled in a program to become an APRN and engaged in clinical experiences or a clinical facility engaged in contracts with out of state programs, you need to verify that the program is approved. A current list of approved programs can be found at <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Documents/Forms/Schools.pdf>. Nursing students and RNs enrolled in APRN programs should be aware of the following:

- Individual students may be engaging in the unlawful practice of registered nursing or advanced practice registered nursing if engaging in clinical experiences in Louisiana while in a program not approved by the LSBN.
- Students and RNs enrolling in clinical courses in Louisiana from a school that has not gone through the appropriate approval process by the LSBN could be subject to disciplinary action for violation of LAC 46:XVII.3405.
- Graduates from an out-of-state school not approved for meeting the standards by LSBN are subject to ineligibility from credentialing and licensure in Louisiana.

Additional information can be found at the following links on the LSBN website:

RN Students <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/FAQS/EducationandExaminationFAQ.aspx>

APRN students <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/FAQS/GraduateLevelProgramsWithLouisianaClinicFAQ.aspx>

Schools of Nursing <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Education/SchoolsofNursing.aspx>





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Reporting Violations of the Nurse Practice Act  
by Rickie Callegan, MSN, RN  
Director, Investigations

The Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) is tasked with the responsibility of assuring that individuals licensed to practice as registered nurses (RNs) and/or advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) are qualified to administer safe nursing care within the provisions of the Nurse Practice Act (NPA). A complaint that an individual is or has engaged in any conduct proscribed by the Nurse Practice Act (NPA) or the rules of LSBN may be made by any person. All complaints are reviewed thoroughly to determine if there is sufficient information about the individual's identity, LSBN's jurisdiction and, if proven, whether the alleged act constitutes a violation of the NPA or the rules of LSBN.

Pursuant to the *Louisiana Administrative Code*, communications from the informant shall not be revealed to any person unless such documents shall be offered for evidence in a formal hearing (LAC 46:XLVII.3407). Individuals concerned with identifying themselves as the complainant may send the complaint anonymously. When filing an anonymous complaint, it is best for the complainant to list their name among the witnesses. This will lead to LSBN requesting information from the witnesses while keeping the complainant anonymous.

Accordingly, LSBN may deny, revoke, suspend, probate, limit, reprimand, or restrict any license to practice as a RN or an APRN by imposing fines, assessing costs, or otherwise disciplining an individual. The board may also limit, restrict, delay or deny a student nurse from entering or continuing the clinical phase of education (Louisiana Revised Statutes 37:921 et seq; 2014). Every individual subjected to disciplinary proceedings shall be afforded all rights of due process.

Complaints received by LSBN and not within the jurisdiction of LSBN are forwarded to the agency with the appropriate jurisdiction. For example, if LSBN mistakenly receives a complaint regarding a Licensed Practical Nurse, this information is forwarded to the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners. Employment or civil issues are not within the jurisdiction of LSBN.

Frequently, RNs ask if they are required to report other RNs. The Board understands the difficulty presented with reporting co-workers, friends, and even individuals in management positions. The aforementioned anonymous method of reporting will ease reporting such individuals. Furthermore, individuals under the jurisdiction of LSBN are responsible for reporting, through the proper channels, facts known regarding the incompetent, unethical, illegal practice or suspected impairment due to/from controlled or mood altering drugs, alcohol, or a mental or physical condition of any healthcare provider (LAC 46:XLVII.3405). Moreover, the Louisiana Healthcare Professionals Reporting Act became effective August 15, 2007 and provides for timely reporting of impaired health care professionals (Louisiana Revised Statutes 37:1745, 11-17 (2014)).

The legislature finds that public confidence in high quality patient care is dependent on a workforce of competent health care professionals who meet the high standards of professional practice. Impaired health care professionals represent a threat to the public, and state law has provided legislation by way of the Louisiana Healthcare Professionals Reporting Act, which now requires health care entities to report impaired health care professionals to professional licensing boards. An important function of professional licensing boards is to protect the public, who is at risk of receiving unsafe or inadequate care, from health care providers who are or may be impaired.

The Louisiana Healthcare Professionals Reporting Act provides that, except in certain circumstances, a health care entity shall report each instance in which the health care entity takes an adverse action against a health care professional due to impairment or possible impairment, or accepts the surrender of clinical privileges, the resignation of employment or a contractual relationship, or the withdrawal from participation in a health care training program of or by a health care professional under the following conditions:

- (1) While the health care professional is under investigation by the entity relating to impairment or possible impairment.
- (2) In return for not conducting an investigation.





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A report shall not be required when a health care professional is granted a leave of absence for evaluation or treatment of impairment or possible impairment provided all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The individual cooperates with the institutional policy regarding the evaluation or treatment of such impairment or possible impairment.
- (2) Any leave of absence granted is for six months or less.
- (3) The individual agrees not to engage in any clinical activity while undergoing evaluation or treatment except insofar as approved by his or her addiction provider while undergoing treatment.
- (4) The individual, if a physician, cooperates with the Physicians Health Program of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners or, if a RN, cooperates with the LSBN Recovering Nurses Program, if a dentist, cooperates with the Dentist Well-Being Committee program of the Louisiana Dental Association, as approved by the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry, or if a medical psychologist, cooperates with a program approved by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

It is vital to note that all four criteria must be met. Employers should inquire with the Recovering Nurse Program (RNP), 225-755-7546, as to whether a Registered Nurse is enrolled in and cooperating with the RNP. If the individual has not enrolled in or is not cooperating with RNP, then Criterion #4 has not been met, and the employer has an obligation to report the individual.

Reports shall be in writing and shall include but not be limited to the following:

- 1) The name, address, telephone number, and category of license of the health care professional;
- 2) The date and nature of the action taken and a description of the acts or omissions or other reasons for action; and
- 3) Other information regarding the circumstances of the action as the department or the professional licensing board deems appropriate.

Such reports shall be made to the appropriate professional licensing board within 72 hours of the adverse action, surrender, resignation, or withdrawal.

Furthermore, the law provides for the following:

- confidentiality of such reports and specifies such reports received by the professional licensing boards shall not be deemed to be or be treated as public records;
- provides a reference to such new law exemption in the laws relative to public records;
- the limitation of liability for mandatory reporters (health care entities and employees and agents of such entities), unless the reporter knew of the falsity of the information;
- any information reported by a health care entity is intended to be used solely by the professional licensing board in furtherance of their statutory obligation.

More information related to filing complaints with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing can be found at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing Website:

<http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Portals/1/Documents/disciplinary/ComplaintForm.pdf>

References:

- [Law Governing the Practice of Nursing, LA. RS: 37:921, et. seq. \(2014\)](#)
- [Louisiana Healthcare Professionals Reporting Act, LA. RS: 37:1745, 11-17, et. seq. \(2014\)](#)
- [Title 46 Professional and Occupational Standards, 46:XLVII 3405\(A\)\(n\)\(2014\)](#)
- [Title 46 Professional and Occupational Standards, 46:XLVII 3407\(B\)\(1\)\(a\)](#)





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Approval and Accreditation of Nursing Education Programs Leading to Licensure:  
What Does It Mean and Why Is It Important?  
by Patricia Dufrene, MSN, RN  
Director, Education and Licensure

### Approval

Boards of Nursing approve pre-licensure nursing educational programs which meet their educational standards and assure protection of the public through evaluation and enforcement of the standards. The Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) has legal authority over programs preparing students for licensure as a registered nurse (RN) and advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) and statutory authority to close programs that are not meeting the standards. The following eligibility requirements apply to RN licensure by examination or endorsement in the state of Louisiana:

- Eligibility to sit for the National Registered Nurse Licensure Exam requires graduation from a Board approved School of Nursing (NCSBN, 2012).
- Eligibility for Licensure in Louisiana by Examination or Endorsement requires completion of a nursing education program approved by the Board of Nursing.
- Louisiana Nursing Education Articulation Plan (2005, Revised 2014) requires transferred courses and prior degree used for articulation to be from an approved nursing education program.

### Accreditation

Accreditation is an external review process which assesses the quality, continuous quality improvement, and program effectiveness of nursing programs preparing students for licensure as RNs or APRNs (Eaton, 2014). Eligibility to offer a RN or APRN education program or clinical nursing experiences in Louisiana requires accreditation (LSBN). The Louisiana Nursing Education Articulation Plan which was revised in 2014, requires transferred courses and prior degree used for articulation to be from a regionally accredited institution and a nationally accredited nursing education program.

Many Boards of Nursing, including LSBN require accreditation to sit for the National Registered Nurse Licensure Exam. Eaton (2012) identifies four primary roles of accreditation as: 1) assuring quality by identifying a program meets at least minimum standards; 2) qualifying programs for eligibility to apply for state and federal funds; 3) providing confidence to employers of applicant credentials; and 4) promoting smooth transfer of programs and courses among colleges and universities.

Four types of accrediting organizations include regional, national faith-related, national career-related, and programmatic (Eaton, 2012). Since not all accreditors are the same, assuring the accreditation is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and the United States Department of Education (USDE), LSBN requires programs to hold regional and national nursing (programmatic) accreditation for nursing education program approval and licensure by examination.

### Regional Accreditation

Advantages of Regional accreditation according to CHEA (2010) include:

1. Accredits public and private, mainly non-profit, two and four year degree-granting institutions.
2. Provides for assurance that schools meet national standards by allowing regional bodies to focus on a particular region of the United States.
3. Assesses quality and continuous quality improvement and program effectiveness of academically oriented program in colleges and universities of the assigned region of the U.S.





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4. Works with specific Boards of Nursing to meet the educational needs of a particular jurisdiction.
5. Validates quality of academically oriented programs in colleges and universities of the assigned region of the U.S.
6. Eligibility for federal grants.
7. Eligibility for financial aid.
8. Provides for articulation and matriculation of credits.
9. Required for acceptance to most graduate nursing programs.
10. All are recognized by both USDE and the CHEA.

### National Programmatic (Nursing) Accreditation

There are two (2) national agencies that accredit nursing programs.

- Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

Advantages of national nursing accreditation according to ACEN (2013) and CCNE (2013) include:

1. Identifies the program as meeting or exceeding national standards and criteria for nursing educational quality.
2. Identifies programs that have been evaluated and periodically re-evaluated by a qualified, independent group of respected and competent peers who have found it to be meeting appropriate postsecondary and higher educational purposes in a satisfactory manner.
3. Tied closely to Board of Nursing and state agency licensing rules and regulations.
4. Nursing Program accreditation serves to hold the programs accountable to the community of interest.
5. Allows for the evaluation of the successes of a nursing program to achieve its mission, goals, and expected outcomes.
6. Provides for continued improvement and thus professional practice.
7. Assures professional development opportunity and validation for faculty.
8. Is a gateway to licensure, certification, and eligibility for entitlement programs.
9. Promotes professional and educational mobility of program graduates.
10. Promotes academic excellence in accredited programs.
11. Enables student eligibility for funding support from federal and state agencies, and foundations for those programs that do not have regional or national accreditation. (Example - Diploma Programs)

### References:

Accreditation Commission For Education in Nursing (2013). Accreditation Manual. Retrieved from [www.acennursing.org](http://www.acennursing.org)

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (2013). Standards for Accreditation. Retrieved from [www.ccne.org](http://www.ccne.org)

Council for Higher Education Accreditation (2010, June). The value of accreditation. Retrieved from [www.chea.org/valueofaccreditation](http://www.chea.org/valueofaccreditation)

Eaton, J. S. (2012, August). Council for higher education accreditation: an overview of U.S. accreditation. Retrieved from [www.chea.org/pdf/OverviewUSAccreditation](http://www.chea.org/pdf/OverviewUSAccreditation)

Louisiana Nursing Education Articulation Plan 2005, Revised 2014. Retrieved from [www.lsbns.state.la.us](http://www.lsbns.state.la.us)

Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Title 46, professional and occupational standards, part XLVII.

National Council State Board of Nursing (2012). Approval vs accreditation. Retrieved from [www.ncsbn.org/357.htm](http://www.ncsbn.org/357.htm)





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Major Motions and Other Actions  
Taken at the April 30, 2014 Board Meeting

**CREDENTIALING**

**Approved** the proposed revisions to §3328 and direct staff to initiate rule making procedures

**Approved** the revision to LAC46:XLVII:4513.D.1.a., “Regarding the application for prescriptive authority, the applicant shall hold a current, unencumbered, unrestricted and valid registered nurse license in Louisiana with no pending disciplinary proceedings as stated in R.S. 37:921 except as provided in LAC 46: XLVII. 3328(A-H).”

**EDUCATION**

**Approved** the Louisiana Nursing Education Articulation Model 2014, to be effective Fall 2014

**Approved** restoring full approval to the Associate Degree in Nursing Program at Louisiana State University at Eunice

**Deferred** the matter for further investigation regarding documentation of clinical hours (Georgetown University request to approve Adult Gerontology ACNP/CNS)

**Approved** the major curriculum changes at Louisiana College effective Fall 2014

**Accepted** the letter of intent from McNeese State University to initiate termination of the Associate of Science Degree in Nursing Program

**Approved** Step II in establishment of an Associate of Science Degree in Nursing Program from South Louisiana Community College and permit progression to Step III

**Approved** the Major Curriculum Change for Our Lady of the Lake College to transition the Master of Science in Nursing Anesthesia Program to a Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing to Doctorate of Nursing Practice Anesthesia Program

**Approved** the request of University of Cincinnati to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until April 9, 2016 for the following roles/populations:

- Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (AGPCNP)
- MSN and DNP Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post Master’s Certificate (PMHNP-PMC)

**Deferred** action (on the University of Cincinnati’s request to offer graduate clinical experiences) until demonstration of compliance with Louisiana rules and regulation for the following roles and populations:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Adult Gerontology Primary Care Clinical Nurse Specialist (AGPCNS)
- Nurse-Midwifery (NMW)
- Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

**Reapproved** the request of Woman’s Hospital as a Continuing Education provider to expire April 9, 2018.

**Directed** staff to issue a Show Cause Order to Our Lady of Holy Cross College for noncompliance with LAC46XLVII:3515.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Adopted and approved** the LSBN investment policies

**Approved** Capital One Financial Advisors as LSBN Financial Intermediary

**Approved** proposed revisions to LAC 46:XLVII§3341.A.1 and LAC 46:XLVII§3341.B.1

**Approved** proposed FY2014 Amended Budget

**Approved** the FY2015 Amended Budget

**Appointed** a task force, comprised of Ms. Davis, Dr. Bonanno, and Ms. Harris, to develop a tool and process that the Board will use for a performance evaluation of the Executive Director.





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**LOUISIANA CENTER FOR NURSING**

**Accepted** the 2013 LSBN Annual Report/ Nursing Education Capacity and Supply Report

**Accepted** the 2013 Newly Licensed Registered Nurse Survey Report

**SHOW CAUSE ORDER**

**Recessed** the hearing until October 2014 to look at any current NCLEX RN data for Grambling State University

**Recessed** the matter until June 11, 2014 Board Meeting for University of South Alabama

**Accepted** the Site Visit report of the Associate of Science Degree in Nursing Program from South Louisiana Community College and grant Initial Approval effective Fall 2014.

**SHOW CAUSE HEARING**

To issue the following ruling on the Findings of Facts submitted by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing prosecutor:

Accept Paragraphs 1 through 5

Paragraph 6 modified to delete the last sentence of the paragraph

Accept Paragraph 7 as modified with the deletion of the first two paragraphs

Change the second bullet of Paragraph 7 to read, "Board further testified that the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties criteria are utilized by accrediting bodies." At the end of the sentence in this bullet, make the change, "Board staff testified that USA is not in compliance with NONPF criteria as follows:"

The third bullet to read, "Board staff testified and presented evidence that USA is not in compliance with NONPF criteria."

That the Board finds that the use of an FNP as preceptor for 100% of the experience for these two students in the Acute Program is not in compliance with LAC 46:XL VII.4505 and is a violation of NONPF standards."

Paragraph 8, redact the first two paragraphs

The first bullet is accepted with the deletion of the final sentence.

The second bullet should read, "Board staff presented evidence and testimony that there are at least two graduates from USA's dual track Program that did not have qualified acute care preceptors doing their clinical experience in the acute care portion of the track."

Delete the third bullet

Delete Paragraph 9

Major Motions and Other Actions  
Taken at the June 11, 2014 Board Meeting

**EDUCATION**

**Reapproved** the request of Lake Charles Memorial Hospital to continue as a provider of Continuing Education, expiring June 11, 2018

**Approved** the major curriculum changes at University of Louisiana Monroe effective Fall 2014.

**Approved** the request of Georgetown University to offer Graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana for the following through December 14, 2015:

- Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner - (AGACNP)

**Approved** the request of University of Cincinnati to offer graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana until April 9, 2016 for the following roles/populations:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)

**Deferred** action (on the University of Cincinnati's request to offer graduate clinical experiences) until demonstration of compliance with Louisiana rules and regulation for the following roles and populations:

- Adult Gerontology Primary Care Clinical Nurse Specialist (AGPCNS)
- Nurse-Midwifery (CNM)
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)





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Accept Paragraph 10 with the deletion of the first paragraph only

Delete Paragraph 11

Delete Paragraph 12

Accept Paragraphs 13 and 14

**Issued** the following Conclusions of Law:

The University of South Alabama, College of Nursing is found to be in violation of the following:

LAC 46:XLVII.4509.R.2

LAC 46:XLVII 4509.I.1

LAC 46:XLVII 4509.K.5

To issue the following ruling on the Findings of Facts submitted by the University of South Alabama:

Items 1 through 8 are accepted

Item 9 rejected as incomplete

Item 10 accepted as amended to read, "Of the 147 dual track students, between 2010 and 2013, only two students were identified as not having at least one preceptor with certification as an Adult Acute Care NP. As set forth in USACON's response, the two students, Daniel Schnebelen and Kathryn Martin, while working in an Emergency Department and/or urgent care setting, experienced patient encounters sufficient to meet the adult-gerontology acute care competencies while under the guidance of an FNP preceptor with extensive acute care clinical experience for the entire clinical experience." Accept the rest of Item 10 as submitted.

Item 11, 12, and 13 accept

Item 14 accept as amended to read, "All current USACON Louisiana students have a certified Adult Acute Care APRN as his/her preceptor. Existing students who have already completed hours under a different preceptor were required to obtain additional hours."

Item 15 accept

Item 16 delete as irrelevant

Accept Item 17, 18, 19

Item 20, reject, allegation withdrawn

**Issued** the following Board Order:

"It is Ordered, Adjudged, and Decreed that the University of South Alabama College of Nursing is issued a Letter of Reprimand. The university's request for re-approval to offer APRN clinical/preceptor experiences in Louisiana is granted.

"It is further Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the University of South Alabama College of Nursing shall provide public notification, which is easily accessible to current potential students, regarding their policies on appropriate preceptors (including certification and licensure that is required by USA) for all tracks.

"It is further Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the University of South Alabama College of Nursing shall no longer utilize and/or rely upon the credentialing departments of hospitals, clinics, facilities, sites, et cetera, to define an APRN preceptor's scope of practice nor rely on the scope of a collaborating physician unless he/she is specifically an approved preceptor.

"It is further Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed, that the University of South Alabama School of Nursing shall not submit evidence of clinical experiences prior to the submission of a Faculty Qualification Form and approval of faculty by the LSBN.

"It is further Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the University Of South Alabama College Of Nursing shall maintain the same standards as Louisiana schools in regards to faculty and preceptor to student ratios.

"It is further Ordered. Adjudged and Decreed that the University of South Alabama, College of Nursing is assessed with no costs."

**Deferred** action and recessed the **Show Cause** hearing and direct Our Lady of Holy Cross College to give the Board a plan which demonstrates full compliance with all nursing education program requirements as outlined within Title 46, Part XLVII, Subpart II, Chapter 35 of the Louisiana Administrative Code within 45 days.





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### NURSE PRACTICE ISSUES

**Defined** the role and scope of practice of the registered nurse in the administration of medication and monitoring of patients during the levels of procedural sedation (minimal, moderate, deep, and anesthesia). (Action on this motion was deferred and the staff was directed to return to the Board with a more completely researched declaratory statement on RN and APRN involvement in different levels of sedation based on best evidence).

**Recommended** that it is not within the scope of practice for an acute care pediatric nurse practitioner to provide a full range of primary care services unless additional formal education, certification, and licensure is obtained as a primary care pediatric nurse practitioner and subsequent prescriptive authority documents are provided and approved by the Board. The practices of the acute care pediatric nurse practitioner must be in alignment with the role and population which includes the provision of:

1. services designed to meet the specialized needs of pediatric patients with **complex** acute, chronic, and critical health conditions, and
2. preventive services that are within the context of restorative and rehabilitative care related to the management of **complex** acute, chronic, and critical health conditions.

**Accepted** the Presidents' report

**Accepted** the Vice President's report

**Accepted** the Report of the Executive Director

### ADMINISTRATIVE

**Approved** to pay the outstanding bills to C. MacMillan and Isonel Brown and to reimburse the Louisiana State Board of Nursing for Ms. Morvant's portrait. The remaining portion of \$1,121.05 will be determined how it is to be used at a future Board meeting

### Announcements

#### National Council of State Boards of Nursing Leadership Succession Committee

The Louisiana State Board of Nursing's Director of Education and Licensure, Patricia Dufrene, MSN, RN, was elected on August 15, 2014 to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's Leadership Succession Committee representing Area 3.

#### National Organization of Alternative Programs

Director of RNP/Monitoring, Barbara McGill, MSN, RN, was elected to the National Organization of Alternative Programs (NOAP) Board of Directors as Member at Large. The mission of NOAP is to promote public safety through participation of potentially impaired healthcare professionals in monitored rehabilitation and recovery as an alternative to license discipline, emphasizing fitness to practice and retention of competent professionals. NOAP is committed to working in cooperation with regulatory and professional organizations toward this objective.

### Disciplinary Matters

LSBN took a total of 47 actions at the July 8, 2014 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link below: [July 8, 2014](#)

LSBN took a total of 100 actions at the August 26, 2014 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link below: [August 26, 2014](#)

LSBN took a total of 29 actions at the September 16, 2014 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link below: [September 16, 2014](#)





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### 2014 State Holiday Schedule

Veterans Day.....	November 11
Thanksgiving Day.....	November 27
Christmas Day.....	December 25

### Future Meeting Dates BOARD MEETING DATES

October 15, 2014  
December 10, 2014

