

T H E E X A M I N E R

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In This Issue

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From the Chief Executive Officer.....	1-3
Chiefs Corner	4-5
APRN Corner.....	6-7
RNP Corner.....	8
Louisiana Center for Nursing Report.....	8
Continuing Education/Nursing Practice Requirements for 2022 Registered Nurse License Renewals.....	9-10
The LSBN is Required to Report Adverse Action to the National Practitioner Data Bank.....	11
Major Motions and Other Actions Taken at the April 15, 2021 Board Meeting.	12
New Employee Highlight.....	13
Disciplinary Matters.....	13
2021 State Holiday Schedule	13
Future Board Meeting Dates.	13



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The Mission of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing is to safeguard the life and health of the citizens of Louisiana by assuring persons practicing as Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses are competent and safe.

FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



The 2021 legislative session was a busy one for LSBN even though legislators were limited in their ability to introduce legislation during a budget year. Following are summaries of all bills that were being tracked by the board.

declarations; to provide for legislative termination of all or part of an emergency declaration; to provide procedures for terminations; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters. **THE BILL WAS PASSED AND SENT TO GOVERNOR EDWARDS. THE BILL WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR EDWARDS ON JULY 1, 2021.**

HB 181: To amend and reenact R.S. 28:51.1(A)(3)(introductory paragraph), 52(B), (E), and (G)(1), 52.2(A), 52.3(B), and 53(L)(2) and (P)(1)(b), relative to psychiatric mental health practitioners; to provide that psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners (PMHNPs) shall be allowed to prepare and execute orders for the formal voluntary admission or noncontested admission of patients to licensed psychiatric hospitals; and to provide for related matters. Seven floor amendments were added to require that PMHNPs must be “acting in accordance with a collaborative practice agreement”. **SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR BECOMING ACT 373 EFFECTIVE 8/1/2021.**

HB 187: To amend and reenact R.S. 40:2116.31(B) and 2116.34(A)(1), (7), and (10)(c) through (e), to enact R.S. 40:2116.34(A)(12), and to repeal R.S. 40:2116.34(A)(10)(f), relative to home health services; to define authorized healthcare provider; to authorize nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and physician assistants to order home health services; to provide rules and regulations for nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and physician assistants; to provide for administrators of home health agencies; to require reporting; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters. **SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR BECOMING ACT 181 EFFECTIVE 6/11/2021.**

HB 197: To enact Part XI of Chapter 20 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 37:1751, relative to occupational licenses; to provide for dependents of healthcare professionals who relocate to the state; to provide definitions; to provide for licensure based upon holding a license in

a different state; to provide for licensure based upon prior work experience; to allow healthcare professional licensing boards to require jurisprudential examinations in certain cases; to provide relative to decisions by licensing boards; to allow for appeals; to provide for preemption; to require promulgation of rules; to provide for exceptions; and to provide for related matters. **SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR BECOMING ACT 279 EFFECTIVE 8/1/2021.**

HB 270: To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1262(4) and 1291(6) and R.S. 40:1223.3(6)(a) and to enact R.S. 37:1291(7), relative to telemedicine and telehealth; to revise the definitions of those terms; to exempt certain activity from laws pertaining to the practice of medicine; and to provide for related matters. Differentiated “telemedicine”, applicable to physicians, from “telehealth”, applicable to all other healthcare providers. **SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR BECOMING ACT 266 EFFECTIVE 8/1/2021.**

HB 398: To enact R.S. 49:260, relative to the attorney general; to provide for a purpose; to provide for regulatory review; to provide for participation in the occupational licensing review program; to provide for submissions; to provide for decision-making by the Department of Justice; to provide for discipline; to create a special fund in the state treasury; to provide for monies in the special fund; to provide for appropriations; to provide for investments; to provide for deposits; to provide for definitions; to provide for promulgation of rules; to provide for certification; to provide for exemptions; and to provide for related matters. Participation in the Department of Justice Occupational Licensing Review Program is voluntary and optional. An occupational licensing board that chooses to participate in the program established in this Section is not required to comply with the requirements of the Occupational Board Compliance Act, R.S. 37:41, et seq. **SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR BECOMING ACT 399 EFFECTIVE 8/1/2021.**

HB 495: To amend and reenact R.S. 28:2(28), 51.1(A)(3)(a), (b), and (d), and 53(B)(1) and R.S. 37:913(3)(a)(vii) through (ix), (b), and (c), 930(E) and (F), and 933, to enact R.S. 36:259(B)(39) and R.S. 37:936 through 939 and 1020.51 and 1020.52, and to repeal R.S. 28:51.1(A)(3)(c) and R.S. 37:913(8) and (9), relative to advanced practice registered nursing; to repeal collaborative practice agreement requirements for advanced practice registered nurses; to authorize advanced practice registered nurses to prescribe, order, furnish, and otherwise provide medications, therapies, referrals, and other healthcare items and services; to provide relative to the authority of advanced practice registered nurses to distribute certain





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medications in public health clinics; to provide requirements for transition to independent practice for certain advanced practice registered nurses; to create the Independent Practice Advisory-Panel within the Louisiana Department of Health and provide for the duties and functions of the panel; to authorize advanced practice registered nurses to furnish signatures and other types of endorsements required of physicians in certain instances; to provide relative to staff membership of psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners at behavioral health treatment facilities; to provide relative to admission of persons to treatment facilities by emergency certificate; to require that psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners who issue such certificates possess certain qualifications; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters. This was the most important bill for advancing full scope of authority for nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists and certified nurse midwives. The collaborative efforts of many groups and individuals made it possible to get this bill further than we've ever gotten before. It made it through House Health and Welfare, the full House, and Senate Health and Welfare. Unfortunately, we were not able to get it before the full Senate before time ran out on the session. **RETURNED TO CALENDAR 6/7/21; SENATOR MILLS MADE REMARKS ON SENATE FLOOR COMMITTING THAT SENATE HEALTH AND WELFARE WOULD WORK TO IMPROVE CURRENT CPA.**

HB 498: To enact R.S. 49:186, relative to discrimination based on vaccination or immunity status; to prohibit state and local government agencies and officials from discriminating between individuals based on such status; to provide for enforcement; and to provide for related matters. Prohibits discrimination based on vaccination or immunity status, prohibits state and local agencies from discriminating based on that status. **TO GOVERNOR EDWARDS FOR SIGNATURE.**

HCR 94 (SCR 73): To authorize and direct each healthcare professional licensing board of this state to evaluate the independent scope of practice review programs of Connecticut and Nebraska as potential models for such a program in this state and to report its evaluation to the Louisiana legislative committees on health and welfare. **VOLUNTARILY DEFERRED IN HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE.**

SB 136: To amend and reenact R.S. 3:4104(G), R.S. 15:587.1.2(D), R.S. 22:11.1, R.S. 27:220(D), R.S. 29:784(B), R.S. 30:2019(C) and (D)(2)(d), 2019.1(E), and 2022(B)(3), R.S. 32:415.2(D)(1), R.S. 34:851.14.1(B), R.S. 36:254(D)(1)(a)(i), R.S. 40:5.3(E), 962(H), 2008.10(B), and 2136(B), R.S. 49:953(E)(1) and (G)(3)(d), 954(B), and R.S. 56:6.1(B), to enact R.S. 49:951(8) and 953.1, and to repeal R.S. 49:953(B), relative to emergency rulemaking; to provide for emergency rulemaking in extraordinary-circumstances; to provide for criteria that justify an emergency

rule; to provide for occurrences that do not satisfy emergency rulemaking; to provide for minimum information in an agency statement for emergency rulemaking; to provide for the effective date, duration, and applicability of an emergency rule; to provide for a maximum number of times an agency can repromulgate an identical emergency rule; to provide for declaratory judgment of the validity of an emergency rule; to provide for legislative oversight of an emergency rule; to provide for gubernatorial oversight of an emergency rule; to provide for notice to the agency if an emergency rule is determined to be unacceptable; to provide for final action on the emergency rule; to provide technical changes to correlating statutes; and to provide for related matters. **SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR BECOMING ACT 211 EFFECTIVE 8/1/2021.**

SB 229: To enact Chapter 20-I of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 17:3050.11, relative to the Health Care Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund; to provide for the creation of the fund as a special fund in the state treasury; to provide for the transfer, dedication, use, and investment of monies in the fund; and to provide for related matters. There is hereby established in the state treasury a special fund, to be known as the Health Care Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund ... The fund shall consist of monies received by legislative appropriation and from grants and donations.... Subject to legislative appropriation and the approval of the Board of Regents, the Louisiana Health Works Commission is hereby authorized and directed to determine how monies in the fund are allocated and expended ... Meet the current and growing employment demands for nursing and allied health professionals by increasing the capacity of nursing and allied health training programs through supporting initiatives such as increasing faculty positions and clinical preceptors in nursing and allied health schools.... Support the nursing and allied health professions by providing incentives that financially support student financial stipends and tuition forgiveness contingent upon employment in Louisiana health care facilities or nursing or allied health schools.... Provide incentives for nursing and allied health care professionals to practice in Louisiana with an emphasis on medically underserved areas of the state. **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR BECOMING ACT 109 EFFECTIVE 8/1/2021.**

The 2021 Nurse Leader Institute sponsored by the **Louisiana Action Coalition**, of which LSBN is a member, will be held September 13 – September 17, 2021 at the Embassy Suites in Baton Rouge. For more information, go to <https://www.louisianafutureofnursing.org/nli-2021>.

In ending, it is with great sadness, but also much joy that I share the resignation of Mr. Jamie Wiggins from the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Sadness for





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LSBN and Louisiana children and their families, but joy for Jamie in his new position as Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer for Little Rock-based Arkansas Children's Health System. We are going to miss him, but he isn't going too far away from us. We will continue to look for opportunities to collaborate with our sister state of Arkansas toward raising standards of patient care and healthcare access for children.

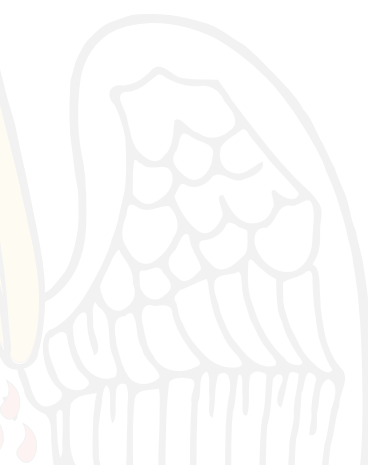
"The world is round and the place which may seem like the end, may also be the beginning." (Ivy Baker Priest)

Congratulations, Jamie, on this awesome opportunity. Chapter 1 in Louisiana has ended, but we'll see you in future chapters of our lives together as nursing colleagues.

For the Public Trust,

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

Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN, NEA_{BC}
Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director





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Chiefs Corner

Division of Nursing
Jennifer Wright, DNP, APRN, FNP, BC, FAANP
Chief Nursing Officer

Update to Louisiana Governor's Proclamation Regarding Licensure of RNs and APRNs

In response to Louisiana's declared public health emergency that began in 2020, Louisiana's Governor has also issued proclamations that included temporary suspensions of select licensure requirements. For a period of time, the temporary provisions of the proclamations allowed out-of-state RNs and out-of-state APRNs who held active, unencumbered licenses in another US state, territory, or district to temporarily practice in Louisiana under conditions identified in the proclamation. These provisions and temporary suspensions of select licensure requirements ended June 23, 2021 and are no longer in effect for out-of-state RNs and out-of-state APRNs.

RNs practicing in Louisiana are expected to be licensed in Louisiana unless they hold an active RN multistate license issued by another compact state and have no discipline on their privilege to practice.

APRNs practicing in Louisiana are expected to be licensed in Louisiana. Sections of the Louisiana Governor's proclamations that are related to waiver of the requirements for a collaborative practice agreement for APRNs remain in effect through July 21, 2021. Monitor the content and any extensions of the proclamations on the website of the Office of the Governor. If APRNs wish to diagnose and provide orders, including prescriptions, beyond or otherwise after the provisions of the proclamation(s), they must also apply and be approved for prescriptive authority in Louisiana.

Applications for licensure and prescriptive authority are available electronically in the Nurse Portal at: [LARN Nurse Portal \(boardsofnursing.org\)](https://boardsofnursing.org). To view and monitor the Louisiana Governor's proclamations, go to [Office of Governor John Bel Edwards \(louisiana.gov\)](https://officeofgovernorjohnbel.edwards.louisiana.gov) and check out the proclamations under the heading "Newsroom".

Division of Compliance
Wanda Woods-Matthews, MPA
Chief Compliance Officer

Second Quarter 2021 Highlights

During the second quarter of 2021, the Compliance Department received 364 complaints. Of the 364 complaints received, 69 new investigations were opened. Department staff closed 164 investigations and as of the end of the quarter, the department has 688 open investigations. Priority One investigations pose an imminent and substantial danger to the public health, safety, and welfare of citizens and as of June 30, 2021, only 26 Priority One investigations remained open.

The Recovering Nurse Program (RNP)/Monitoring Department has a caseload of 484 participants (367 RNP/117 Monitoring) and welcomed 15 new participants to the program. The Department continues to build a unified voice with stakeholders by working in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to implement the recommendations for the expenditures of the \$25,000 grant the Board received from LDH to promote RNP. For details regarding the grant and implementation, see the Examiner's RNP Corner.





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Division of Legal
Carrie LeBlanc Jones
Chief Legal Officer / General Counsel

Business is back to normal in the Hearings Department. Board disciplinary statistics for the first two quarters of 2021 include:

- 9 Board Hearings,
- 122 cases presented to the Board for action,
- 131 total actions taken by the board (some case files resulted in multiple actions), and
- 75 Consent Orders ratified.

Division of Administration
Isonel M. Brown, MS, MBA
Chief Administrative Officer

The **COVID-19** pandemic has caused our families, our cities, our states, and our nation to re-think and revise how to carry out day-to-day tasks. To better protect both our customers and our staff, some of our services will continue to be by appointment only.

- **Appointments** are required for in-person meetings with staff. Whereas it is permissible to deliver or drop off items at the LSBN office, should you wish to meet with staff, you must have an appointment.
- **Live-Scan Fingerprinting** is available in the LSBN office by appointment only and is available to RN endorsement applicants who have an immediate need for a temporary permit. Until further notice, all other applicants are directed to mail in the fingerprint cards and authorization forms per the application instructions.

Please contact the individual staff member or department to coordinate a date and time or call (225) 755-7500.





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APRN Corner
by Monique Calmes, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
Director, Licensure and Practice

2022 APRN Licensure Renewal: Certification and CE Requirements

Renewal season begins every year on October 1st. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) must renew both their Registered Nurse (RN) and APRN licenses before the expiration date. You may check the expiration date of your license(s) through the LSBN Nurse Portal (<https://lsbn.boardsfnursing.org/lsbn>) or the Licensure Verification link on LSBN’s website (<http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Home.aspx>). To renew as an APRN, you must *either*:

A. Hold current national certification in each licensed advanced practice role and population focus, with *primary source* evidence on file with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN). **APRNs whose certification will expire by December 31st during the renewal period, will be required to have their certifying body provide primary source verification of their recertification directly to LSBN prior to being eligible to renew their Louisiana nursing license(s) online.** If your certification is due to expire this calendar year, apply for recertification with your certifying body as soon as possible and indicate that proof of your recertification must be sent to LSBN by their office. Copies of recertification cards, emails and/or letters sent to the APRN from their organization will **not** be accepted by LSBN. Once proof of recertification has been received by LSBN directly from the APRN’s certifying organization, the APRN will be authorized to complete the online licensure renewal.

----- **OR** -----

B. If national certification was not available in the advanced role and population focus (formerly referred to as ‘specialty’) when the APRN was originally licensed, the nurse must submit evidence to LSBN that commensurate requirements were met during the licensure period immediately preceding renewal in order to be eligible for license renewal. All practice hours and continuing education (CE) **must** be at the advanced practice level (*advanced assessment, diagnosis and management of conditions, pharmacology, etc.*) and directly related to the full scope of the advanced practice role and population focus for which the commensurate licensure had been granted. The VR-1 form is available on LSBN’s website and must be completed, signed and mailed to the LSBN office together with sufficient advanced practice CE for Board staff review and approval **prior** to the APRN being authorized to complete the online licensure renewal. We encourage all APRNs holding a commensurate role to send their complete VR-1 packet to the LSBN office for review as soon as possible.

APRN’s with Prescriptive Authority

Each year an APRN with prescriptive authority must obtain six (6) contact/credit hours of continuing education (CE) in pharmacotherapeutics (pharmacology). The pharmacology CEs must be at the advanced practice level and related to the APRN’s licensed role and population focus. APRN’s will be requested to attest that they have completed/complied with this requirement during the on-line renewal. Advanced pharmacology CE documentation for APRN renewal must be accredited by an agency/organization recognized by LSBN for advanced practice.

APRNs with Controlled Substance Authority

Senate Bill 55 (Act 76) mandates that prescribers of controlled substances in Louisiana obtain three credit hours of continuing education (CE) as a prerequisite of license renewal. Content of the CE must include drug diversion training, best practices for the prescribing of controlled substances, appropriate treatment for addiction, and any other content deemed appropriate by the regulatory agency. This is a one-time requirement under Act 76. LSBN will be collecting these documents prior to your licensure renewal this year. Ensure your email and address is current to remain informed and in compliance with the mandates of Louisiana’s statutes. Stay tuned to your emails and LSBN’s website for further information regarding these matters.





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License Renewal for APRNs with a RN Multistate License (MSL) in another Compact State

To be eligible to renew your APRN license, you must either have a current RN license issued by this agency or have a RN MSL issued by another compact state. If you are a Louisiana licensed APRN and hold a RN MSL in another Compact state which is your primary state of residence, you should not renew the Louisiana RN license and must comply with the following instructions in a timely manner before renewing your APRN license.

Firstly, you must apply to inactivate your LA RN license and secondly, notify the APRN department that you have a MSL in another Compact state by sending an email to advancedpractice@lsbn.state.la.us or sending a message through your nurse portal account using the category APRN licensure.

After the application to inactivate your RN license is processed, you will be eligible to renew your APRN license within your nurse portal account without being required to renew the Louisiana RN license. You are responsible for notifying LSBN in a timely manner that you have a RN MSL in another state and provide an opportunity for LSBN staff to process the application to inactivate the RN license so that you may renew the APRN license without being required to renew the Louisiana RN license. If you wish to avoid late fees and renew by December 31, 2021, notify LSBN staff that you have an RN MSL in another Compact state no later than December 28, 2021. You must renew your license(s) before midnight January 31, 2022 if you wish to maintain active licensure. If you elect to wait until after December 28th or otherwise during the late renewal season (January 1st-January 31st) to notify LSBN that you have an RN MSL in another Compact state, you must do so no later than January 25, 2022.

Your timely attention to this matter is needed. Keep in mind that license application fees including renewal fees are non-refundable.

Cosmetic and Aesthetic Dermatologic Procedures

Recently, LSBN has received inquiries related to performing cosmetic procedures. The majority of questions are related to the procedures, setting, and the scope of practice of the APRNs' role and population. LSBN has previously published guidance in a Declaratory Statement that can be read from our website at the following link [Declaratory Statement - Cosmetic Aesthetic Procedures by RNs and APRNs](#). The Declaratory statement speaks to the boards most recent recommendations to include all treatments and procedures must be performed in a medical facility or medical office. It is not intended to be all inclusive of all procedures.

In Louisiana, RNs may perform certain cosmetic procedures receiving direction and supervision from an authorized prescriber. The statement provides information and details regarding RNs providing such services. APRNs are educated, nationally certified, and licensed in a specific role and population. These specific roles and population help guide scope of practice.

It is important to note "It is within the scope of practice for the NP who is duly qualified to provide cosmetic/aesthetic services as a subspecialty provided the NP has a current collaborative practice agreement with a *qualified physician* that has been approved by the Board and provided the clinical practice guidelines delineate the procedures and treatments the NP has the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform." Additionally, it defines a qualified physician as "...one who is trained to perform cosmetic and aesthetic procedures and who is actively engaged in providing aesthetic and cosmetic services in the State of Louisiana."

According to LAC 46:XLVII.4513.B "The patient services provided by an APRN shall be in accord with (the) educational preparation of that APRN", therefore, you are expected to practice within the scope based on your education and licensure. For example, if your education, certification, and licensure authorize you to provide services to the pediatric primary care population, you would not be authorized to treat adults for cosmetic procedures. In addition, the Nurse Practice Act and rules and regulations of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing have been interpreted to authorize CRNAs to provide anesthesia care, which does not include cosmetic procedures. Therefore, it is considered outside the scope of practice of CRNAs to provide dermatologic and cosmetic services in their role as an APRN.





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RNP Corner by Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP Director, RNP/Monitoring

July 2021 marks the 35th Anniversary of The Louisiana State Board of Nursing, Recovering Nurse Program (RNP). The RNP was developed to protect the consumers of health care in Louisiana while allowing a student nurse, registered nurse, and advanced practice registered nurse recovering from a substance use disorder and/or a medical, mental, or physical condition to maintain or obtain licensure while being closely monitored by the Board through a structured agreement or order. The program continues to be successful in assisting nurses with recovery and ensuring that they are safe to practice.

The RNP/Monitoring Department collaborated with the Louisiana Department of Health- Office of Public Health, Bureau of Community Preparedness, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Crisis Response, 2020 Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) Grant. This grant is for approximately \$25,000.00 and is being used to increase awareness of the RNP.

Through this collaboration, posters, a video, and social media kits have been created. The posters include the RNP contact information and can be placed in medication rooms, nurses' stations, nursing schools' buildings, the doors of nurse's bathrooms, nurses' breakrooms, nurses bulletin boards &, etc. The video is approximately 8 minutes, and it informs nurses about the RNP. The video can be placed on the nursing organization's intranet. The social media kit can be printed to post content to the nursing organization's social media page for all nurses to access and view.

This information will be sent to all CNO's to share with their staff and LSBN added the video to the home page under News and the RNP link.

For any further information, please contact the RNP/Monitoring Department at (225)755-7546.

Louisiana Center for Nursing Report by Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN, NEA_{BC} Chief Executive Officer

The 2020 Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) Licensure Renewal season marked the sixth year of renewals using the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Optimal Regulatory Board System (ORBS) online licensure renewal system. This is the third year that LSBN will have licensure data on all licensed registered nurses (RNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) available through ORBS. The LSBN IT Department, Center for Nursing, and the ORBS Team have worked diligently over the last six years to ensure the quality and accuracy of the data that will be used by our stakeholders to inform policy makers related to Louisiana's RN and APRN workforce.

The Nurse Supply Report is based on a snapshot of every RN and APRN that had an active license to practice in Louisiana on December 31st, 2020. This will be the second year that LCN will have the ability to continue the process of trending data since LSBN's transition to ORBS.

[Nurse Supply Report 2020](#)

The 2020 Nursing Education Capacity Report is a subsection of the 2020 LSBN annual report. Findings from Louisiana's Nursing Education Capacity Report provide valuable information to the LSBN board members, employers of RNs and APRNs, schools of nursing, workforce planners, policy makers, and other interested stakeholders, about the states' capacity to educate new and existing RNs and APRNs, as well as the state's ability to provide opportunities to those RNs and APRNs desiring to advance their education. This report is based on data that comes directly from the schools of nursing annual reports submitted to LSBN by Louisiana's undergraduate and graduate nursing programs.

[Nursing Education Capacity in Louisiana 2020](#)





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Continuing Education/Nursing Practice Requirements for 2022 Registered Nurse License Renewals

by Jennifer Wright, DNP, APRN, FNP, BC, FAANP
Chief Nursing Officer

Registered Nurse (RN) license renewal season begins October 1st.

As a reminder and per the instructions with the renewal application, if your primary state of residence (PSOR) is another compact state and you hold an active multistate license in that state, do not renew your current single state Louisiana RN license. RNs with an active multistate license in another compact state are authorized to practice under a privilege to practice in Louisiana provided no discipline or restriction is taken on the multistate license or privilege to practice. You may submit an application to voluntarily inactivate your RN license or you may allow the license to lapse which will occur at midnight CST January 31, 2022.

Submit only one RN renewal application. The compact license is not a separate license but rather a “type” of RN license which renews upon completion of the renewal application.

What is the number one reason nurses have an unsuccessful Continuing Education (CE)/Nursing Practice audit?

Failure to complete CEs that have been approved by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or a state board of nursing (BON).

What is my CE/Nursing Practice requirement to qualify for Louisiana RN license renewal for 2022?

All Louisiana licensed RNs except those issued a 1st time Louisiana license in the 2021 calendar year **must** be in compliance with LSBN rules regarding nursing CE requirements. All CEs must have been accredited by either the ANCC or a specific State BON.

Each year, following renewal season, a random CE/nursing practice audit is performed by board staff. A total of three percent of all active licensees are selected to demonstrate compliance with the nursing CE/nursing practice requirement. Failure to respond or successfully pass the CE/nursing practice audit may result in the inactivation of the nurse’s license and/or disciplinary action. Maintaining LSBN accepted nursing CE documentation for at least five (5) years is the responsibility of the individual nurse.

How many nursing CE contact hours or nursing practice hours do I need to renew my Louisiana RN license?

For RN license renewal, at least one of the two options below must have been completed during the two-year licensure period:

a. a minimum of 30 board-approved contact hours of continuing education during the two-year licensure period;

OR

b. a minimum of 900 practice hours during the two-year licensure period as verified by the employer on a form provided by the board.

Further details regarding the requirements for CE/nursing practice are available at <http://www.lsbns.state.la.us/Portals/1/Documents/Audit/CEBrochure.pdf>.

The requirements must be completed before you renew. Practice hours are not required to have been completed in Louisiana. There are exceptions and other important information in the link above.

There are no separate requirements for compact licensure issued by LSBN. The definition of the practice of nursing and roles that RNs fulfill are described in the brochure.





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What documentation do I need to obtain and verify before I renew my RN license?

A certificate of completion for each nursing CE topic/course that includes all of the following information:

- a. name of the CE provider/source
- b. title of CE topic/training indicating it was nursing related
- c. your name
- d. number of contact hours awarded for completing the topic/training
- e. date the contact hours were awarded
- f. clear printed statement that the nursing CE was accredited by either the ANCC - *or* – by a specific U.S. State BON.

Does training obtained through my place of employment count towards CE requirements?

If you are not meeting the requirements for renewal based on the requirement for 900 hours of practice during the two-year licensure period, only those CE activities that have been accredited by the ANCC or a state BON count towards fulfillment of LSBN's CE requirements. If you need to obtain additional ANCC/state BON accredited CE before renewal, you may find resources on LSBN's website. If you are planning to meet the requirements for renewal based on the requirement for 900 hours of practice during the two-year licensure period, then no CE hours are required.

Are there other ways to meet the CE requirement for license renewal?

Yes – *if you are not meeting the requirements for renewal based on the requirement for 900 hours of practice during the two-year licensure period*, there are two (2) other methods by which you would meet the CE requirement to renew your RN license:

1. By attending school for a **post-secondary nursing degree** and were awarded academic credit during the licensure renewal period for coursework specific to nursing practice. To qualify for this option, the nurse must obtain an official paper transcripts obtained directly from the school *prior* to renewing and be able to supply it to LSBN upon request if notified later that you've been selected to be audited. Student summary print-outs are not acceptable verification. One (1) academic semester hour in a nursing course documented on an official paper transcript is equivalent to fifteen (15) contact hours of ANCC/BON accredited nursing CE for license renewal.
2. By holding a certification in a nursing specialty from one of the national organizations recognized by LSBN for CEs **and** the certification was current for the full licensure period, you may utilize the certification toward your CE requirement for license renewal. If notified that you've been selected to be audited, you would submit the letter (or card) from the national organization that includes your name, certification number, nursing specialty, date certification was issued/renewed and expiration date. A list of the national nursing certifying organizations accepted is available at the LSBN website under Education / Continuing Education / National Nursing Certification Recognized by LSBN for CEs. Only the nursing certifications on this LSBN list may be utilized for license renewal in lieu of ANCC or State BON accredited contact hours.

I was previously selected for the CE/nursing practice audit. Can I be selected again?

Yes. Since all nurses must meet mandatory CE or nursing practice requirements per LSBN rules prior to renewing, any nurse who has renewed his/her Louisiana license is eligible to be selected later by random audit. There is no limit to the number of times an individual can be audited for his/her CEs/nursing practice.

My email and/or mailing address changed since my last licensure renewal. Can I update this information online?

You may update your information by accessing the LSBN online nurse portal at <https://lsbn.boardsofnursing.org/lsbn> and selecting "Manage Profile".

Answers to additional frequently asked questions regarding renewal and continuing education requirements can be found at <https://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Licensure.Renewals/Renewals,ContinuingEducation.aspx>.

See the articles in this issue of The Examiner under the APRN Corner for details regarding APRN renewal.





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The LSBN is Required to Report Adverse Action to the National Practitioner Data Bank by Carrie LeBlanc Jones Chief Legal Officer / General Counsel

The National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) is a web-based repository of reports containing information on medical malpractice payments and adverse actions related to health care practitioners, providers, and suppliers. The ultimate goal of the NPDB is to protect the public. It can be thought of as a flagging tool that alerts queriers there might be a problem with the performance of a health care practitioner. Registered, authorized entities must submit information concerning medical malpractice payments¹, adverse actions², and judgment or conviction reports³ regarding health care practitioners, providers, and suppliers. State licensing boards are required by law to submit reports to the NPDB. Federal laws control the reporting requirements.

The LSBN reports to the NPDB through the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) and Nursys. Nursys is a secure website for NCSBN member boards to input and maintain information about all licensed nurses in the member board's jurisdiction. When discipline is entered or updated in Nursys, it is submitted to the NPDB. Additionally, an automatic discipline speed memo is generated to all member boards where the nurse holds or held a license (if the license exists in Nursys). The automated communication through Nursys assists member boards to stay informed of disciplinary actions in other jurisdictions and take reciprocal action when necessary.

Action against a practitioner as a result of a formal disciplinary proceeding, such as a formal hearing or a consent order that includes adverse action (e.g., revocation, suspension, reprimand, probation, or voluntary surrender), is reportable. Any loss of license or right to apply for or renew a license by operation of law is also reportable.

Reportable actions are recorded when the LSBN submits an initial adverse action report. If a license is suspended, the length of the suspension must also be reported. The report includes a narrative description, which must have enough information so that a knowledgeable reviewer can determine the circumstances of the action or license surrender.

A health care provider who is the subject of a report and disagrees with either the factual accuracy of the report or whether it was submitted per the NPDB reporting requirements may dispute the report. When a report is in dispute status, the LSBN can correct, void, or choose to leave the report unchanged. If the healthcare provider is not satisfied with the board's response, she may elevate the report to dispute resolution.

Revisions to a previously reported licensing action are reportable. Adverse action reports can be modified for the following reasons:

1. Revision-to-action report: when the BON takes an action that modifies or relates to a previously reported action (including reinstatements),
2. Correction report: when the BON determines there was an error or omission in a previously submitted report,
3. Void the report: when the BON determines that an action should not have been reported because the report was erroneously submitted, the action is not reportable, or the action was reversed or overturned,
4. Notice of appeal: when the practitioner appeals previously reported board action.

For more information on the NPDB, visit <https://www.npdb.hrsa.gov/index.jsp>.

¹ Payments made for the benefit of a health care practitioner relating to a written claim or judgment for medical malpractice.

² Certain adverse licensure, certification, and clinical privileges action taken by state and federal licensing and certification authorities, hospitals, and other health care organizations.

³ Health care-related civil judgments or criminal convictions taken in federal or state court.





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Major Motions

Major Motions and Other Actions Taken at the April 15, 2021 Board Meeting

Motion to Adopt with changes noted, and with the ability to rearrange the Agenda items for efficiency.

Motion Carried.

Motion to Approve the minutes of the February 11, 2021 Board Meeting.

Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda Motions

1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports
 1. NCLEX Report
 2. Accreditation Reports
2. Continuing Education Renewal Request
 1. American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
3. Education Announcements

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda Motions.

Motion Carried.

EDUCATION & EXAMINATION

Motion to approve Step III to establish a baccalaureate of science in nursing education degree program and grant full approval to Chamberlain University's College of Nursing.

Motion Carried.

Motion to approve Step II to establish a graduate in nursing education degree program and grant initial approval to McNeese State University.

Motion Carried.

Motion to accept the updated report of currently enrolled Louisiana students in the Excelsior College LPN-ASN program.

Motion Carried.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

Motion to accept and approve the LSBN Board Resolution to amend its contract for legal services with Shows, Cali & Walsh, LLP as presented.

Motion Carried.

Motion to accept and approve the LSBN Board Resolution to amend its contract for legal services with Rutledge Law Firm, LLC as presented.

Motion Carried.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Motion to accept the 2020 Louisiana State Board of Nursing Annual Report as corrected.

Motion Carried.

Motion to accept the report of the President, Vice-President, and the CEO/ Executive Director with edits.

Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into Executive Session for the purposes of hearing the Report on Litigation and Personnel Issues.

Motion Carried.





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New Employee Highlight

Kenci Washington serves as the Administrative Coordinator in the Nursing Division. She is a graduate of Southern University (SUBR). While attending SUBR, she completed her service-learning as the secretary and archivist in the history department. Each task taught her how to handle sensitive, confidential, and important documents with the utmost discretion. Kenci worked for nearly ten years in retail and her experiences instilled strong interpersonal communication skills, both verbally and written.



Kenci loves to visit her family back home in New Orleans. She enjoys cooking, volunteering, and creating memories with her loved ones.

Disciplinary Matters

The LSBN took a total of 33 actions at the April 14-15, 2021 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link: [April 14-15, 2021](#)

The LSBN took a total of 13 actions at the May 12, 2021 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link: [May 12, 2021](#)

The LSBN took a total of 12 actions at the June 16, 2021 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link: [June 16, 2021](#)

2021 State Holiday Schedule

Labor Day.....	September 6
Veterans Day.....	November 11
Thanksgiving Day.....	November 25
Christmas Day.....	December 24

Future Board Meeting Dates

- August 12, 2021
- October 14, 2021
- December 2, 2021

