

T H E E X A M I N E R

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In This Issue

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From the Executive Director.....	1-2
LSBN Welcomes Mr. Zaren James as Director of Hearings/General Counsel.....	2
Analysis of Proposed LSBN Fee Increases.....	3-4
RNP Corner.....	4
APRN Corner.....	5-6
Do You Need A Refresher?.....	7
Continuing Education Requirements for 2015 Registered Nurse License Renewals.....	8-9
The 2013 Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) Annual Report is Available Online.....	10
Major Motions and Other Actions Taken at the February 12, 2014 Board Meeting.....	11-12
Disciplinary Matters.....	12
ALERTS.....	13
2014 State Holiday Schedule.....	13
2014 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 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In continuing my theme for this year to recognize nurses honored by the Louisiana Nurses Foundation for excellence in nursing practice and healthcare delivery, this quarter's honorees include Amanda Brown, APRN, MSN, Dr. Tracie Major, DNP, APRN, CNS, Brittani Naccari, BSN,

RN, PCCN, Salena Mathews, BSN, RN, and Deborah Schmitz, BA, BSN, RN. Amanda Brown was honored as **Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year**. She was instrumental in opening up the Franciscan Clinic in 2008, the first employer-sponsored medical home in the state of Louisiana. The clinic provides patient-centered primary care to approximately 2,000 patients across the lifespan. Dr. Major was recognized as **Clinical Nurse Researcher of the Year**. Tracie is a certified pediatric nurse practitioner at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center (OLOLRMC) in Baton Rouge. In her clinical research at OLOLRMC, she has collaborated to reduce intravenous infiltrations and introduced pediatric assessment tools to predict falls and pressure ulcers in her young patients. Ms. Naccari received the award as **Rookie of the Year**. Brittani is a staff nurse at East Jefferson General Hospital (EJGH) in Metairie, working on a coronary care step-down unit since her graduation from Louisiana State University in 2012. She has already earned the Progressive Care Certified Nurse designation from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. **The Registered Nurse Mentor of the Year** was awarded to Salena Mathews. Salena was recognized for her dedication to mentoring student and new graduate nurses. She directs the Nurse Tech and Preceptorship Program at St. Francis. Deborah Schmitz was honored for **Outstanding Community Achievement by a Nurse**. This category is particularly prestigious because it epitomizes the essence of the nursing profession and the commitment to community that our founding mother, Florence Nightingale, espoused. Deborah has stepped beyond the walls of EJGH in Metairie to ensure that cancer patients and their families do not travel the journey through treatment and survivorship alone. She works tirelessly as the

Coordinator of Community Outreach, speaking weekly to schools and local organizations about cancer prevention, treatment, and research activities that are providing ever-increasing hope to her patients. These are ordinary people doing extraordinary things to make meaningful, incremental changes in their patients' lives. They are positive role models who bring hope, confidence, and optimism to our profession.

As most of you know, the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) is a member board of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). Founded in 1978, the NCSBN was created to bring together boards of nursing to act and counsel together on issues related to regulation of the profession to ensure patient safety and public protection. Together, the boards of nursing in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the four U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands bring their collective experience and wisdom together to conduct research on nursing best practices, monitor developments in public policy and education, and collaborate with other healthcare organizations to manage care delivery in an ever more complex environment. The inclusion of 16 additional members from other countries including Canada, Bermuda, Ireland, New Zealand, and Singapore make the organization truly global in nature. It is my pleasure in this edition of **The Examiner** to share some of the remarkable programs and services that we are involved in through our membership in this organization. Of course, everyone immediately associates NCSBN with the NCLEX® examinations, which remain the primary instrument by which RNs come to know the organization. NCSBN also develops and administers the largest competency-based evaluation for nursing assistants known as the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program and the Medication Aide Certification Examination for nursing assistants who want to become certified medication aides.

NCSBN has been a leader in developing online learning. In addition to NCLEX® preparation courses, there are now more than 40 online courses available to nurses, student nurses, and nursing faculty to promote safe nursing practices.





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Nursys® is the only national database for verification of nurse licensure, disciplinary activities, and practice privileges for nurses. Under Nursys®, the Quick Confirm product allows employers and recruiters to retrieve licensure information in a single location. The newest product in the line, Nursys® e-Notify, automatically allows employers licensure information and publicly available disciplinary data on a real time basis as it is entered by boards of nursing.

NCSBN is also very involved with supporting the education of our future nurses. Last year, they donated \$135,000 to the Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association. This money will be used to provide scholarships to students enrolled in undergraduate pre-licensure programs. An additional \$35,000 was donated to the Florence Nightingale International Foundation in support of the Girl Education Fund which supports primary and secondary education efforts to girls under 18 in developing countries whose nurse parent or parents have died.

The Center for Regulatory Excellence (CRE) Grant Program is the research arm of the NCSBN. In 2013, more than \$1.3 million was granted to five organizations to fund innovative projects that not only support regulatory excellence, but which also foster change in the profession. The CRE's priorities include patient safety, practice innovation, continued competence, alternatives to discipline, and license portability.

In closing, I would like to offer words from an inspirational woman that the world said good-bye to this summer, Maya Angelou:

“People will forget what you said... they will forget what you did

but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

In Service to Nursing,

Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS, NEA_{BC}
Executive Director

LSBN Welcomes Mr. Zaren James as Director of Hearings/General Counsel by Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS, NEA_{BC} Executive Director

The Louisiana State Board of Nursing is pleased to announce that Mr. Zaren James has accepted the position of General Counsel I for the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Mr. James began his position with the LSBN on April 21, 2014. He joins us after



serving for 8 years as a staff attorney and Division Director with the Louisiana House of Representatives (LA HOR). In his most recent position, Zaren supervised seven attorneys as well as legal analysts, clerks, and administrative support staff in the Resource and

Infrastructure Division of the LA HOR. He also had experience as a staff attorney with the Committee on Health and Welfare. Mr. James also served the citizens of Louisiana through the Louisiana Department of Insurance, the Legal Aid Bureau in Metairie, and Southeast Louisiana Legal Services in Hammond. He is a 2000 graduate of Southern University Law Center. Please join me in welcoming Mr. James to our staff.





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Analysis of Proposed LSBN Fee Increases
by Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS, NEA_{BC}
Executive Director

I have received numerous emails, telephone calls, and direct mail expressing concerns over the LSBN's proposed fee increases. I appreciate hearing from our constituents. I do understand that the fee increases may not be popular. In the spirit of transparency, I would like to offer background explanation for the increases.

First: In the last 15 years, the LSBN has experienced growth of 74% in terms of number of RNs licensed (from 34,867 to 60,508). In terms of APRNs licensed, we have grown from 1,065 licensees to 4,586 (an increase of 431%).

Second: During this same time, the number of pre-licensure RN programs in the state has increased from 22 to 27 (a 23% increase); the number of graduate programs has increased from 8 to 12 (a 50% increase).

Third: Fifteen years ago, we had no out of state schools offering clinical experiences in Louisiana; today, we have 3 undergraduate programs (a 300% increase) and 16 graduate programs (a 1600% increase). We review and approve each of these schools with the same in-depth analysis that we give to in-state schools.

Fourth: We are the only state in the nation who monitors and regulates student nurses. In the last 13 years, we have increased from 3,720 students enrolled in clinical nursing courses to 5,780 enrolled in 2013, a 56% increase.

All of this growth has resulted in a need for additional staff, from 31 to 55 since 2002 (an increase of 78%). However, I currently have 5 open positions, including 2 RN positions. I am reviewing all structures and processes to insure that we operate efficiently and effectively. If said analysis indicates that we can combine and eliminate positions, we will engage in consolidation efforts.

Our personnel costs have increased concomitantly to meet the additional work of licensure, educational program approval, discipline and investigations, hearings, the Recovering Nurse Program and the addition of the Center for Nursing for workforce planning as directed by the Louisiana legislature. In addition, we have just received notification from the Civil Service System that our healthcare insurance costs will be increased 5% beginning immediately. Finally, the state of Louisiana just increased our agency contributions to employees' retirement from 31.3% to 37%.

We are a completely self-funded agency. Many RNs and APRNs are unaware of this because many state agencies are not independent or even quasi-independent and receive general revenue funds from the state. We have not increased our fees in 8 years, since 2006.

Many of you have identified that you feel nurses who are disciplined by the Board should bear the burden of the costs associated with investigation, licensure, and monitoring. You are absolutely correct that the costs of fines, penalties and fees should be assessed against the RN or APRN perpetrators of NPA violations and criminal acts -- and they are. We can assess up to a \$5,000 fine against an RN/APRN for practice act violations as well as all costs associated with the investigation and hearing. However, assessing the fines and fees and collecting them are two different things. In many cases, we suspend their licenses to practice to protect the public or probate them or even revoke them. All of these actions do protect our citizens, but they leave the RNs without the ability to practice and, therefore, without the ability to pay these costs. We seldom recoup all costs to the agency, but we still have to incur the costs.

It has also been identified that Louisiana is the only state among our southern neighbors who renews licenses annually and which still has two distinct licensing boards for nursing: one for RNs and one for LPNs. Those are fair targets





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for discussions of efficiencies of scale. It is my intention to begin the conversation with our Board for biennial license renewal and to reach out to the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners for initial conversations on areas in which we can collaborate.

I recognize that none of this information probably makes any of you suffering in our struggling economy feel better, but I really do want LSBN's actions to be fully transparent to our nursing colleagues. Thanks for taking the time to express your opinions and I hope I've been able to at least provide explanation, if not solace. Have a great summer and I hope I have the opportunity to meet you somewhere down the road.

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

This month, I would like to take an opportunity to address frequently asked questions concerning the Recovering Nurse Program (RNP). It is amazing how much misinformation can be promulgated about this very important alternative to discipline program.

Question 1: "I was told I could not work as long as I am participating in the RNP. Is that true?"

There is no truth to this statement. If a nurse enters into the Recovering Nurse Program and is released to return to work by the physician, he/she may go back to work. There are some restrictions on a nurse's practice, but about 90-95% of participants in the Recovering Nurse Program are working.

Question 2: Are there some hospitals that will not hire a nurse who is participating in the Recovering Nurse Program?

Unfortunately, there are hospitals that refuse to hire recovering nurses. It is a hospital's prerogative to not hire nurses who have a restricted or probated license. Some hospitals see a nurse with a probated license or a nurse in the Recovering Nurse Program as a liability or they do not want to deal with the extra work of monitoring the nurse. What some employers do not understand about the nurse who is a participant in the Recovering Nurse Program is that LSBN compliance officers have documented that nurse as safe to practice. We currently are monitoring about 325 nurses in the Recovering Nurse Program, slightly over 1/2 of 1% of the active Registered Nurses in Louisiana. If nurses are about the same as the general public in terms of rates of addiction, we should have as many as 2500 nurses in the program at any given time. So it is possible that there are nurses whose practice is impaired who are still working and neither the employers nor the Board are aware that they could be putting patients in danger. Conversely, the nurse in the RNP program has met all stipulations placed on his/her license and is monitored continuously. This is actually the safer situation than the one in which we are unaware of an impaired nurse. If a nurse who is in the Recovering Nurse Program should relapse, they are taken out of practice as soon as the LSBN becomes aware of their relapse.

Question 3: Must I submit to a drug screen daily?

The Board does not require anyone to submit to a daily drug screen. The Board uses a third party administrator to set up a random schedule and nurses and students being monitored must call in or check on the computer daily to see if they are scheduled for a drug screen. Urine, hair, blood, sweat, and saliva can be tested for drugs of abuse. The testing methods employed are quite specific and all positive screens are reviewed by a Medical Review Officer.

If you have additional questions about the Recovering Nurse Program, please visit the LSBN website or give us a call. We are here, not only to protect the public, but also to help nurses on their path to recovery.





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

Changes in Licensure and Prescriptive Authority Applications

The Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) finalized and incorporated rule changes in Chapter 45 that effect application processes for APRNs. Our team has been working diligently to review, update, and revise these processes, and we are pleased to share details.

The changes are intended to make processes more efficient, be in alignment with national recommendations, and save resources. We eliminated over half a dozen forms, integrated and combined redundant forms, and also created a mechanism which allows APRNs to select an option to *receive approval letters for prescriptive authority matters via email* when requesting changes in prescriptive authority.

Since the forms, instructions, and LSBN website have changed to integrate these new processes, read and follow all instructions very carefully in order to remain in compliance with current regulations. LSBN continues to work closely with the National Council for State Boards of Nursing as a nationwide program and database are developed that is intended to continue to enhance and streamline application processes for nurses within and among licensing agencies throughout the country.

The following are highlights of the revisions in LSBN's applications that are now available for APRNs:

Initial licensure:

- Application forms have been reformatted;
- Educators no longer need to verify clinical hours achieved, though they must continue to verify completion of the program; and
- **Temporary permits are no longer available** to new graduates (i.e. those who have graduated within 2 years).

Initial prescriptive authority:

- APRNs may apply for initial prescriptive authority and controlled substance privileges simultaneously. These are two separate processes;
- Applicants must possess and demonstrate evidence of 3 credit hours of advanced pharmacology, advanced pathophysiology, and advanced physical assessment;
- Rules that previously delineated requirements for the formatting of prescriptions were deleted, and reference is now made to adhere to the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy rules regarding these matters; and
- Though the process has been in place for some time, note that new graduates are eligible to apply for initial prescriptive authority after obtaining licensure without additional clinical practice hours.

Controlled substance privileges:

- An additional 500 hours of clinical practice are no longer required to apply for controlled substance privileges;
- As noted above, APRNs may apply for initial prescriptive authority and controlled substance privileges at the same time; and
- The federal DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) registration and state issued Louisiana CDS (Controlled and Dangerous Substance) license must only be submitted to LSBN once, specifically when controlled substance privileges are initially granted. APRNs are responsible for ensuring that these requirements are maintained and current if prescribing controlled substances.





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Requesting changes in prescriptive authority:

- An APRN must continue to formally submit requests to LSBN when adding a collaborating physician in any and all circumstances.
- There is one circumstance in which an APRN may submit an application to add a physician **without submitting a collaborative practice agreement (CPA)** and that is **ONLY IF the APRN is simply adding a physician(s) to a PREVIOUSLY approved site.**
 ***** NOTE: If the APRN submits an application to add a physician to a previously approved site without submitting a CPA as indicated in the circumstance described above, the APRN must actually possess a CPA signed by the new physician, and the CPA signed by the new physician must be identical in all aspects, content and parameters of practice with the CPA previously approved by LSBN for collaborating physician(s) or dentist(s) within the same practice site.
- The instructions for submitting an application to add a physician without submitting a CPA DO NOT apply when APRNs are adding a new practice site **and** new physicians such as when APRNs obtain new employment. When APRNs are adding a new practice site **and** new physicians they MUST submit a CPA with the application.

Collaborative practice agreement:

- The template on LSBN's website has been streamlined and updated including changes in language;
- There is no additional addendum for controlled substances nor additional/second signature page for the addendum previously available since the information is now integrated into the new template.

2015 APRN Licensure Renewal

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) must renew both their Registered Nurse (RN) and APRN license each fall for the next calendar year. To renew as an APRN, the nurse must *either*:

A. Hold current national certification in each licensed advanced practice role and population focus, with *primary source* proof on file with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN). **APRNs whose certification has expired, or will expire by December 31, 2014, will be required to have their national certifying organization send primary source proof of recertification directly to LSBN. Please contact your certifying organization directly, for information regarding their process and any applicable fees.** 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 from the APRN's certifying organization, the APRN will be authorized to complete the 2015 on-line 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 2014, *prior* to being deemed eligible for license renewal. All practice hours and continuing education **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.

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, click [here](#) to view list.





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Do You Need a Refresher?
by Cynthia York, RN, MSN, CGRN
Director, Practice and Credentialing Department

Caring for family members, raising children and retirement are among the reasons why some Registered Nurses (RNs) make the decision to leave the nursing workforce. Over the past several years, many RNs have returned to patient care due, in part, to the economic state of the country. Transitioning back into nursing practice after an extended absence may be difficult for some and completion of a refresher course may be beneficial.

According to White, Roberts, and Brannan (2003), “a refresher course will assist the inactive nurse to reestablish employment in a profession experiencing rapid technologic advances. Nurses returning to the profession after an absence from the clinical setting without a refresher course typically do not possess current knowledge and skills, making them a liability instead of an asset” (p. 59).

The Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) (2014), defines accountability as “being answerable for one’s actions or inactions. The registered nurse answers to self, patient, agency, profession and society for the effectiveness and quality of nursing care rendered” (p. 65). In carrying out the mission to protect the public, LSBN rules specify the requirement that all nurses are to practice competent nursing and they must acquire and maintain nursing knowledge, skills and capabilities required to provide safe patient care.

Nurses, who wish to return to the workforce after a period of absence, may want to consider completing a refresher course. Hammer and Craig (2008), concluded that “refresher courses in nursing are vital bridges for inactive nurses to return to nursing” (p. 359). The authors also reported that nurses who completed the refresher course had “increased self-esteem”, “a better self-image”, and “more self-confidence” (p. 362).

Refresher courses approved by LSBN must meet the following criteria in order to ensure RNs update their professional knowledge and skills to the legally qualified level:

1. The sponsoring institution shall have access to adequate facilities, resources and qualified educational staff to implement both the required theoretical and clinical components of the refresher course.
2. The course shall be based on clearly stated objectives which are realistic for the time allotted in the course and appropriate for the course content.
3. The course content shall provide a review of basic nursing care concepts, principles and skills related to patients across the life cycle.” (Title 46, Professional and Occupational Standards, Part XLVII, p. 37).

Refresher courses approved by LSBN include both didactic and clinical components. Once the theory portion of the refresher course has been successfully completed, RNs should submit evidence of same along with a proposed clinical schedule and application for a temporary RN applicant permit. The RN enrolled in a refresher course should plan to complete the clinical portion under the direct supervision of a licensed RN and within a six month period of time. For a list of LSBN approved refresher course providers, please click [here](#).

References:

- Hammer, V. R. & Craig, G. P. (2008). The experiences of inactive nurses returned to nursing after completing a refresher course. *The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*, 39.8, 358-67.
- Louisiana State Board of Nursing (2014). Title 46, professional and occupational standards, part XLVII. nurses: practical nurses and registered nurses, subpart 2. registered nurses.
- White, Roberts & Brannan (2003). Returning nurses to the workforce: Developing an online refresher course. *The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*, 34.2, 59-63.





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Continuing Education Requirements for 2015 Registered Nurse License Renewals
by Cynthia York, RN, MSN, CGRN
Director, Practice and Credentialing Department

Registered Nurse (RN) license renewal season begins in early October, 2014.

Now's the time to review the nursing continuing education (CE) you've obtained this year to ensure you have sufficient contact hours accredited by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or a specific U.S. State Board of Nursing (BON) that meet Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) CE requirements.

This is also a good time to visit LSBN's [My Services](#) section to verify that your email, mailing address and phone numbers are current to make sure you receive Board notifications promptly.

What is my CE requirement to qualify to renew my Louisiana RN license for 2015?

All Louisiana licensed RNs, except those issued a 1st time Louisiana license in the 2014 calendar year, **must** be in compliance with LSBN rules regarding annual nursing CE requirements that are accredited by either the ANCC or a specific State BON prior to renewing his/her RN license online.

A random CE audit is conducted each year in which 3 percent of all active licensees are selected to demonstrate compliance with the nursing CE requirement. Failure to respond or successfully pass the CE audit can 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?

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.





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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 in 2014
- f. clear printed statement that the nursing CE was accredited by either the **ANCC** - or – by a specific **U.S. State BON**.

Click [here](#) to view a sample CE certificate.

Does training obtained through my place of employment count?

Sometimes training obtained through your nursing employer may qualify, but do not assume. Look at each CE certificate of completion carefully for the information required to meet LSBN nursing CE requirements as explained previously.

An employer has the right to require certain training as a condition of employment, but only nursing CE that shows accreditation by the **ANCC** or a **State BON** on the certificate may be counted toward the contact hours needed each year to renew your Louisiana RN license. If you need to obtain additional ANCC/BON accredited CE this year, you may find resources on LSBN's website by clicking [here](#).

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

Yes – there are two (2) other methods by which you could qualify to renew your RN license:

1. If you attended school this year for a **post-secondary nursing degree** and were awarded academic credit in 2014 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 print-outs, 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 2014 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** or click [here](#). 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.





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The 2013 Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) Annual Report is Available Online

The LSBN Annual Report is a mechanism that is used to inform the Governor, Members of the Legislature, other state agencies, the health care community, academic institutions and the citizens of Louisiana about the work that is being done by Board Members and Staff to safeguard the life and health of the citizen's of Louisiana by assuring persons practicing as registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses are competent and safe, as well as a forum to share information about Louisiana's Registered Nurse (RN) workforce and nursing education capacity.

Did you know?

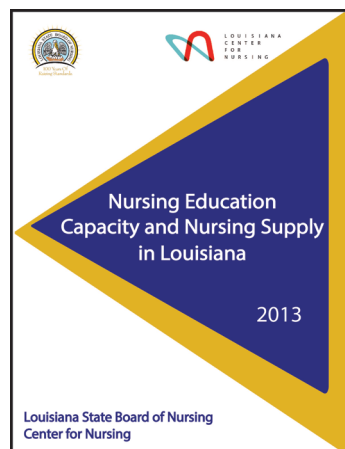
- There were over 60,000 RNs licensed to practice in Louisiana in 2013.
- There was a 24% increase in the number of APRNs holding a license to practice in Louisiana between 2009 and 2013.
- There was a 40% increase in the number of Nurse Practitioners (NPs) licensed and residing in Louisiana between 2009 and 2013 and a 13% increase between 2012 and 2013.

- The pool of qualified applicants applying to pre-RN licensure programs in Louisiana in 2012-2013 increased by 3% over the last year compared to a 3% decrease in 2011-2012. This represents the first increase in the number of qualified applicants applying to Louisiana's pre-RN licensure programs since 2009.
- Over 1,700 qualified applicants were denied admission to Louisiana's pre-RN licensure programs in 2012-2013 for one or more of the following reasons: budgeted faculty positions not available, faculty salaries not competitive, clinical placement sites and classroom space not available.
- The passage rate on the NCLEX-RN for graduates from Louisiana's pre-RN licensure programs continues to exceed that of the nation in spite of the higher passing standard implemented in April 2013 by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN).

For further information about the 2013 LSBN Annual Report, contact Dr. Karen Lyon, Executive Director for LSBN at lsbn@lsbn.state.la.us or Dr. Cynthia Bienemy, Director of the Louisiana Center for Nursing at lcnc@lsbn.state.la.us.



LSBN's 2013 Annual Report is ready for viewing. Click [HERE](#) to view the full report.



LSBN's 2013 Nursing Education Capacity and Nursing Supply in Louisiana Report is ready for viewing. Click [HERE](#) to view the full report.





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Major Motions and Other Actions Taken at the February 12, 2014 Board Meeting

EDUCATION

Approved the request of Vanderbilt University to include the following role and population to current approval to offer graduate advanced practice registered nursing clinical experiences in Louisiana until December 15, 2015.

Nurse Midwife/- Family Nurse Practitioner (NMW/
FNP)

Reapproved the request of St. Tammany Parish Hospital as a Continuing Education provider through February 12, 2018.

Approved the major curriculum change of the Intercollegiate Consortium for Master of Science in Nursing Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program. And further that the Board acknowledge the name change of the role and population from Family to Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

Approved the major curriculum change at Fletcher Technical Community College effective Fall 2014.

Reapproved the request of University of Louisiana Lafayette as a Continuing Education provider until February 12, 2018.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Baton Rouge Community College and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the diploma program in nursing at Baton Rouge General Medical Center, and continue full approval and comment for 100% pass rate for the third consecutive year.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Bossier Parish Community College and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Delgado Community College/Charity School of Nursing and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at Dillard University and place on conditional approval for non-compliance with LAC46X1VII.3523B.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Fletcher Technical Community College, continue full approval and commend them for 100% NCLEX pass rate.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at Grambling State University and take action regarding non-compliance with LACXLVII.3523.B for a fourth consecutive year.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at Louisiana College and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Louisiana Delta Community College and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Louisiana State University at Alexandria and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Louisiana State University at Eunice and place on conditional approval for noncompliance with LACXLVII.3515.C. And further the board to instruct Louisiana State University at Eunice to provide addendum to the annual report reflecting notification and justification of excessive faculty attrition rate which was not submitted in the annual report as outlines in LACXLVII.3515.C.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at Louisiana State University Health Science Center and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Louisiana Tech University and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORTS of the associate and baccalaureate degrees in nursing programs at McNeese State University and continue full approval.





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Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at Nicholls State University and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORTS of the associate and baccalaureate degrees in nursing programs at Northwestern State University and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at Our Lady of Holy Cross College and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORTS of the associate and baccalaureate degree in nursing programs at Our Lady of the Lake College School of Nursing and place the associate degree in nursing program on conditional approval for non-compliance with LACXLVII.3523.B and continue full approval for the baccalaureate degree in nursing program.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate program in nursing at Southeastern Louisiana University and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at Southern University at Baton Rouge and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the associate degree in nursing program at Southern University at Shreveport and restore full approval for compliance with 3536.B.3c (NCLEX pass rates).

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at the University of Lafayette and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at University of Louisiana Monroe and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the baccalaureate degree in nursing program at William Carey University and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the graduate degree in nursing program at Grambling State University and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT from the Intercollegiate Consortium for a Master of Science in Nursing (ICMSN) and continue full approval status:

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the graduate degree in nursing program at Loyola University and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the graduate degree in nursing program at the Louisiana University Health Sciences Center and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the graduate degree in nursing program at Northwestern State University and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the graduate degree in nursing program at Our Lady of the Lake College and continue full approval.

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT of the graduate degree in nursing program at Southern University Baton Rouge and continue full approval.

PRACTICE

Approved board staff's request to remove nursing practice opinion 93.22 from LSBN website.

Disciplinary Matters

LSBN took a total of 64 actions at the April 29, 2014 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link below:

[April 29, 2014](#)

LSBN took a total of 22 actions at the May 13, 2014 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link below:

[May 13, 2014](#)

LSBN took a total of 35 actions at the June 10, 2014 hearing panel. For a complete listing click the link below:

[June 10, 2014](#)





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ALERTS

by Rickie Callegan, MSN, RN
Director, Investigations

ALERT:

According to Title 46 Professional and Occupational Standards, part LXVII, Nurses, Subpart 2: Registered Nurses §3333 Renewal of License *B.4 Provide any/all information, documents, records, reports, evidence and/or items as requested by the Board/Board staff within 60 days from the date of the letter of request/notification sent by board staff, or else the RN license shall be subject to immediate invalidation with change of status to inactive license and practice as a Registered Nurse will no longer be legal.*

ALERT:

Please be advised that Renewal Season is quickly approaching and it is the responsibility of every nurse to read and answer the Renewal Questions appropriately. If you are answering the questions based on the advice of legal counsel, you may still be held responsible for the response given. Also, even though an arrest or conviction has been pardoned, expunged, dismissed, deferred, or diverted, and even if your civil rights have been restored, you must answer "YES" and mail certified court documents of incident/arrest together with a signed letter of explanation.

- DWI arrest must be reported, regardless of final disposition.
- Traffic violations such as speeding or parking tickets do not need to be reported.

2014 State Holiday Schedule

Labor Day.....	September 1
Veterans Day.....	November 11
Thanksgiving Day.....	November 27
Christmas Day.....	December 25

Future Meeting Dates BOARD MEETING DATES

August 13, 2014
October 15, 2014
December 10, 2014

