

# Louisiana State Board of Nursing

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[www.lsbn.state.la.us](http://www.lsbn.state.la.us)

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONVERSION OF LOUISIANA RN LICENSE TO MULTISTATE LICENSE**

Louisiana is a member of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC). We are pleased that you are applying to convert your current Registered Nurse (RN) license in Louisiana to a compact/ multistate RN license. You must declare Louisiana as your primary state of residence and have a current Louisiana RN license to apply for conversion to a multistate license. After the Board grants the multistate license, the RN can then engage in nursing practice in any of the NLC states without having to obtain additional licenses. You must practice according to the Nurse Practice Act within the state in which you practice.

**Applications for licensure are online through Louisiana's Nurse Portal at: <https://lsbn.boardsfnursing.org/lsbn>.**

**\*\*From the portal on the dashboard page/your home page, select “Other Applications” to access the application for Conversion of RN License to Multistate License\*\***

**This is not a renewal application.** Do not submit this application if you currently hold a multistate license in Louisiana. Fees are non-refundable.

During the application process, be prepared to submit the following mandatory components:

- ▶ payment of fees via credit card;
- ▶ declare and attest as to which state is your primary state of residence (PSOR);and
- ▶ send to the LSBN office the completed criminal background check (CBC) packet.

If your primary state of residence is **not** Louisiana, you are **not eligible** for a multistate license to be issued by Louisiana's Board of Nursing. Multistate licenses can only be issued by the agency in your primary state of residence that regulates nursing. If you move, you must apply for the multistate license in your new primary state of residence.

The multistate license will provide nurses with the “privilege to practice” in any compact state whether they are going to that state in-person or practicing via telehealth from Louisiana with a patient located in another compact state. The multistate license does not provide nurses with the privilege to practice in any non-compact state. You can see a map of the states, including NLC states, at <https://www.ncsbn.org/nurse-licensure-compact.htm>.

Only submit an application if you meet all eligibility criteria listed below as **all fees are non-refundable**. The application fee is \$50 and the fee for the required criminal background check is \$39.25 (and is subject to change periodically).

*You will be notified through the message center in the Nurse Portal when the application has been approved or if additional information is required.* Check the Nurse Portal for status updates as well as the email entered as the username in the Nurse Portal for correspondence. Any additional information needed and approval letters will be sent only through the Nurse Portal or to the email address associated with the Nurse Portal account.

The following includes important information about the multistate licensure and instructions to apply for conversion of your current, active RN license in the State of Louisiana to a multistate RN license. You are expected to complete all applications and forms carefully, correctly, and accurately. Incorrect or incomplete applications will delay conversion of the license. Falsifying applications is illegal.

If your primary state of residence is Louisiana and you have *never* been licensed in Louisiana as an RN, please see the separate instructions and forms on how to apply for initial RN licensure by Examination or Endorsement on the LSBN website or in the LSBN Nurse Portal. If you were previously licensed as an RN in Louisiana, but that license is inactive/lapsed, instructions and forms on how to apply for Reinstatement are also available on the LSBN website and in the LSBN Nurse Portal.

If you wish to be informed regarding when documents are received in the LSBN office, please send them via a trackable method so that you can track such documents and processes.

### **SECTION A: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

An applicant for licensure in a state that is part of the NLC must meet the following uniform licensure requirements:

1. Meets the requirements for licensure in the home state (i.e. Louisiana);
2. A. Has graduated from a board-approved education program; or B. Has graduated from an international education program (approved by the authorized accrediting body in the applicable country and verified by an independent credentials review agency);
3. Has passed an English proficiency examination (applies to graduates of an international education program not taught in English or if English is not the individual's native language);
4. Has passed an NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® Examination or predecessor exam;
5. Is eligible for or holds an active, unencumbered license (i.e. without active discipline);
6. Has submitted to state and federal fingerprint-based criminal background checks;
7. Has no state or federal felony convictions;
8. Has no misdemeanor convictions related to the practice of nursing (determined on a case-by-case basis);
9. Is not currently a participant in an alternative program;
10. Is required to self-disclose current participation in an alternative program; and
11. Has a valid United States Social Security number; and
12. Declare Louisiana as your primary state of residence if you request to be issued a multistate license from Louisiana.

\*\*\*\*Records submitted at the time you were licensed may no longer be available for review by Board staff. Therefore, to determine whether you meet the requirements for the multistate license, Board staff may request additional information. In some cases, this will include but not be limited to: an official transcript; verification of international education by an independent credentials review agency; English proficiency examination results; or licensure verification information from another jurisdiction. **Only submit an application if you meet all requirements listed – application fees are non-refundable.** You must submit the completed application with fees and all other required documents within 60 days of submitting the application. If you receive a notification that your application has expired, contact LSBN through the message center of the nurse portal before submitting a new Conversion application.

### **SECTION B: BACKGROUND CHECK**

You must submit to a **criminal background check** (CBC) as part of the licensure process and as authorized under the Nurse Practice Act, Louisiana Revised Statutes 37:920.1. The CBC packet must be submitted *directly to the LSBN via postal mail after* you have submitted the RN conversion application. A complete CBC packet consists of: two (2) CBC authorization forms and two (2) FBI fingerprint cards. Obtain the forms and instructions at <http://www.lsbns.state.la.us/Portals/1/Documents/orbs/ENDFingerprintAuthorizationsForm.pdf>.

### **SECTION C: MULTISTATE LICENSE INFORMATION**

Multistate licenses can only be issued by states that are a member of the NLC. Multistate licenses must be issued by the regulatory agency in the primary state of residence. The nurse is responsible for knowing if a license issued is a single state or multistate license. You may verify the status of your license(s), including if the license is a single state or multistate, through Nursys.com using the Quickconfirm option.

The Board office must be notified in writing of anything that changes or affects a response given in your application including the occurrence of a disqualifying event during the time you hold a multistate license issued by LSBN.

Disqualifying events result in a nurse becoming disqualified from or ineligible to retain or renew a multistate license which includes but are not limited to:

- ◆Adverse actions that result in an encumbrance (i.e. suspension or probation of a license);
- ◆Participation in an alternative program;
- ◆Misdemeanor offense, including an agreed disposition, related to the practice of nursing as determined by the board;
- ◆Felony offense, including an agreed disposition.

You are responsible for knowing and adhering to the continuing education and renewal requirements of the state(s) which issued your license(s).

- ▶ To be eligible for a multistate license (MSL) from LSBN, applicants must declare Louisiana as their “home state”/primary state of residence (PSOR) and if another state becomes their PSOR, they must apply for licensure in the new PSOR without delay.
- ▶ The PSOR is typically represented as the state within which the applicant votes and holds a driver’s license or the state identified on the military form 2058.
- ▶ Nurses with an active MSL must disclose to their home state, which is the state that issued the MSL, if they become a participant in an alternative to discipline program in any jurisdiction within 10 days of enrollment in the program.
- ▶ Nurses with an active MSL are authorized to practice in any compact state provided no discipline or restriction is taken on the license or privilege to practice.
- ▶ Nurses must practice according to the Nurse Practice Act within the state in which they are practicing.
- ▶ Nurses with an active MSL are not authorized to practice in any non-compact states without being properly licensed in that state.
- ▶ Nurses with an active MSL must apply for single state licensure in another state if they wish to practice in a non-compact state.
- ▶ Nurses with an active MSL whose PSOR changes to a non-compact state must obtain single state licensure in the non-compact state and contact LSBN to revise the MSL to a single state license in Louisiana.
- ▶ Nurses may only hold one active MSL. If a nurse holds an active MSL issued by LSBN and during the licensure period obtains an MSL in another compact state, LSBN will inactivate the MSL issued by Louisiana.
- ▶ The MSL is not a separate license that needs to be renewed separate and apart from your RN license but rather a “type” of RN license which renews upon completion of the renewal application. Submitting the renewal application will renew the license type you have at the time (i.e. single vs. multistate).
- ▶ See LSBN’s website for further details about the NLC and the MSL.

#### **SECTION D: RENEWAL/LICENSE EXPIRATION**

The obligation and requirements to renew the RN license remain effective even if staff has not made the final determination on the conversion application during the renewal period. The conversion application is not a replacement for the renewal application. The expiration date of the multistate license will remain the same as your current RN license if the conversion application is approved and converted. Check your license expiration date carefully, as you are responsible for renewing before the expiration date to maintain an active license. Renewals are biennial (every 2 years). All licenses expire on January 31st if not successfully renewed online by the nurse prior to the expiration.

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## REQUEST CORRECTION TO APPLICATION

Complete and submit this form if you have submitted an application online that is currently being processed **and** you have made an error in completion of that application and are requesting to make a correction to the information provided. ***Do not submit this form if you submitted the wrong application or wish to revise your response to eligibility questions #1-20.*** You may be asked to provide additional supporting documentation to support your request. Applicants are expected to complete all applications and forms carefully, correctly, and accurately. Incorrect or incomplete applications will delay processing of an application. Falsifying applications is a violation of the Louisiana Nurse Practice Act and LSBN Rules.

\*\*\* Submit this form by composing and sending a message through the **Message Center** in your **Louisiana Nurse Portal** account. Select the application type as the topic of the message and upload this completed document as an attachment when sending the message.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Last 4 digits of social security#: \_\_\_\_\_

Application type submitted with an error (i.e. endorsement, student clinical, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Select One:

- I am requesting to revise an error in my request for controlled substance privileges.
- I am requesting to revise an error in my demographic information (i.e. spelling of name, date of birth, etc.).
- I am requesting to revise an error in my \_\_\_\_\_.

All applicants must provide specific details below regarding the error made and correction requested:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date