Facts about the NLC

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Issue

Modern health care delivery requires that nursing care, today and in the future, be dynamic and fluid across state boundaries, but the 100 year-old model of nurse licensure is not flexible, adaptable nor nimble enough to best meet this need.

Solution

The enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) increases access to care while maintaining public protection at the state level.

- The enhanced NLC, which is an updated version of the current NLC, allows for registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) to have one multistate license, with the privilege to practice in their home state and other NLC states.
- There are 25 member states in the current NLC.

Benefits of the NLC

- Enables nurses to practice in person or provide telehealth nursing services to patients located across the country without having to obtain additional licenses.
- Allows nurses to quickly cross state borders and provide vital services in the event of a disaster.
- Facilitates telenursing and online nursing education.
- Cost Effective
  - Nurses do not have to obtain an additional nursing license(s), making practicing across state borders affordable and convenient.
  - The compact removes a burdensome expense not only for nurses, but also organizations that employ nurses and may share the expenditure of multiple licenses.

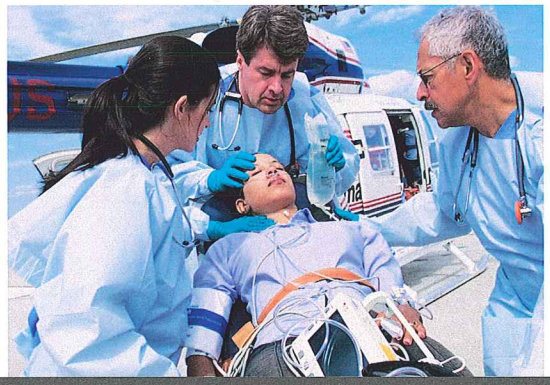
Proven, Safe and Efficient

- The NLC has been operational and successful for more than 15 years.
- All the safeguards that are built into the current state licensing process are required before a nurse is issued a multistate license.
- The NLC has uniform licensure requirements so that all states can be confident the nurses practicing within the NLC have met a set of minimum requirements, regardless of the home state in which they are licensed.
- Less than 1 percent of U.S. nurses ever require discipline by a board of nursing (BON), but if discipline is needed, swift action can be taken by the BON regardless of the state where the nurse is licensed or practices. When a nurse is disciplined, the information is placed into the national licensure database, nursys.com.
- All states that participate in the enhanced NLC conduct federal criminal background checks to determine eligibility for a multistate license.

A Modern Nurse Licensure Solution for the 21st Century

The enhanced NLC increases access to health care, protects patient safety and reduces costs while supporting state-of-the-art health care delivery – for today and in the future.

To join the NLC, states need to enact the enhanced NLC model legislation and implement a federal criminal background check system for nurse licensure.



Unlocking Access to Nursing Care Across the Nation

NLC
NURSE LICENSURE COMPACT

Our Mission

The Nurse Licensure Compact advances public protection and access to care through the mutual recognition of one state-based license that is enforced locally and recognized nationally.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Support the NLC!

For more information about the enhanced NLC, visit **nursecompact.com.**

If you have a specific question, contact **nursecompact@ncsbn.org.**

Some of the Organizations Supporting the NLC include:

- Air & Surface Transport Nurses Association
- American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing
- American Association of Neuroscience Nurses
- American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN)
- American Association of Poison Control Centers
- American Nephrology Nurses Association
- American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE)
- American Telemedicine Association (ATA)
- Association of Camp Nurses
- Association for Vascular Access
- Case Management Society of America (CMSA)
- Center for Telehealth and E-Health Law
- CGFNS International, Inc.
- Citizen Advocacy Center (CAC)
- Commission for Case Manager Certification
- Emergency Nurses Association (ENA)
- Health IT Now
- National Governors Association Center for Best Practices
- National League for Nursing
- National Military Family Association
- National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (OADN)
- National Patient Safety Foundation
- Oncology Nursing Society
- Population Health Alliance
- Telehealth Leadership Council
- U.S. Department of Commerce