

Nurse Licensure Compact Update

Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC)

The mutual recognition model of nurse licensure allows a nurse to have one license (in his or her state of residency) and to practice in other states (both physically and electronically), subject to each state's practice laws and regulations. Under mutual recognition, a nurse may practice across state lines unless otherwise restricted. In order to achieve mutual recognition, each state must enact legislation or regulation authorizing the Nurse Licensure Compact. States entering the compact also adopt administrative rules and regulations for implementation of the compact. Once the compact is enacted, each compact state designates a Nurse Licensure Compact Administrator to facilitate the exchange of information between the states relating to compact nurse licensure and regulation. On January 10, 2000, the Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators (NLCA) were organized to protect the public's health and safety by promoting compliance with the laws governing the practice of nursing in each party state through the mutual recognition of party state licenses. The Executive Director of the Texas Board of Nursing serves as the Compact Administrator for Texas.

Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact:

The new "Enhanced" NLC adopted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Delegate Assembly in May 2015 has been adopted by 15 states including Arizona, Florida, Idaho, Missouri, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia and Wyoming joined the enhanced NLC in 2016. Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Dakota and Utah have enacted in 2017, bringing the total of states to enact the eNLC to 15 states. Four states have passed out of both chambers but await the Governor's signature in Georgia, Iowa, Maryland, and West Virginia. Twelve other states, including Texas have pending eNLC legislation in the current session.

<https://www.nursecompact.com/>

APRN Compact:

Two states have passed and enacted the APRN Compact in 2016 — Idaho and Wyoming. Iowa, North Dakota, and West Virginia have bills pending in the 2017 session.

Follow the new Compacts at: <https://aprncompact.com> or aprncompact.com

Other Healthcare Licensee Compacts in Development

The National Association of State EMS Officials has developed an interstate Compact "to solve the problem associated with day-to-day emergency deployment of EMS personnel across state boundaries." This Compact was finalized in August 2014 and 9 states including Texas have passed the Compact into law.

<https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/replica>

The Federation of State Board of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Interstate Compact has been enacted by 9 states. The Sunset Commission has recommended this Compact be adopted by Texas in 2017 and the compact is incorporated into their Sunset bill.

<https://www.fsbpt.org/FreeResources/PhysicalTherapyLicensureCompact.aspx>

The Interstate Compact for Physician Licensure has been adopted by 18 states. It has been recommended by the Texas Sunset Commission and incorporated into their Sunset bill.

<https://imlcc.org/>

The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards has developed an Interjurisdictional Telepsychology Compact and two states have adopted the Compact thus far. This Compact has been recommended by the Texas Sunset Commission and is incorporated into their Sunset bill.

<https://asppb.site-ym.com/mpage/legislative>

NLCA Meetings

The Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators (NLCA) and the NLCA Executive Committee (NLCA EXEC) meet regularly via teleconference and face to face at least twice a year. The last face to face meeting of the NLCA took place on March 12, 2017 in Salt Lake City, UT.

Participating States in the Current NLC

The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) has now been implemented in 25 states: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Texas Compact Statute and Rules

The Texas NLC Statute can be found at:

http://www.bon.texas.gov/laws_and_rules_nursing_practice_act_2013.asp#Sec.304.001

The Texas Administrative Rules for the Compact can be found at this page by clicking on BON Rules and Regulations and navigating to Chapter 220.

http://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/law_rules_pdfs/rules_regulations_pdfs/bon_rr_Oct2016.pdf