

WELCOME HOME ACT ENDORSEMENT

Nurses currently holding a valid license in another state and relocating to Louisiana who wish to continue practicing can now apply for Welcome Home Act Endorsement (WHAE). WHAE aims to reduce barriers to employment while encouraging skilled professionals to return to Louisiana to build their careers and lives. Whether you're moving to Louisiana or already residing here, this process recognizes your qualifications and facilitates professional growth. To qualify for nursing licensure by WHAE, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- (1) The applicant holds a current and valid Registered Nurse license or certification in another state in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the LSBN.
- (2) The applicant has held the Registered Nurse license or certification in the other state for at least one year.
- (3) The other state required the applicant to pass an examination (ex. NCLEX), or to meet education, training, or experience standards
- (4) The other state holds the applicant in good standing.
- (5) The applicant does not have a disqualifying criminal record as determined by the board in this state under state law.
- (6) The applicant does not have a disciplinary action or investigation pending in another state. If the applicant has a disciplinary action or investigation pending, the LSBN will not issue or deny an occupational license or certification to the person until the disciplinary action or investigation is resolved or the person otherwise meets the criteria for an occupational license or certification in this state to the satisfaction of the LSBN.
- (7) The applicant pays all applicable fees in this state.
- (8) The applicant lives in this state and provides proof of residency.

Residency may be established by:

- (1) A current state-issued identification card.
- (2) A state-issued voter registration card.
- (3) Documentation of current in-state employment or notarized letter of promise of employment of the applicant or his spouse. If an applicant uses this method to obtain licensure, the LSBN will require another form of proof of residency in six months after licensure is granted.
- (4) A current homestead exemption for this state.

A license issued under WHAE **is only valid in Louisiana and cannot be converted to a multistate license through the Nurse Licensure Compact.**

For more information on how to apply, please contact us:

Phone: (225)755-7520

Fax: (225)755-7581

Email: credentialing@lsbn.state.la.us

Links:

[Welcome Home Act](#)

[La. R.S. 37:51, et. seq.](#)