

Nurse Licensure Compact Update

Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact

The new Enhanced NLC (eNLC) adopted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Delegate Assembly in May 2015 has been enacted in 27 states in 2016-2017: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Wisconsin was the most recent state to enact the eNLC in early December. The eNLC will go into effect on January 19, 2018. See Board item 6.9 for further information on adoption of rules by the Interstate Commission.

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

The Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators (ICNLCA) is the governing body of the eNLC. In NLC states with enacted eNLC legislation, nurses who hold multistate licenses will be grandfathered into the eNLC and will be able to practice in other eNLC states on the implementation date.

<https://www.ncsbn.org/11281.htm>

www.nursecompact.org

Original Nurse Licensure Compact

On January 10, 2000, the Nurse Licensure Compact was implemented by four states: Maryland, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin, followed by five more states in July 2000 (Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa and North Carolina). The last state to join the NLC was Montana in 2015, bringing the total to twenty-five states. However, the progress of adoption was slow. Several meetings of state leaders led to the proposal of a new NLC that addressed concerns of states who chose not to adopt the NLC. Following adoption of the eNLC by 27 states, three states remain in the NLC: Colorado, New Mexico and Rhode Island. New Mexico has introduced legislation for consideration by the Legislature in 2018. Colorado plans to introduce a bill in January. Until these three states adopt the eNLC, they will share the NLC. Texas will issue single state licenses for eligible nurses from these three NLC states who want to practice in Texas. Five states are new to the eNLC: Florida, Georgia, Oklahoma, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Resources

NCsbn and the eNLC member states produced two new videos intended to help nurses, their employers and the general public gain a clear understanding of benefits and requirements for a multistate license and steps needed to prepare for eNLC implementation. One video was produced for nurses in states that were part of the original compact and the other video was created for nurses in states new to the compact. <https://www.ncsbn.org/11325.htm>

Letters were mailed last month to nurses, educators and employers to notify them of the implementation of the eNLC.

APRN Compact

Three states have passed and enacted the APRN Compact: Idaho, North Dakota, and Wyoming.

www.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 11 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 13 states. The Texas Sunset Commission recommended this Compact be adopted by Texas in 2017 and was incorporated into their Sunset bill. The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Abbott on June 9, 2017.

<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. The TMB Sunset bill did not pass but will be considered by the Texas Legislature in 2019.

<https://imlcc.org/>

The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards has developed an Interjurisdictional Telepsychology Compact and 3 states have adopted the Compact thus far. This Compact was recommended by the Texas Sunset Commission and was incorporated into their Sunset bill. However, the Psychology Board Sunset bill did not pass but will be considered by the Texas Legislature in 2019.

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

Texas Compact Statute and Rules

The Texas NLC Statute can be found at:

http://bon.texas.gov/laws_and_rules_nursing_practice_act_2017.asp

Chapter 304

Rules for the Compact adopted by the Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators may be found on the NCSBN website at <https://www.ncsbn.org/enlcrules.htm>