

T H E E X A M I N E R

a Louisiana State Board of Nursing production

Vol. 29, No. 3

In This Issue

Published 4 Times Annually

From the Chief Executive Officer	1-2
New Employee Highlight	2
Chiefs Corner	3-4
APRN Corner	5-6
RNP Corner	6
Continuing Education Requirements for 2021 Registered Nurse License Renewals	7-8
NLC Nurse and Employer Webinars	9
The Louisiana Center for Nursing Releases Two New Reports	10
LSBN's Role in the Legislative Process and the Need for Active Involvement from Nursing Professionals and Associations	11
Major Motions and Other Actions Taken at the February 13, 2020 Board Meeting	12-13
Major Motions and Other Actions Taken at the May 22, 2020 Emergency Board Meeting	13
2020 State Holiday Schedule	13
Future Board Meeting Dates	13



Board Members

Timothy C. Cotita, BSN, RN, MSHCE, President

Laura S. Bonanno, PhD, DNP, CRNA, Vice President

Tavell L. Kindall, DNP, APRN, FNP, Alternate Officer

Jennifer M. Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE, Member

Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE, Member

Tracey P. Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN, Member

Jamie Wiggins, DNS(c), MS, RN, CCRN-K, NEA_{BC}, FACHE, Member

Ann Carruth, DNS, RN, Member

Kenneth E. Alexander, MS, RRT, Member

Fredrick L. Pinkney, Ed.D, Member

Wendi S. Palermo, PhD, RN, Member



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



I begin this month's CEO message with a summary of the 2020 Regular Session of the Louisiana legislature. This being a budget year and considering COVID-19, LSBN fully expected that there would be minimal activity that affected Board operations. We couldn't have been more wrong. **HB 449** was introduced by Representative Echols concerning the delivery of behavioral mental health services allowing psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners to assess patients in need of an emergency certification to deliver those services through telemedicine. The bill was passed on June 1, 2020 and signed into law by Governor Edwards on June 11, 2020.

HB 613 by Representative Owen and Senator Reese with support from 63 representatives and 24 senators requires occupational licensing boards to issue a license or permit pending normal license to an applicant who is a member of the military or a United States Department of Defense civilian employee, or an applicant who is married to or is a dependent of a member of the military or a United States Department of Defense civilian employee who has been assigned to duty in Louisiana, based on holding a private certification and work experience in another state. For military RNs or RN spouses of military employees from other Nurse Licensure Compact states, this bill will have little effect since those individuals can practice here with a multistate license under their privilege to practice. However, it will assist and facilitate licensure of other military members coming to our state to practice who only have single state licenses.

HB 320 by Representative Bagley proposed to revise the composition of LSBN by adding two (2) registered nurses who would have been appointed by the Governor from a list of names provided by the Louisiana Hospital Association, one of whom would be from a rural hospital. This bill was opposed by the Louisiana State Nurses Association and the Louisiana Council of Administrators of Nursing Education. LSBN had not requested additional Board members and was gravely concerned that Board input had not been solicited prior to the bill's introduction. The bill was voluntarily deferred during Senate Health and Welfare Committee proceedings.

HB 242 by Representative Mike Johnson sought to change the metric of 80% pass rate for first time NCLEX-RN test takers to

one that would include first time testers and repeaters who passed during the most recent calendar year. This would have removed the ability of LSBN to place a school on probation if their program did not achieve the first-time tester success rate of 80% or better for any three calendar years out of the last 5 calendar year period. This would have represented a distinct deviation from NCSBN standards and the national practices of almost all states. The bill was also opposed by the Louisiana State Nurses Association and the Louisiana Council of Administrators of Nursing Education. LSBN did not support this dramatic change to our nursing rules. The bill was involuntarily deferred in Senate Health and Welfare Committee.

LSBN reopened to the public on June 15, 2020 by appointment only. We are operating with only 25% of our workforce present in the building at any one time so we request that any business with the Board that requires face-to-face contact be scheduled by appointment. Anyone visiting the agency is required to wear a mask, have their temperature checked and answer questions regarding recent illness or presence of COVID-19 symptoms.

Finally, LSBN had its first face-to-face Board meeting on June 18, 2020 with social distancing and mitigation strategies in place. Major business included the following. NCLEX-RN scores for first quarter 2020 were presented for the 26 pre-licensure programs and ranged from 82.61% to 100% first time pass rates. The overall first-time pass rate for Louisiana currently stands at 95.05%. The University of Louisiana at Monroe's Step III site visit report for full approval of the graduate nursing education degree program in Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner was accepted and the program was granted full approval. Northwestern State University's request to add a Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesia program was approved. Approval for graduate clinical experiences in Louisiana was granted to Herzing University for their FNP program, to Midwestern University for their CRNA program, to Auburn University for their primary care NP program, and to United States University for their FNP program. Loyola University was approved to initiate Step 1 to establish a baccalaureate of science in nursing program. Finally, LSBN's 2019 Annual Report including the Nursing Education Capacity Report was accepted.

Listening to Governor Edwards' weekly press conference on June 24, 2020, I was disappointed to hear that our movement in to Phase 2 has resulted in increased incidence of COVID-19 cases especially in public health regions 4, 5, and 6 (Thibodaux, Lafayette, and Lake Charles). Young people 18 – 35 are now increasingly present-





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.

ing with positive tests and hospitalizations are increasing. My disappointment was tempered, however, with our Governor’s wise response to maintain phase 2 for the next 28 days and to not be pressured to move to phase 3. I am increasingly at peace knowing that our state is led by such a wise and seasoned leader. In closing, I think that we all need to find some reason to smile and laugh so I leave you with the words of Eugenia Price, American writer:

Wholehearted, ready laughter heals, encourages, relaxes anyone within hearing distance. The laughter that springs from love makes wide the space around it – gives room for the loved one to enter in. Real laughter welcomes, and never shuts out.

I invite each of you to find a reason to laugh loudly with someone you love. I promise you’ll feel better.

For the Public Trust,

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

Late Addendum: LSBN was notified this week of the two new appointments to the Board. Dr. Wendi Palermo, PhD, RN has been appointed to complete Dr. Jacqueline Hill’s Nurse Educator appointment and Dr. Fredrick L. Pinkney, EdD has been appointed to complete Susan Saunders’ public member position. We will have formal introductions of these new members in the next edition of *The Examiner*. We welcome Dr. Palermo and Dr. Pinkney and look forward to their active contributions to the Board.

New Employee Highlight

Charles Beard serves as an Administrative Program Manager in the LSBN Division of Administration. Charles received his



Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and a Master of Science in Human Resource Education from Louisiana State University. He has worked as an Instructor and Residence Life Coordinator for LSU and has held administrative positions at the Louisiana Department of Health and Louisiana Department of Education. Charles spends the majority of his free time volunteering. He serves as the Chief Financial Officer and Spay and Neuter Committee Chairperson for the Capital Area

Animal Welfare Society. Charles has two cats named Xander and Madeline.





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.

Chiefs Corner

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

Louisiana APRNs Requested to Participate in National APRN Practice & Pandemic Survey

It's not too late to participate in the National APRN Practice & Pandemic Survey which can be accessed at <https://redcap.link/nationalAPRNSurvey>. A robust response has the potential to provide evidence that will impact the advancement of the role of APRNs at the state and national levels. Participants will have the opportunity to indicate that they practice in Louisiana and certain information will be gathered that is specific to our state. The survey is anonymous, voluntary and was IRB-reviewed.

A team of nurse researchers from Vanderbilt University, the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center, and the University of Tennessee are conducting this study. The purposes of the survey are to 1) determine the impact of practice barriers and restrictions on providing patient care and on your APRN practice, and 2) understand the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on patient care and on your APRN practice. Click [Survey Flyer](#) and view the [Abstract](#) for more information. Your responses are needed ASAP, as the survey closes soon.

Need Information and Updates on the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC)?

The LSBN website has resources and links regarding the NLC at <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Licensure/Renewals/NurseLicensure-Compact.aspx>. The NLC also has ongoing webinars and updates for nurses and employers. See the flier in this edition of The Examiner for dates and registration information or visit ncsbn.org/nlcm meetings.

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

LSBN welcomes Geneva Carter to the Compliance Division's management team. Ms. Carter is certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner and has over 19 years of experience in nursing. Ms. Carter was employed with Southeast Community Health Systems as a family nurse practitioner, delivering quality care in a rural primary healthcare setting, before joining LSBN. In addition, Ms. Carter worked as an adjunct instructor for Southern University; supervised a large school district for over 5 years; and worked in various nursing capacities. Ms. Carter received her BSN and MSN from Southeastern Louisiana University. Ms. Carter is the mother of 3 and enjoys traveling and spending time with her family. She is passionate about the deliverance of excellence in all capacities of the nursing profession.



Geneva Carter, MSN, APRN, FNP joins the Compliance Division's management team as the Registered Nurse Compliance Officer Team Leader; Nichole Battle, MPA serves as the Compliance Investigator Team Leader; and Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP serves as Director of the Recovering Nurse Program/Monitoring Department.

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

COVID-19 has been a learning experience for the Legal Division at LSBN. Our primary function within the agency is to process discipline cases, which typically reach a final disposition in the form of a Final Order following a formal hearing or a Consent Order in lieu of a formal hearing. Each case is transferred to the Hearings Department with an investigative file. As you might imagine, we are "paper heavy" when compared to other departments and transitioning to remote work was no easy feat. With the assistance of LSBN's amazing IT team, we were able to transition our entire workflow process electronically with minimal disruptions. Additionally, the Board Hearing Disciplinary Panels have been able to meet via telephone conference pursuant to the Governor's Proclamation authorizing such meetings. This has allowed the Board to ratify staff action and approve Consent Orders in a timely manner.





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.

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



COVID-19 UPDATE: LSBN IS OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

At this time, the Louisiana State Board of Nursing is open by appointment only. In order to maintain the health and safety of our visitors and staff, please follow these safety requirements.

<p>APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED</p> 	<p>MASKS REQUIRED</p> 	<p>REVIEW CHECKLIST</p> 	<p>FINGERPRINTING SERVICE</p> 
--	---	--	---

* **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**. Please contact the individual staff member or department to coordinate a date and time or call (225)755-7500 if you need further assistance.

* **Masks** are required for entry into the building.

* **Checklist items.** If you have one of the symptoms, do not come to LSBN office. (see checklist).

* **Fingerprinting Service**

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.

COVID-19 DAILY SELF CHECKLIST

Review the COVID-19 Daily Self Checklist before entering the building.

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS?

- Fever (Temperature over 100.4°) without having taken any fever reducing medications
- Loss of smell or taste
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite
- Asked to self-isolate or quarantine by a medical professional or by a local health official.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

If you answered yes to any of the above symptoms in the checklist, please do not enter this establishment and seek medical advice immediately.

For more information please visit:
<http://ldh.la.gov/coronavirus> or <http://cdc.gov>





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.

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

2021 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 in order 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.





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.

National Certification Extensions due to COVID-19

Several certifying bodies have granted extensions to your certification deadline due to the COVID-19 health crisis. Notify the APRN Department in writing and request proof of your extension be sent directly to LSBN at advancedpractice@lsbn.state.la.us from your certifying body. If your certification is due to expire this year, apply for recertification with your certifying body as soon as possible to avoid interruption in licensure.

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 31st, notify LSBN staff that you have an RN MSL in another Compact state no later than December 28th. You must renew your license(s) before midnight January 31st 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 25th.

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

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

July 2020 marks the 34th 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 registered nurse recovering from a substance use disorder and/or a medical, mental or physical condition to maintain licensure while being closely monitored by the Board through a structured agreement or order. The program continues to be successful assisting nurses with recovery and ensuring that they are safe to practice.

In this issue of the Examiner, I will briefly discuss a key component in assisting participants to be successful in the program. Group orientation is one key requirement of the RNP, post inpatient treatment. Upon discharge from inpatient treatment, RNP participants are required to notify their RNP Case Manager, at which time, participants are scheduled for group orientation. During group orientation, an RNP/Monitoring Case Manager provides detailed information on how to be successful in the program.

The responsibilities of the participants and details of the program are discussed during orientation. Participants' responsibilities include but are not limited to, continuing treatment and aftercare, attending required meetings and groups, submitting to drug screens, ensuring that all required reports are submitted timely and adhering to stipulations stated in the program agreement. Upon completion of group orientation, participants may ask questions, address concerns and meet their Case Manager and/or Licensing Analyst.

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





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.

Continuing Education Requirements for 2021 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 31st.

What is the number one reason nurses have an unsuccessful Continuing Education (CE) 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 requirement to qualify for Louisiana RN license renewal for 2021?

All Louisiana licensed RNs except those issued a 1st time Louisiana license in the 2020 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 audit is performed by board staff. A total of three percent of all active licensees are selected to demonstrate compliance with the nursing CE requirement. Failure to respond or successfully pass the CE 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 do I need each year to renew my Louisiana RN license?

Current requirements at the time of the publication of this article:

Nursing Practice Level for Year	ANCC/State BON accredited CEs Needed
Practiced nursing 1600 hours (or more) within the calendar year. The 1600 hours is equivalent to 10 consecutive months of nursing employment at 40 hours per week	Minimum of 5 contact hours of ANCC or State BON accredited nursing continuing education required annually for license renewal
Practiced nursing at least 160 hours, but less than 1600 hours. 160 hours is the equivalent of 4 weeks at 40 hours per week	Minimum of 10 contact hours of ANCC or State BON accredited nursing continuing education required annually for license renewal
Practiced nursing less than 160 hours during the calendar year. This level includes nurses who are retired from active practice, had unverified nursing employment, self-employed, and/or had not worked during the year – but still wish to renew their nursing license for next year.	Minimum of 15 contact hours of ANCC or State BON accredited nursing continuing education required annually for license renewal. NOTE - Nurses with 15 or more ANCC/BON accredited nursing contact hours do not need to provide proof of nursing practice hours verified by their employer if later selected for the CE audit.

*** Notification was sent via email on June 24, 2020 to individuals holding an active RN license in Louisiana that **the rules addressing the CE requirements for licensure renewal are under revision at this time** per the Administrative Procedures Act. The proposed rules are intended to simplify the CE requirements and align with national trends. If the proposed rules are in effect at the time of the licensure renewal season that begins October 1, 2020, a notification will be sent via email to the email address of record which is the username associated with your LSBN nurse portal account, and the renewal application will identify the revised requirements.***





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.

The **proposed CE requirements that are not yet finalized and not in effect** at the time of the publication of this article are as follows:

- 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.

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 in 2020
- 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?

Only those CE activities that have been accredited by the ANCC or a state BON count towards fulfillment of LSBN’s requirements. If you need to obtain additional ANCC/state BON accredited CE this year, you may find resources on LSBN’s website.

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

Yes – there are two (2) other methods by which you would meet the CE requirement to renew your RN license:

1. If you attended school this year for a **post-secondary nursing degree** and were awarded academic credit in 2020 for coursework specific to nursing practice. To qualify for this option, the nurse must obtain an official paper transcript 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 printouts, electronic and/or 3rd party transcripts 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 continuing education for annual license renewal.
2. If you hold 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 2020 calendar year, 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 audit. Can I be selected again?

Yes. Since all nurses must meet their annual mandatory CE 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.

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>.





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.



NLC NURSE & EMPLOYER WEBINARS

Learn More About the NLC!
Registration is available at:
ncsbn.org/nlcmeetings

NLC WEBINAR PRESENTATIONS

Jim Puente (MS, MJ, CAE), Director, Nurse Licensure Compact will lead a series of brief webinars during which he will:



- Provide an overview of the Nurse Licensure Compact.
- Provide an update regarding the status of pending legislation in various states.
- Explain Nursys®, the national nurse licensure database and E-Notify®.
- Understand requirements when changing primary state of residence.
- Answer questions!

WEBINAR DATES & TIMES

May 19, 2020
June 23, 2020
July 14, 2020
August 25, 2020
September 8, 2020
October 20, 2020
November 10, 2020

All webinars begin at 2 pm CT and will last 30-60 minutes.

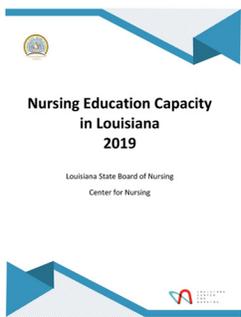
MARK YOUR CALENDARS & REGISTER!





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.

The Louisiana Center for Nursing Releases Two New Reports by Cynthia Bienemy, PhD, RN Director, Louisiana Center for Nursing

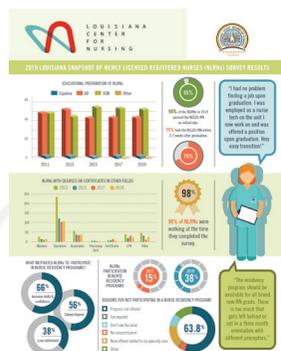


The 2019 Nursing Education Capacity Report provides valuable information to employers of RNs and APRNs, schools of nursing, workforce planners, policy makers, and other interested stakeholders, about the state’s capacity to educate new and existing RNs and APRNs, as well as the state’s ability to provide opportunities to those RNs and APRNs desiring to advance their education. This report is based on data taken from the 2018-2019 annual reports completed by Louisiana’s undergraduate and graduate nursing programs. Information such as the number of applicants admitted to undergraduate and graduate nursing programs each year, the number of students enrolled in clinical nursing courses, the number of graduates, the passage rate on the National Council Licensure Examination and qualifications of faculty teaching in Louisiana’s pre-RN and APRN programs can be found in the 2019 Nursing Education Capacity Report. You can read the report in its entirety at the following link: <http://lcn.lsbn.state.la.us/Portals/0/Documents/2019NursingEducationCapacityReport.pdf>

Newly licensed registered nurses (NLRNs) face significant challenges that impact successful transition into the workforce. Finding employment begins either before graduation or sometime soon thereafter for the majority of new graduates. Once employed, they are exposed to a world that may often time overwhelm them. It is no secret that new nurses feel stressed and fatigued during the transition from academia to practice. They must learn to manage patients, families, caregivers, relationships with their healthcare team, as well as their personal lives, and in some situations, they may be placed in managerial or supervisory positions they have not been adequately prepared to handle. If not given the proper support during this very critical time, NLRNs may experience anxiety, frustration, and burnout which could lead to attrition (Hofler & Thomas, 2016).



The 2019 NLRN Survey and accompanying infographic provide findings from the Louisiana Center for Nursing’s fifth biennial survey of NLRNs. Conducting the NLRN survey every two years allows the Center for Nursing to monitor employment trends and challenges reported by NLRNs in Louisiana. Employers of NLRNs use information from the survey to aide them in creating work environments that will enhance recruitment and retention of NLRNs and nurse educators use findings to prepare students for the transition into practice.



The 2019 NLRN Survey Infographic illustrates major findings from the survey in a visually compelling manner that is easy to read, easy to interpret and extremely informative. The 2019 NLRN Survey Report and Infographic can be found at the following links on the Louisiana Center for Nursing webpage: <http://lcn.lsbn.state.la.us/Portals/0/Documents/2019NewlyLicensedRegisteredNurse%20Report.pdf> <http://lcn.lsbn.state.la.us/Portals/0/Documents/2019NLRNSurvey.pdf>





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.

LSBN's Role in the Legislative Process and the Need for Active Involvement from Nursing Professionals and Associations

by Carrie LeBlanc Jones
Chief Legal Officer / General Counsel

In each legislative session, bills are introduced that have the potential to impact the nursing profession. As practitioners, it is important for you to understand LSBN's role in the legislative process and the need for constituents to stay informed. LSBN employees and board members are public servants and must abide by the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics. Governmental ethics is the practice of acting responsibly and professionally as government officials or employees under certain circumstances and following certain rules and procedures. The four key principles of the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics include: honesty, fairness, transparency and selfless service.

According to La. R.S. 42:1102(18)(a), "Public employee" means anyone, whether compensated or not, who is: (i) An administrative officer or official of a governmental entity who is not filling an elective office, (ii) Appointed by any elected official when acting in an official capacity, and the appointment is to a post or position wherein the appointee is to serve the governmental entity or an agency thereof, either as a member of an agency, or as an employee thereof, (iii) Engaged in the performance of a governmental function, or (iv) Under the supervision or authority of an elected official or another employee of the governmental entity. All LSBN employees and Board members are "public employees" for the purposes of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

La. R.S. 24:56(F)(1) prohibits a state employee in his official capacity or on behalf of his agency from lobbying for or against any matter intended to have the effect of law pending before the legislature or any committee thereof. "Lobbying" or "to lobby" is defined by La. R.S. 24:51(4) as (a) Any direct act or communication with a legislator, the purpose of which is to aid in influencing the passage or defeat of any legislation, (b) Any preparation or research specifically intended, at the time it is performed, for use in or in support of any ongoing or planned direct act or communication with a legislator, the purpose of which is to aid in influencing the passage or defeat of any legislation, (c) Conducting or attending a meeting, the purpose of which is to discuss direct communication with a legislator to aid in influencing the passage or defeat of any legislation. The lobbying prohibition does not preclude public employees from disseminating information relative to any such matter or the use of public meeting rooms or meeting facilities available to all citizens to lobby for or against any such matter. In other words, LSBN employees and Board members may provide factual testimony in a neutral position before the legislature or legislative committees; however, they cannot testify with the purpose to aid in influencing the passage or defeat of legislation.

The LSBN executive leadership team closely monitors proposed legislation that has the potential to impact the nursing profession; however, staff and Board member involvement in the legislative process as public employees must remain neutral. When controversial bills are pending, it is critical that nursing professionals and nursing associations contact their legislators and show up to publicly support and/or voice concerns regarding legislation that has the potential to impact the profession.





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.

Major Motions

Major Motions and Other Actions Taken at the February 13, 2020 Board Meeting

Motion to Adopt the Agenda with the ability to reorder the Agenda items for efficiency

Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of the December 5, 2019 Board meeting.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda Motions

1. LSBN Staff Program Status Reports
 1. NCLEX Report
 2. Accreditation Reports
2. 2018-2019 Schools of Nursing's Annual Reports
 1. Baton Rouge Community College-ASN
 2. Baton Rouge General Medical Center-Diploma
 3. Bossier Parish Community College-ASN
 4. Chamberlain University-BSN
 5. Delgado Community College-ASN
 6. Fletcher Technical Community College-ASN
 7. Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University-BSN
 8. Grambling State University-BSN
 9. Herzing University-BSN
 10. Louisiana Delta Community College-ASN
 11. Louisiana State University Alexandria-ASN
 12. Louisiana State University Eunice-ASN
 13. Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center-BSN
 14. Louisiana Tech University-ASN
 15. McNeese State University-BSN
 16. Nicholls State University-BSN
 17. Northwestern State University-ASN and BSN
 18. Southeastern Louisiana University-BSN
 19. Southern University Baton Rouge-BSN
 20. Southern University at Shreveport-ASN
 21. South Louisiana Community College-ASN
 22. SOWELA Technical Community College-ASN
 23. University of Holy Cross-BSN
 24. University of Louisiana at Lafayette-BSN
 25. University of Louisiana at Monroe-BSN
 26. William Carey University-BSN
 27. Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University-MSN
 28. Grambling State University-MSN

29. Intercollegiate Consortium for a Master of Science in Nursing-MSN
 30. Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center-MSN
 31. Loyola University-MSN
 32. Northwestern State University-MSN
 33. Southeastern Louisiana University-MSN
 34. Southern University Baton Rouge-MSN
 35. University of Louisiana at Lafayette-MSN
 36. University of Louisiana at Monroe-MSN
3. Glenwood Regional Medical Center – Continuing Education Renewal Request
 4. Approved Program Reports
 1. Fletcher Technical Community College-LPN to RN Bridge Program-Correspondence to ACEN
 5. Education Announcements

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda Motions.

Motion Carried.

2. Division Reports

Motion to approve the proposed rule (Attachment #1) in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, L.A. R.S. 49:951 - 968 providing for revisions to Chapter 45 as presented.

Motion Carried.

Education and Examination

Motion to accept the ANNUAL REPORT of the phased-out baccalaureate of science in nursing degree program at **Dillard University** and continue initial approval.

And further, that the Board accept the ANNUAL REPORT of the newly established baccalaureate of science in nursing degree program at **Dillard University** and continue initial approval.

Motion Carried.

Motion to accept the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate of science in nursing degree program at **Louisiana College**, and continue probation for non-compliance with LAC 46:XLVII.3535.B for the third calendar year in a five-calendar year period.

And further, that the Board instruct Louisiana College to submit interim progress reports for the baccalaureate of science in nursing degree program to be





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.

reviewed at subsequent 2020 LSBN Board meetings.

Motion Carried.

Motion to accept the notification of official closure of the phased-out generic and LPN-BSN pre-licensure baccalaureate programs at Dillard University’s College of Nursing (DUCON), effective December 13, 2019.

Motion Carried.

Motion to approve the addition of the Post Master’s Certificate (PMC) and Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN-DNP) programs to the following currently approved roles/populations at Georgetown University:

- Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGNP)
- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Nurse-Midwifery/Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner (CNM/WHNP)
- Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

Motion Carried.

Motion to approve the major substantive change request to revise the philosophy and goals of the Kitty DeGree School of Nursing at the University of Louisiana Monroe.

Motion Carried.

Motion to approve the Baton Rouge General Medical Center School of Nursing’s request to withdraw the previously approved termination plan of the diploma registered nurse program.

Motion Carried.

Administration

Motion to accept and approve the LSBN Board Resolution for contractual legal services with Rutledge Law Firm, LLC.

Motion Carried.

Motion to accept and approve the LSBN Board Resolution for contractual legal services with Shows, Cali & Walsh, LLP.

Motion Carried.

4. Reports

Motion to accept the reports of the President, Vice-President and CEO/Executive Director.

Motion Carried.

8. Executive Session

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

Motion Carried.

**Major Motions and Other Actions
Taken at the May 22, 2020 Emergency Board Meeting**

Motion not to support adding additional members to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing at this time.

Motion Carried.

2020 State Holiday Schedule

Labor Day.....	September 7
General Election Day.....	November 3
Veterans Day.....	November 11
Thanksgiving Day.....	November 26
Christmas Day.....	December 25

Future Board Meeting Dates

- August 20, 2020
- October 15, 2020
- December 3, 2020

