

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### NATIONAL NEWS

**34 States Enact the Nurse Licensure Compact:** Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming have enacted the revised Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC). Alabama, Indiana and New Jersey passed the Compact in 2019. Alabama implemented on January 1, 2020, New Jersey partially implemented on March 24, 2020 and Indiana implemented on July 1, 2020. New Jersey plans a full implementation in 2021.

<https://www.ncsbn.org/nurse-licensure-compact.htm>

See Board item 6.1 for further information on implementation of the compact.

**NCSBN Launches Research Study to Investigate Prelicensure RN Education During the Pandemic:** NCSBN has launched a new research study, “National Pre-licensure RN Study: Assessing the Impact of COVID-19 on Nursing Education,” to investigate the impact of the rapid changes being made in nursing education programs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The study, which is currently underway at more than 50 nursing program sites across the nation, seeks to determine the extent to which pre-licensure RN programs, either traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) or Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN), changed their didactic and/or clinical delivery formats due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The study will then prospectively and longitudinally track student outcomes to measure engagement, academic performance, and early career experience. The study will conclude in 2022.

<https://www.ncsbn.org/15258.htm>

**Statement from the Tri-Council for Nursing on the Status of the U.S. Health Care Workforce during the COVID-19 Pandemic:** The surge in COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations and deaths has pushed the health care system into crisis. Today the Tri-Council for Nursing, comprised of five leading nursing organizations, released the attached statement on the status of the U.S. health care workforce. **(See Attachment A).**

**NCSBN Offers Recommendations about COVID-19 Vaccine Administration:** In the coming months there will be an unprecedented need for qualified personnel to safely administer the COVID-19 vaccine. NCSBN has issued a policy brief that recommends what personnel should administer the vaccine in order to protect the public. The brief specifically states, “COVID-19 vaccines can be safely administered by licensed practical nurses/vocational nurses (LPNs/VNs), registered nurses (RNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), in addition to other licensed health care providers such as physicians, physician assistants and pharmacists.” Boards of nursing (BONs) are assuring that there is a supply of licensed nurses who are safe and competent to administer this vaccine. Additionally, the formation of partnerships with nursing education programs where the services of student nurses can be employed to administer the vaccine under the supervision of faculty or other qualified, licensed personnel, is also vital. **(See Attachment B).**

**NCSBN e-Notify Service:** This service delivers real-time notification to employers about nurses in their employ. The system provides licensure and publicly available discipline data directly as the information is entered into the Nursys database by boards of nursing. Employers chose the types of

notifications such as expiration of license and discipline on a license as well as the frequency of such notifications. NCSBN permits individual nurses to enroll as well. Currently there are 1,661 Texas nursing employers with 524,063 Texas nurses enrolled in e-Notify. There are also 73,883 individual Texas nurses self-enrolled. Enrollment information is available at:

<https://www.nursys.com/EN/ENDefault.aspx>

**New NCSBN Practice/Academic Partnership Webpage Resource:** As the pandemic limited clinical experiences for pre-licensure registered nursing (RN) and practical/vocational nursing (PN/VN) students, several U.S. nursing leadership organizations came together and proposed practice/academic partnerships as a model to assist in increasing clinical experience possibilities. This model encourages collaboration to identify ways to accomplish appropriate faculty supervision of the nursing student-employees to achieve the final learning outcomes of the nursing program.

This innovative model is illustrated on a new NCSBN Practice/Academic Partnership Toolkit webpage containing the Policy Brief: U.S. Nursing Leadership Supports Practice/Academic Partnerships to Assist the Nursing Workforce during the COVID-19 Crisis, a testimonial video that shares the success of two states implementing the model, in addition to other resources pertaining to the model.

<https://www.ncsbn.org/practice-academic-partnership.htm>

## STATE NEWS

**Texas Board of Nursing Creates Covid-19 Website:** To locate multiple resources for the public, the BON has created a webpage which contains announcements, information on waivers, resources and FAQs pertaining to Covid-19. It can be found at: <https://www.bon.texas.gov/COVID-19.asp>

**87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session:** Governor Greg Abbott, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and House Speaker Dennis Bonnen announced December 21<sup>st</sup> that the Texas Capitol will re-open on January 4th.

They also stated that health and safety protocols have been put in place to allow for the Capitol's reopening while maintaining a safe environment for all visitors, lawmakers, and staff. Preparations to safely conduct business in the Texas House and Senate are ongoing, and each chamber will establish their respective rules and protocols at the start of the legislative session.

**Texas Facilities Commission:** In the 86th Legislative Session, SB 1349 (Watson) passed, authorizing the sale of certain property by the Texas Facilities Commission (TFC) including the William P. Hobby Building complex. State agencies located in the Hobby building will be required to relocate to the George H. W. Bush building in the summer of 2022. This building is under construction at 1801 Congress Avenue. The BON is participating with TFC in the planning for physical space and resources needed for the move. We have reviewed a draft layout of the offices and provided feedback regarding enhancements needed for some spaces. At this time, construction is expected to be completed on time.

**Health Professions Council:** The Health Professions Council (HPC) met on December 14, 2020. The newly elected Chair of HPC is Ralph Harper (PT/OT); the new Vice Chair is Allison Benz (Pharmacy). Costs to agencies will rise in next biennium due to recalculation of allocations by the Legislative Budget Board. If the Board receives appropriations in the next biennium to purchase digital imaging software (Laserfische), the Board of Nursing will seek reduction of our allocation.

Agencies have not received further direction from Texas Facilities Commission at this time regarding moving costs. HPC has a Regulatory Data Base for the Pharmacy, Dental, Optometry, Funeral Services Commission and Plumbing Boards. Changes made by the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature will result in addition of Geoscientists and the Behavioral Health Executive Council to the Regulatory Database and the transfer of the data base for the Land Surveying Board to the Board of Engineers. The next Meeting of HPC will be on March 15, 2020. The Annual Report of HPC will be published on their website in February 2021. [www.hpc.state.tx.us](http://www.hpc.state.tx.us)

## BOARD NEWS

**NCLEX in Texas During Covid-19 Pandemic:** Pearson Vue testing centers have re-opened with full capacity. Mitigation includes requirements for masks by candidates and testing center staff, partitions between each candidate and hygiene measures. Candidates for the exam who have received an Authorization to Test from the Board of Nursing are able to schedule within a few days. As the Pandemic surges, if adjustments are made to testing site availability, alerts will be sent to schools of nursing and posted on the website.

**BON Bulletin Articles:** The January 2021 issue of the *Board of Nursing Bulletin* contains the following articles: 1.) A Call to Education Programs to Assist with the COVID-19 Vaccination Effort; 2.) How to Become a COVID-19 Vaccinator; 3.) Allison Porter-Edwards Elected Vice-President of Texas Board of Nursing at October 2020 Board Meeting; 4.) Differentiated Essential Competencies of Graduates of Texas Nursing Programs Workgroup Meeting via Videoconference; 5.) Newly Approved Human Trafficking Training Courses; 6.) Guest Article: Telehealth and Nursing Education: Remote Patient Monitoring Clinical Site Application by Mari Tietze, PhD, RN-BC, FHIMSS, Shelly Hawkins, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, GNP, FAANP, and Devin McElreath, BSN, RN; 7.) Practice Q&A: Safe Harbor: The Who, What, When, Where, And How; 8.) K-12 COVID-19 Testing Project in Texas Schools. The Board provides a quarterly newsletter online and a paper newsletter mailed to every nurse currently licensed in the State of Texas; 9.) Electronic Submission of APRN Application Supporting Documents. The Bulletin is available at: [https://www.bon.texas.gov/about\\_newsletters.asp](https://www.bon.texas.gov/about_newsletters.asp)

**Board Development:** The January 2021 meeting will be conducted by video teleconferencing due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and current state and local orders to implement social distancing. There will not be a development session at this meeting.

## AGENCY NEWS

**Predictive analytics project:** The BON staff are participating in a research study investigating the potential of decision support tools to support regulatory decision making in evaluating complaints about nurses in the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia. This project aims to investigate the use and value of a decision support tool for improving the consistency and efficiency of decision-making in the nursing complaints process in three jurisdictions. It is envisioned that the tool may assist in streamlining the early assessment of complaints received by the Board, therefore allowing for earlier closure of lower risk matters and optimal utilization of resources towards identifying, assessing and addressing higher risk matters. The Board has submitted the first set of data to the researchers. The study should be completed in late Spring 2021.

**IT/ORBS Update:** Although the planned launch date for the ORBS Nurse Portal was March 15, 2020, the date was moved to June 15, 2020 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Please see the information on the Texas portal at: <https://www.bon.texas.gov/texasnurseportal/>. The launch was successful and the NCSBN and BON teams have worked diligently to respond to questions and data migration and programming issues and resolve them as quickly as possible. It has been a herculean effort but will ultimately result in significant improvements to our operations. The addition of the enforcement section is scheduled for April 2021.

**Covid-19 Pandemic:** Governor Greg Abbott issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas. In each subsequent month effective through December, he has renewed the disaster declaration for all Texas counties. The Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services, Dr. John Hellerstedt, has determined that COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. Many initiatives have been undertaken by the Board of Nursing to respond to the Pandemic with the priority of maintaining mission essential functions and keeping our staff and the public safe. Public access to the offices was closed. A new webpage has been

designed to co-locate all Covid-related information. The work model shifted to a primarily remote staff arrangement, teleworking at home with 17-27% of staff are in the office during the week to process mail and money received, to pick up paper files, scan and send documents to other staff, and conduct other business that cannot be performed at home. Equipment to enable telework was purchased. Travel was suspended. A Return to Office Plan was developed but not yet fully implemented due to risk of spread of the virus at this time. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, Covid-19 is surging and local school districts are either functioning purely remotely or in a hybrid fashion. Board meetings, staff meetings and departmental meetings have moved to video conferencing. In person workshops have moved to virtual format. Informal Settlement Conferences, Mediations at SOAH and contested case proceedings at SOAH have moved to virtual audio/video platforms. The Call Center has continued to operate. The staff have maintained their commitment to the Board's mission and have continued to creatively and effectively respond to this new work environment.

**Nursing Jurisprudence Examination:** The Jurisprudence examination required for initial licensure by Texas Occupations Code Section 301.252, License Application, was implemented in September 2008. Those applying for initial licensure by exam or endorsement **after** September 1, 2008 must pass the Jurisprudence Exam in order to be eligible for licensure. Data through the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of FY 21 can be found in (***Attachment C***).

**Website:** Google Analytics of the Board's website shows that there were 3,206,982 page views during the 2-month period from October 17, 2020 – December 28, 2020. (***Attachment D***).

<https://www.bon.texas.gov/>

**Facebook:** The Texas Board of Nursing Facebook page can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Texas-Board-of-Nursing-1498436920404832/>

The agency posts at least weekly.

Key Meetings and Presentations: by the Executive Director and Staff since the last Board meeting. (Does not include internal meetings with staff).

**Executive Director**

*Conference Call:* Texas Team Advancing Education Committee, October 26, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Meeting on Excelsior Program, October 26, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Nursing Legislative Agenda Coalition, October 27, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* American Academy of Nursing Board of Directors Meeting, October 28, 2020

*Virtual Joint Budget Hearing:* Governor's Office and LBB, Article VIII Agencies, October 29, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* COVID-19 Outreach & Licensing Interagency Networking Group, October 29, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Business Continuity Planning, October 30, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* American Academy of Nursing Annual Conference, October 30-31, 2020

*Virtual Induction Ceremony:* American Academy of Nursing, October 31, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* State Agency Government Relations (SAGR) of Texas Meeting, November 4, 2020

*Emergency Meeting:* Board of Nursing, Adoption of Amendments to Rule 217.24, November 4, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Workgroup, November 4, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* COVID-19 Outreach & Licensing Interagency Networking Group, November 5, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Predictive Analytics Project Research Team, November 12, 2020

*Webinar:* Federation of State Medical Boards, New Pandemic-Related Developments in Telemedicine, November 12, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* COVID-19 Outreach & Licensing Interagency Networking Group, November 12, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/RCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing, November 13, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Senator Hinojosa's Staff, November 16, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Representative Hernandez Staff, Discuss HB 2213, November 17, 2020

*Webinar:* NCSBN on NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN examinations using a Differential Item Functioning (DIF) panel review process, November 18, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Legislative Planning, November 19, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Nurses Association CEO and BON ED, November 20, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* NCSBN Committee to discuss Covid-19 Vaccine Position Statement, November 23, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* National Academies of Medicine Meeting with State Licensing Boards to Address the Addiction Crisis, November 23, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Team Advancing Education Committee, November 23, 2020

*Virtual Hearing:* Temporary Suspension Hearings, November 24, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Legislative Budget Board, Comptroller's Address, November 30, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Meeting with Representative Howard and Staff, November 30, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* Informal Settlement Conferences, December 1, 2020

*Webinar:* Harvard Forum, New Covid Vaccines, December 1, 2020

*Virtual Video Interview:* Texas Department of Insurance, What to Expect from a Telemedicine Visit, December 1, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Meeting with Representative Klick and Staff, December 2, 2020

*Virtual Presentation:* Texas Association of Vocational Nursing Education, BON Update, December 3, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* COVID-19 Outreach & Licensing Interagency Networking Group, December 4, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Using TLO for Legislative Monitoring, December 4, 2020

*Virtual Hearing:* Senate HHS Committee on Covid-19, December 7, 2020

*Virtual Hearing:* Sunset Commission, December 7, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* NCSBN Executive Officer Leadership Council, December 7, 2020

*Conference Call:* Governor's Office Update, December 9, 2020

*Webinar:* National Academy of Medicine and the American Public Health Association (APHA), COVID-19 Conversations, on discuss the next steps for ensuring that COVID-19 vaccines reach the public, December 9, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Internal Audit Planning, December 10, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* NCSBN CEO/EO Meeting, December 10, 2020

*Webinar:* Harvard Forum on Coronavirus: The Coronavirus Pandemic: Airborne Transmission, Ventilation and School and Workplace Reopenings, December 11, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Health Professions Council, Quarterly Meeting, December 14, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Association of Deans and Directors of Professional Nursing Programs Legislative Meeting, December 14, 2020

*Webinar:* The Harvard Forum: Covid in the Year Ahead, December 15, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Workgroup, December 16, 2020

*Webinar:* NASEM Health and Medicine: Allocation of COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibody Therapies and Other Novel Therapeutics, December 17, 2020

*Webinar:* Webinar on Use of Education Guidelines: Practical Advice, December 17, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators Legislative Meeting, December 17, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Outreach & Licensing Interagency Networking Group, December 18, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Nurses Association CEO and BON ED, December 18, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Team Advancing Education Committee, December 28, 2020

*Emergency Meeting:* Board of Nursing, Adoption of Amendments to Rule 217.24, December 30, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Nurse Licensure Compact Commission, January 5, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Workgroup, January 5, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* State Agency Government Relations (SAGR) of Texas Meeting, January 6, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* NCSBN CEO/EO Meeting, January 7, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Organization of Nurse Executives Executive Committee, January 7, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* COVID-19 Outreach & Licensing Interagency Networking Group, January 11, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Nurses Association CEO and BON ED, January 15, 2020

### **General Counsel**

*Virtual Meeting:* Meeting on Excelsior Program, October 26, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/ARCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Program, October 28, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* NCSBN Model Act and Rules Committee, October 30, 2020

*Emergency Meeting:* Board of Nursing, Adoption of Amendments to Rule 217.24, November 4, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/RCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Pilot, November 13, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Legislative Planning, November 19, 2020

*Virtual Hearing:* Temporary Suspension Hearings, November 24, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN Advisory Committee Meeting, December 4, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee Meeting, December 8, 2020, Austin

*Emergency Meeting:* Board of Nursing, Adoption of Amendments to Rule 217.24, December 30, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/RCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Pilot, December 18, 2020

**Director of Operations**

*Virtual Retreat:* NCSBN Board of Directors Retreat, October 19 – 20, 2020

*Virtual Hearing:* Budget Hearing with Office of the Governor, October 21, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Meeting on Excelsior Program, October 26, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Nursing Legislative Agenda Coalition, October 27, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Business Continuity Planning, October 30, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ORBS Meeting, November 3, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Government Affairs Meeting, HPC, November 5, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* CAPPS Meeting, November 6, 2020

*Virtual Presentation:* Legislative Presentation to HPC, November 9, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ORBS Meeting, November 12, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ORBS Meeting, November 18, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ORBS Meeting, November 24, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Meeting with Rep. Howard and Staff, November 30, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ORBS Meeting, December 1, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Meeting with Rep. Klick and Staff, December 2, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TAVNE Meeting, December 3, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Legislative Monitoring, December 4, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TNA Legislative Update, December 4, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ORBS Meeting, December 8, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Internal Audit Planning, December 10, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* International Application Presentation, December 11, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TADDPNP Legislative Meeting, December 14, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* NCSBN Board of Directors Meeting, December 15 – 16, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TAVNE Legislative Meeting, December 17, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ORBS Meeting, December 22, 2020



**Director of Enforcement**

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN 3rd Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, October 23, 2020 Austin

*Conference Call:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/RCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Pilot, October 28, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN 3rd Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, October 30, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Conference:* Informal Settlement Conferences, November 3, 2020, Austin

*Virtual Conference:* with TPAPN Program Director, November 5, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN 3rd Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, November 9, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee Meeting, November 10, 2020, Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* Predictive Analytics Project Research Team, November 12, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/RCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Pilot, November 13, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN 3rd Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, November 13, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* Legislative Planning Meeting, November 19, 2020, Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN 3rd Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, November 20, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Hearing:* Temporary Suspension Hearings, November 24, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* Informal Settlement Conferences, December 1, 2020, Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN Advisory Committee Meeting, December 4, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN 3rd Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, December 4, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee Meeting, December 8, 2020, Austin

*Virtual Meeting:* TBON/TPAPN internal audit, December 10, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN 3rd Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, December 11, 2020 Austin

*Virtual Conference:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/RCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Pilot, December 18, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* TPAPN 3rd Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, December 18, 2020 Austin

*Conference Call:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/RCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Pilot, September 9, 2020

*Presentation:* Deans and Directors Orientations, September 10, 2020

*Meeting:* TPAPN 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, September 11, 2020

*Meeting:* TPAPN 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, September 18, 2020

*Meeting:* TPAPN 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Referral Reviews with TPAPN staff, September 25, 2020

*Virtual Conference:* Informal Settlement Conferences, October 6, 2020

## **Director of Nursing and Nursing Consultants**

*Virtual Meeting:* Nursing Legislative Agenda Coalition, October 27, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, October 27, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/ARCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Program, October 28, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, November 3, 2020

*Virtual Presentation:* Protecting Your Patients and Your Practice, Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics, November 4, 2020

*Virtual Workshop:* National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), Simulation, November 5, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Follow-up on Student Clinical Experience in Telehealth, November 6, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Differentiated Essential Competencies of Texas Nursing Programs (DECs) Work Group, November 9, 2020

*Virtual Presentation:* Protecting Your Patients and Your Practice, Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics, November 10, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* NCSBN, IT / Operations Conference, November 10, 2020

*Conference Call:* NCBSN Education Knowledge Network, November 10, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, November 10, 2020

*Webinar:* Texas Nurses Association, Legislative Session, November 12, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/ARCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Program, November 13, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses Virtual Peer Support Group Workshop, November 13, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Joint Agency Meeting, Texas Board of Nursing (TBON), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), Texas Education Agency (TEA), November 16, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, November 17, 2020

*Webinar:* American Public Health Association: COVID-19 Vaccine Update: Development, Approval, Allocation and Distribution in the United States, November 18, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* THECB Nursing Innovation Grant Committee, November 18, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, November 24, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Healthcare Workforce Alliance of Central Texas, November 30, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Legislative Budget Board, Comptroller's Address, November 30, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, December 1, 2020

*Virtual Presentation:* Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators, December 3, 2020

*Webinar:* Advance Care Planning: Being Prepared in the Time of COVID-19, December 3, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/ARCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Program, December 4, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ATX COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Coalition, December 4, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* E-Health Advisory Committee, December 7, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Senate Health and Human Services Committee, December 7, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, December 8, 2020

*Conference Call:* NCBSN Education Knowledge Network, December 8, 2020

*Webinar:* COVID-19: Chasing Science to Save Lives, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, December 9, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Capitol Hill Steering Committee on Pandemic Preparedness and Health, December 9, 2020

*Webinar:* The Three Types of Government Work, and Why You Need to Know the Difference, December 9, 2020

*Webinar:* Vaccines: The Realities of the Next Steps, December 9, 2020

*Webinar:* The Coronavirus Pandemic Airborne Transmission, Ventilation and School and Workplace Re-openings, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, December 11, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Association of Deans and Directors of Professional Nursing Programs, December 14, 2020

*Webinar:* COVID-19: The Year Ahead, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Health and The World from PRX and GBH, December 15, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Healthcare Partnerships Workforce Solutions Capital Area Ad Hoc Clinical Placement Opportunities Committee, December 15, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, December 15, 2020

*Virtual Presentation:* Using the NCSBN Approval Guidelines at Your NRBs: Practical Advice, December 17, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators, December 17, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* ATX COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Coalition, December 18, 2020

*Virtual Meeting:* Texas A&M College of Nursing/ARCHI/ BON KSTAR Nursing Program, December 18, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, December 22, 2020

*Conference Call:* DSHS, COVID-19 Call for Public Health and Medical Partners and Emergency Management/Government Officials, December 29, 2020

*Webinar:* DSHS - Monoclonal Antibody Therapy - A Discussion with Dr. Hellerstedt, December 29, 2020

*Conference Call:* NCSBN Education Knowledge Network, January 6, 2021

*Virtual Meeting:* Healthcare Partnerships Workforce Solutions Capital Area Ad Hoc Clinical Placement Committee Meeting, January 19, 2021

**Case Resolution Report**  
**September 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020**

<b>Type of Action</b>	<b>Total</b>
No Jurisdiction	14
No Violation	4
No Action	647
Insufficient Evidence	169
Admonish	6
Without Prejudice	456
TPAPN Referrals	77
EEP Referrals	7
Corrective Actions	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,387</b>

**Temporary Suspension Case Resolution Report**  
**September 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020**

<b>Ratified by K. Thomas on Board's Authority</b>	
<b>Type of Action</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Enforced Suspension TPAPN (ET)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Enforced Suspension</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>

**Quarterly Statistics Where Executive Director Ratified Requests for  
Exception  
in Compliance with Board Policy:**

**REQUESTS FOR EXCEPTION TO A PREVIOUSLY ISSUED AGREED ORDER  
September 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020**

Total Number of Requests Received	20
Number of Requests Resolved	13
Number of Requests Granted by Executive Director	4
Number of Requests Granted by Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee	1
Number of Requests Denied by Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee	7
Number of Requests Denied Pursuant to Board's Guidelines for Exceptions to Existing Board Orders	1
Number of Requests Pending	7

Cases Where Executive Director Offered and Entered Ordered Orders in Compliance with Board Policy:

## LVN DISCIPLINARY ORDERS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

<b>DISCIPLINARY</b>		
<b>1</b>	1	<b>FINE AND REMEDIAL EDUCATION</b> Practiced as a Professional Nurse without a valid license
<b>7</b>	1	<b>REMEDIAL EDUCATION</b> Inappropriately accessed a patient medical record approximately two hundred and seventy-six (276) times without a valid reason
	1	Left the unit for lunch break at 01:35am and did not return to the unit until 05:00am
	1	Twice patted the hand of a pediatric patient unnecessarily exposing the patient to a risk of harm from Injury
	1	Failed to have an oxygen tank assembled and ready for emergency use for a student who had conditions requiring immediate access to oxygen
	1	Inaccurately documented the administration of intravenous Heparin at 20 ml/hr instead of 30 ml/hr as per physician orders
	1	Inappropriately allowed the patient to assist her in documenting nursing notes. Subsequently, while on suspension and unable to accept nursing assignments, an inappropriate nursing note was submitted on her behalf by the patient and/or patient's mother
	1	While assigned to care for a Student during a special education field trip, inappropriately wasted a clonazepam 1mg table
<b>2</b>	1	<b>VOLUNTARY SURRENDER</b> Submitted a statement of voluntary surrender - for the alleged violation (falsely documented that she was providing nursing care in the patient's home when she was actually providing care at another location)
	1	Physically abused a patient when he gouged the patient's eyes and ears; violently twisted the patient's neck; repositioned patient by forcefully grabbing head/neck and pulling patient up the bed; arrested for Injury to a Child/Elderly/Disabled with Intentional Bodily Injury – third degree felony
<b>4</b>		<b>TPAPN CONFIDENTIAL BOARD ORDER</b> <b>PUBLIC TPAPN BOARD ORDER</b>
	1	Intemperate and/or unlawful use of Cocaine; non-compliance with Eligibility Agreed Order issued on July 2, 2019
	1	Misappropriated Xanax belonging to the facility and patients; after leaving her shift got into a vehicle accident and the Sheriff's Office found two prescriptions of Xanax belonging to a deceased patient
		<b>TPAPN ENFORCED SUSPENSION BOARD ORDER</b>
	1	Non-compliance with prior Peer Assistance Program Agreed Order; deferred judgment for felony Fraud Obtain CS SC III/IV
	1	Non-compliance with prior Peer Assistance Program Agreed Order
		<b>TPAPN CONFIDENTIAL EXTENDED EVALUATION PROGRAM (EEP)</b>

## LVN CORRECTIVE ACTION ORDERS

Time frame: June 1, 2020, through August 31, 2020

<b>2</b>	1	<b>LVN CORRECTIVE ACTION</b> Failed to add ordered medication to the medical records and/or follow up with the physician regarding a medication order written for a Resident
	1	Failed to document a patient's urine characteristics, nursing output, and the seize and patency of the patient's indwelling catheter
<b>0</b>		<b>ENDORSEMENT CORRECTIVE ACTION</b>
<b>0</b>		<b>APPLICANT/PETITIONER CORRECTIVE ACTION</b>

## LVN DEFERRED DISCIPLINE ORDERS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

0	REMEDIAL EDUCATION – DEFERRED DISCIPLINE
0	FINE W/ REMEDIAL EDUCATION – DEFERRED DISCIPLINE

## LVN ENDORSEMENT/PETITIONER DISCIPLINE ORDERS/APPROVALS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

<b>30</b>	<b>APPLICANTS/PETITIONERS DISCIPLINE ORDER</b>
2	Deferred judgment for state jail felony Possession of a Controlled Substance PG 1 < 1g
1	Deferred judgment for second degree felony Tamper with a Governmental Record –
1	Defraud/Harm
1	Deferred judgment for second degree felony Burglar of Habitation
1	Entered treatment or Alcoholic Intoxication
1	Deferred judgment for two counts of state jail felony Forgery and two counts of state jail felony Forgery of Financial Instrument
1	Deferred judgment for state jail felony Theft Over \$1,500 but less than \$20,000
1	Convicted of felony Grand Theft of Personal Property and two counts of felony Receiving Stolen Property
1	Convicted of felony Bulk Cash Smuggling Out of the US
21	No Grounds for Denial
<b>32</b>	<b>ENDORSEMENT DISCIPLINE ORDER</b>
6	Disciplinary Action taken by another Licensing Authority
1	Deferred judgment for five counts of felony Larceny by Employee
1	Denial of Licensure
24	No Grounds for Denial



Cases Where Executive Director Offered and Entered Ordered Orders in Compliance with Board Policy:

## RN DISCIPLINARY ORDERS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

<b>DISCIPLINARY</b>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>FINE AND REMEDIAL EDUCATION</b></p> <p>1 Violated the privacy and confidentiality of a patient in that she took a video of a coworker, in which patient information was visible, and uploaded the video to her social media account</p> <p>1 Left nursing assignment without ensuring another Registered Nurse was available on the unit</p> <p>1 Inappropriately submitted forms containing photocopied physician signatures to her employer that were intended to become part of medical records</p> <p>1 Exceeded scope of practice in that he withdrew Amlodipine 5mg for a co-worker without a physician's order</p> <p>1 Violated the privacy and confidentiality of a patient in that she participated in a video that was posted to social media, in which patient information was visible</p> <p>1 Failed to disclose a Citation issued by the California Board of Nursing on a renewal application</p> <p>1 Inappropriately accessed the medical record of a patient multiple times, for reasons other than patient and/or job related functions</p> <p>1 Inappropriately accessed the confidentiality health information of a patient for personal reasons and without authorization</p> <p>1 Violated the privacy and confidentiality of a patient in that she re-posted video of a co-worker, in which patient information was visible, and uploaded the video to her social medical account</p> <p>1 Made comments to a patient that may have violated boundaries of nurse-client relationship</p>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>REMEDIAL EDUCATION</b></p> <p>1 Engaged in unprofessional conduct, in that she made potentially demeaning comments within hearing distance of a patient and was loud when speaking to the patient</p> <p>2 Disciplinary action taken by another Licensing Authority</p> <p>1 Urinated in the restroom in front of a patient and co-worker</p> <p>1 Negligently violated the privacy and confidentiality of two patients in that she accessed records and did not adequately protect the records from being visible to local law enforcement personnel and emergency medical technicians, who did not have authorization to view such records</p> <p>1 Failed to completely and accurately document the administration of Boost Nutritional Supplement twice daily as per provider orders</p> <p>1 Withdrew Lorazepam 0.5mg for a patient and inaccurately documented that she administered the medication when in fact that medication was left unattended in a hallway; failed to administer one unit of blood as ordered by a physician</p> <p>1 Withdrew 2ml of Fentanyl, but failed to document the administration of the medication</p> <p>1 Failed to completely and accurately document the temperature of a patient after conducting an admission assessment; failed to verify the working status on a syringe pump; failed to clarify a practitioner's verbal order and improperly administered a 5.4ml bolus of Dextrose 15% in water with heparin instead of Dextrose 10% in water</p>
<b>16</b>	<p><b>TPAPN CONFIDENTIAL BOARD ORDER</b></p> <p>1 Lacked fitness to practice professional nursing, in that she informed her supervisor that she had a major episode the previous work day related to her mental health diagnosis</p> <p>1 Engaged in intemperate and unlawful use of norfentanyl and marijuana</p> <p>1 Misappropriated and Intemperate use of Hydromorphone and Morphine</p> <p>1 Misappropriated medication belonging to the facility; withdrew medication in excess; withdrew medication but failed to document the administration or follow proper wastage procedures; failed to administer medications as ordered; intemperate use and/or unlawful use of Morphine</p> <p>1 Withdrew medications in excess frequency and/or dosage; misappropriated medications belonging to the facility; and engaged in intemperate use of Chlorpheniramine</p> <p>1 Repeatedly asked a staff member for Adderall; engaged in the intemperate use of alcohol</p> <p><b>PUBLIC TPAPN BOARD ORDER</b></p> <p>1 Convicted of third degree felony Driving While Intoxicated, Subsequent Offense</p> <p>1 Withdrew 3 tablet of Tylenol Codeine 300-30mg but failed to document the administration in</p>

	1	the patient's Medication Administration Record (MAR) and/or Nurses' notes
	1	Lacked fitness to practice nursing while on duty by exhibiting signs of impaired behavior and smelling of alcohol; intemperate use of alcohol
	1	Failed to comply with a Confidential Agreed Order for Peer Assistance issued on January 11, 2020
		<b>TPAPN ENFORCED SUSPENSION BOARD ORDER</b>
	1	Lacked fitness to practice after an attempted suicide
	1	Lacked fitness to practice – exhibited signs of impaired behavior while on duty; intemperate use of Amphetamine and Methamphetamine
	1	Non-compliance with a Confidential Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program
	1	Random drug screen tested positive for Amphetamines and Methamphetamines; misappropriated Hydromorphone, Morphine, Lorazepam, Hydrocodone and Fentanyl
	1	Misappropriated Morphine and hydromorphone; tested positive for cocaine
	1	Non-compliance with Board Order by producing a positive specimen for a random drug test
		<b>TPAPN CONFIDENTIAL EXTENDED EVALUATION PROGRAM (EEP)</b>
<b>9</b>		<b>VOLUNTARY SURRENDER</b>
	2	Submitted a statement voluntarily surrendering in lieu of disciplinary action
	1	Submitted a statement of voluntary surrender - for the alleged violation (pending felony criminal charges for Possession and Promotion of Child Pornography and Indecency with a Child)
	1	Disciplinary action taken by another licensing authority
	1	Lacked fitness to practice exhibiting signs of impaired behavior; failed to administer Heparin as ordered
	1	Allegedly misappropriated property of a patient leading to an arrest
	1	Convicted of third degree felony Exploitation of Elderly
	1	Engaged in non-therapeutic prescribing practices during which time issued prescriptions for controlled substances to patients without conducting appropriate assessments to justify prescribing practices
	1	Submitted a statement of voluntary surrender - for the alleged violation (failed to provide appropriate wound care and lacked fitness to practice due to diagnosis of substance abuse disorder)

## RN CORRECTIVE ACTION ORDERS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

<b>5</b>		<b>RN CORRECTIVE ACTION</b>
	1	Failed to document an assessment, including blood pressure readings, when the patient experienced low oxygen saturation
	1	Attempted to provide lunch relief simultaneously on two circulating nurses assigned to two different patients undergoing separate surgical procedures leaving one patient without a registered nurse circulator present in the operating room
	1	Failed to completely/accurately document and/or ensure that it was documented in the patient's medical record the patient was ordered to have a COVID-19 test based on patient's asthma
	1	Inaccurately documented that she performed her shift assessment at 2246 instead of 1940
	1	Failed to completely document the output of her assessments throughout her shift
<b>0</b>		<b>ENDORSEMENT CORRECTIVE ACTION</b>
<b>0</b>		<b>APPLICANT/PETITIONER CORRECTIVE ACTION</b>

## RN DEFERRED DISCIPLINE ORDERS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

<b>5</b>		<b>REMEDIAL EDUCATION – DEFERRED DISCIPLINE</b>
	1	Failed to clarify the medication order whose discharge orders did not include a prescription for Diazepam and continued to administer Diazepam
	1	Failed to take the precautions to secure Fentanyl after withdrawing Fentanyl from the medication dispensing system and leaving the machine unsecured for one and a half hours
	1	Left nursing assignment without notifying s supervisor and reporting off to another nurse
	1	Administered excessive intravenous fluids resulting in the patient being hospitalized due to fluid overload with pulmonary edema
	1	Failed to prioritize and assess a patient who was complaining of vomiting and diarrhea
<b>0</b>		<b>FINE W/ REMEDIAL EDUCATION – DEFERRED DISCIPLINE</b>

## APRN APPLICANT’S DISCIPLINARY ORDERS/APPROVALS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

<b>3</b>		<b>STIPULATIONS</b>
	1	Wrote a prescription for Lexapro and Diazepam for one patient and a prescription for Suboxone for another on prescription forms that did not contain the name, address, telephone number, and United States Drug Enforcement Administration number of the physician with whom she had a prescriptive authority agreement written authorization
	1	Failed to document and or completely and accurately document a pain assessment prior to administering Tramadol and Fioricet
	1	Active Board Order action taken against Registered Nurse License

## RN ENDORSEMENT/PETITIONER DISCIPLINE ORDERS/APPROVALS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

<b>132</b>	<b>ENDORSEMENT DISCIPLINE ORDER</b>
6	Disciplinary Action taken by another Licensing Authority
1	Convicted of felony Obtain Aid by Fraud
1	Convicted of fourth degree felony Count I Theft
1	While utilizing PTP – cardioverted a patient without syncing the cardioversion machine;
1	Convicted of felony Delivery of Marijuana
1	While utilizing PTP – removed 1 vial of Ativan 2mg, 1 tab of Tylenol #3, and 2 tabs of Xanax .5mg but failed to accurately or completely document the administration and follow proper wastage procedures; withdrew Ativan 1mg and Fentanyl 50mcg in excess dosage of physician’s order
1	Denial of Licensure
120	No Grounds for Denial

## RN/LVN PETITIONER DISCIPLINE ORDERS/APPROVALS

Time frame: September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020

<b>105</b>	<b>APPLICANTS/PETITIONERS DISCIPLINE ORDER</b>
2	Practiced as a Registered Nurse after temporary permit to practice as a Graduate Nurse became invalid
1	Convicted of felony Possession with Intent to Distribute more than 5 Kilograms of Cocaine
1	Deferred judgement for second degree felony Unlawfully Intentionally and Knowingly Possess a Controlled Substance, Namely Cocaine
1	Convicted of felony Wrongful Disclosure of Health Information
1	Deferred judgment for felony Fail to Stop and Render Aid Injury/Death
1	Convicted of state jail felony Forgery
2	Deferred judgment for state jail felony Credit Card Abuse
1	Convicted of felony Theft of Government Property of a Value Less Than \$100.00, Aiding and Abetting, and Possession of a Controlled Substance to Wit: Cocaine
3	Under current Board Order at time of licensure request
1	Deferred judgment felony Possession of a Controlled Substance PG 1 Less Than 1 Gram; entered treatment for substance use disorder
1	Entered treatment for Substance Use Disorder
1	Disciplinary action taken by another licensing authority and entered treatment for Opioid Use Disorder
89	No Grounds for Denial

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# Statement from the Tri-Council for Nursing on the Status of the U.S. Health Care Workforce during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The current surge in COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations and deaths has pushed the health care system into crisis. The Tri-Council for Nursing continues to assess the situation, share information, and determine ways we can help mitigate the current burden on the nursing profession and provide constructive recommendations for the future.

The Tri-Council for Nursing is comprised of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the American Nurses Association, the American Organization for Nursing Leadership, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and the National League for Nursing. These five organizations representing education, practice and regulation all bring a whole-system perspective to their work and collectively represent “all nurses.”

## What We Know

- According to [recent hospital data submitted to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](#), thousands of hospitals nationwide are experiencing a “critical staffing shortage” of health care workers, with that number expected to grow in the coming weeks. The nursing workforce is particularly depleted and maldistributed [according to media reports](#), creating shortages in areas that are now being hardest hit by COVID-19.
- These health care workforce staffing shortages are particularly acute in rural areas that are currently experiencing an influx of COVID-19 patients, resulting in a decrease in available nursing staff or in some cases filling rural hospitals to capacity. When rural hospitals lack the ability to provide care, [patients seek care in more urban hospitals](#), putting greater strain on services and an already depleted nursing workforce.

Learn more about the [Tri-Council for Nursing](#).

- Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) [projected registered nurse \(RN\) employment to increase by 7%](#) and [advanced practice registered nurse \(APRN\) employment to increase by 45% by 2029](#). While research can review past nursing workforce numbers and project future participation, no mechanisms measure the current nursing workforce participation in the COVID-19 response.

Over the next several weeks, the need for nurses and other health professionals across the U.S. is projected to greatly exceed the supply. Many health care facilities are already taking advantage of regulatory flexibilities that expand the workforce to include recently retired health care providers and nursing students. Yet, the strain that COVID-19 is putting on U.S. hospitals is not showing any signs of abating in the near future.

**America's best chance to address these challenges is to follow COVID-19 guidance from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) as well as state and local officials, including wearing a mask, social distancing, frequently washing hands and avoiding large, indoor gatherings. The Tri-Council for Nursing recognizes this is a particular challenge during the holiday season.**

The Tri-Council for Nursing is focused on addressing the immediate issues that have resulted from COVID-19 such as staffing shortages, disrupted clinical education, nurse training/retraining and behavioral health support for the front line workers. This is especially critical as nurses and nursing students in some states are being called upon to administer newly approved COVID-19 vaccines and continue to respond to this crisis. Serious long-term strategies will need to be addressed as a result of this crisis. From utilizing existing programs such as the National Health Care Workforce Commission created by the Affordable Care Act<sup>1</sup> to implementing and funding other regulatory and legislative solutions, our organizations are eager to engage the Biden Administration and the 117th Congress to meaningfully address these challenges and position America to emerge stronger from this crisis.

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1 National Workforce Commission (Sections 5101, 10501(a)), The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, PL 111-148.

## Policy Brief: COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

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### Purpose

To provide guidance on the administration of the COVID-19 vaccines.

### Context

As the U.S. prepares for the largest vaccine initiative in decades, boards of nursing (BONs) are ready to assist in this effort by providing recommendations regarding COVID-19 vaccine administration. It is essential that the public not only trust the vaccine, but also the care provider administering it. Safety of a vaccine extends beyond its pharmaceutical properties. The vaccine must be administered by individuals who are competent in all aspects of vaccine administration. This includes knowledge of the informed consent process, injection administration technique, vaccine reconstitution, storage requirements, side effects, emergency management of adverse reactions, record-keeping, waste and disposal and all other aspects of vaccine administration outlined in [The COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Operational Guidance for Jurisdictions Playbook](#).

The COVID-19 vaccine will be administered to millions of people in a short time frame to get control of the virus and save lives. Many rural areas of the country have a significant shortage of nurses, while highly populated areas may not have an adequate number of nurses necessary to accommodate the volume of vaccine recipients. For these reasons the following is proposed:

### Proposal

- COVID-19 vaccines can be safely administered by licensed practical nurses/vocational nurses (LPNs/VNs), registered nurses (RNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), in addition to other licensed health care providers such as physicians, physician assistants and pharmacists.
- If needed, states should call upon retired nurses and those who have inactive licenses with no discipline on their records to assist in vaccine administration. States should work with their state BON to determine the most efficient method to reinstate those licenses.
- Partnerships with nursing education programs are encouraged. Student nurses who have been taught the principles of COVID-19 vaccine administration may do so under the supervision of faculty or other appropriate licensed practitioners.
- Waivers by the governor or BON may be necessary to authorize an RN or LPN/VN to delegate vaccine administration to certified medical assistants, medication aides and emergency medical technicians/paramedics that have been trained in COVID-19 informed consent, vaccine administration, COVID-19 vaccine side effects, emergency management of adverse reactions and the principles of reconstitution and proper storage.

### Benefits

The enormity of the need for highly competent, safe and accessible COVID-19 vaccine administration calls for an expanded workforce to provide this important service. These recommendations extend nursing services beyond the RN, LPN and APRN to acknowledge the ability of other health care professionals and nursing students to participate in this effort.

## Recommendations

- All nurses volunteering for COVID-19 vaccine administration who are not affiliated with an institution providing the vaccine should have their license verified through Nursys.com.
- Retired and inactive nurse records can also be found in Nursys.com.
- Nurses should also be involved in educating the public about the importance and safety of the vaccine to ensure high participation from the public. This is essential to eliminating COVID-19 in the U.S.
- All individuals administering the vaccine must be competent in the informed consent process, COVID-19 vaccine administration, vaccine reconstitution, storage requirements, side effects, emergency management of adverse reactions, record-keeping, waste and disposal and all other aspects of vaccine administration outlined in [The COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Operational Guidance for Jurisdictions Playbook](#).

## About NCSBN

Founded March 15, 1978, as an independent not-for-profit organization, NCSBN was initially created to lessen the burdens of state governments and bring together nursing regulatory bodies (NRBs) to act and counsel together on matters of common interest. It has evolved into one of the leading voices of regulation across the world.

NCSBN's membership is comprised of the NRBs in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories — American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands. There are three exam user members. There are also 27 associate members that are either NRBs or empowered regulatory authorities from other countries or territories.

Mission: NCSBN empowers and supports nursing regulators in their mandate to protect the public.



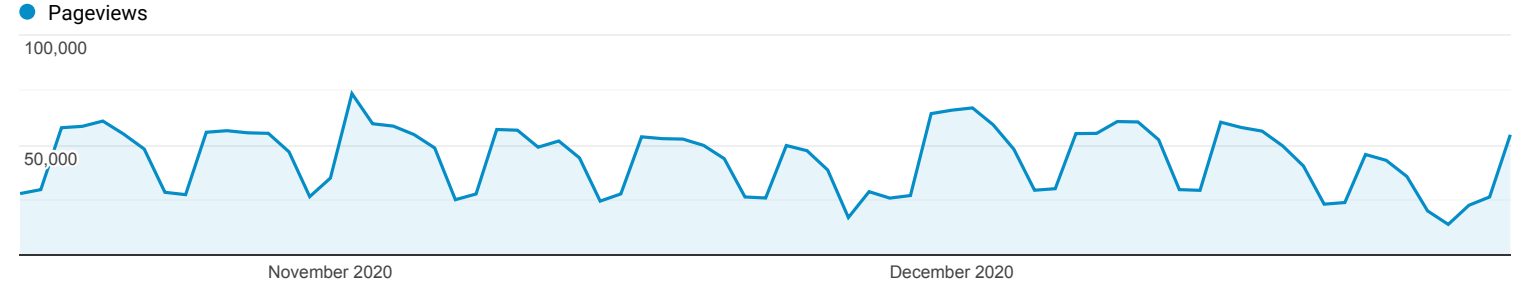
5	Education Statistics	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	1st QTR 21	2nd QTR 21	3rd QTR 21	4th QTR 21	FY 2021
5.1	<b>Nursing Jurisprudence Exam Statistics</b>									
5.1.1	Total Nursing Jurisprudence Exam taken	36,281	38,163	41,217	32,802	9,029				9,029
5.1.1.1	Exam Not Completed (total)	1,164	1,017	1,043	800	19				19
5.1.1.2	Percentage Not Completed	3.22	2.67	2.54	2.44	0.21				0.21
5.1.1.3	Did Not Pass the Exam (total)	6,870	8,157	9,471	6,482	1,358				1,358
5.1.1.4	Percentage Did Not Pass Exam	19.11	21.52	23.07	19.76	15.04				15.04
5.1.1.5	Exam Passed (Total)	28,247	28,989	30,703	25,520	7,652				7,652
5.1.1.6	Percentage Exam Passed	62.68	75.80	74.40	77.80	84.75				84.75
5.1.2	LVN-Candidate	6,614	6,603	5,920	5,253	1,041				1,041
5.1.2.1	Exam Not Completed	179	127	124	62	3				3
5.1.2.3	Did Not Pass the Exam	1,789	1,824	1,610	1,147	155				155
5.1.2.5	Exam passed	4,646	4,652	4,186	4,044	883				883
5.1.3	LVN-Endorsement	1,731	1,768	1,485	1,236	446				446
5.1.3.1	Exam Not Completed	80	41	42	33	0				0
5.1.3.3	Did Not Pass the Exam	549	634	488	402	125				125
5.1.3.5	Exam passed	1,102	1,093	955	801	321				321
5.1.4	RN-Candidate	16,104	18,820	22,713	18,252	5,102				5,102
5.1.4.1	Exam Not Completed	555	556	592	558	8				8
5.1.4.3	Did Not Pass the Exam	2,615	3,762	5,279	3,586	713				713
5.1.4.5	Exam passed	12,934	14,502	16,842	14,108	4,381				4,381
5.1.5	RN-Endorsement	11,038	10,074	10,360	7,676	2,367				2,367
5.1.5.1	Exam Not Completed	328	269	271	142	8				8
5.1.5.3	Did Not Pass the Exam	1,825	1,840	2,010	1,306	353				353
5.1.5.5	Exam passed	8,885	7,965	8,079	6,228	2,006				2,006
5.1.6	Refresher Course/Renewal Requirements	371	894	736	385	73				73
5.1.6.1	Exam Not Completed	7	24	14	5	0				0
5.1.6.3	Did Not Pass the Exam	40	96	82	41	12				12
5.1.6.5	Exam passed	324	774	640	339	61				61

Pages

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Oct 17, 2020 - Dec 28, 2020

Explorer



Page	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances	Bounce Rate	% Exit	Page Value
	<b>3,206,982</b> % of Total: 100.00% (3,206,982)	<b>2,001,039</b> % of Total: 100.00% (2,001,039)	<b>00:01:17</b> Avg for View: 00:01:17 (0.00%)	<b>981,948</b> % of Total: 100.00% (981,948)	<b>35.21%</b> Avg for View: 35.21% (0.00%)	<b>30.62%</b> Avg for View: 30.62% (0.00%)	<b>\$0.00</b> % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)
1. /	<b>834,835</b> (26.03%)	<b>363,245</b> (18.15%)	00:00:17	<b>347,352</b> (35.37%)	0.25%	7.27%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. /TexasNursePortal/verifylicense.asp	<b>621,456</b> (19.38%)	<b>428,642</b> (21.42%)	00:01:58	<b>257,829</b> (26.26%)	66.80%	62.96%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. /texasnurseportal/	<b>351,422</b> (10.96%)	<b>257,813</b> (12.88%)	00:02:30	<b>46,216</b> (4.71%)	63.38%	59.40%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
4. /licensure_renewal.asp	<b>270,866</b> (8.45%)	<b>117,910</b> (5.89%)	00:00:25	<b>50,436</b> (5.14%)	6.18%	3.99%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
5. /index.asp	<b>71,828</b> (2.24%)	<b>29,038</b> (1.45%)	00:00:24	<b>9,857</b> (1.00%)	0.56%	9.67%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
6. /licensure_nursing_jurisprudence.asp	<b>61,491</b> (1.92%)	<b>44,089</b> (2.20%)	00:03:12	<b>29,186</b> (2.97%)	56.64%	44.61%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
7. /forms.asp	<b>36,992</b> (1.15%)	<b>26,693</b> (1.33%)	00:00:41	<b>1,829</b> (0.19%)	39.51%	9.68%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
8. /education_continuing_education.asp	<b>34,109</b> (1.06%)	<b>25,079</b> (1.25%)	00:04:41	<b>11,981</b> (1.22%)	64.90%	50.89%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
9. /nurses.asp	<b>32,821</b> (1.02%)	<b>27,054</b> (1.35%)	00:00:38	<b>4,954</b> (0.50%)	16.19%	8.81%	\$0.00 (0.00%)
10. /licensure_endorsement.asp	<b>31,458</b> (0.98%)	<b>22,847</b> (1.14%)	00:02:02	<b>12,616</b> (1.28%)	41.51%	29.57%	\$0.00 (0.00%)

Rows 1 - 10 of 32262