



The mission of the Board of Nursing is to assure the citizens of Kansas safe and competent practice by nurses and mental health technicians

Enhancing Better Access to Healthcare for Citizens of Kansas

Kansas implemented the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) on July 1, 2019. Joining the NLC has proven to be a huge step forward for the nursing profession and regulation in Kansas.

We could not have predicted a pandemic during the first two years after implementation. Nursing employers in Kansas have found being a member state of the NLC assists them to employ nurses where they are needed much faster. It has never been easier to bring a nurse into our state if they have a multistate nursing license from another member state. The employer verifies the multistate license is active through Nursys®, a national nursing database that includes data from all the boards of nursing in the United States. It is the fastest, most accurate database of nurses in our country that is available to the employers. Being a member state of the NLC has increased access to healthcare for the citizens of Kansas by increasing the number of qualified LPNs and RNs available to practice in Kansas.

Our licensing process has benefited as a member state of the NLC. Nurses with a multistate license from another member state no longer must wait to get a Kansas license to practice in Kansas. If they are relocating to Kansas they can practice in Kansas on their present multistate license until they get it changed to Kansas. The licensing process is more efficient for nurses and employers. This eases some of the pressure being placed on our licensing staff to license a nurse ASAP so they can work. The Kansas State Board of Nursing is confident when a nurse has a multistate license, the eleven uniform licensure requirements have been met by the member state that issued the multistate license. This is very important for public protection.

Multistate licenses for RNs and LPNs are very popular. In the year post implementation 346 LPNs and 4,023 RNs had obtained multistate licenses and we continue to see the numbers increase. The Kansas State Board of Nursing has the option for the licensee to obtain a single state or multistate license. Being a member state has decreased licensing costs for nurses who wish to practice in more than one state. They no longer must obtain a separate license for each member state when they have a multistate license.

Each member state of the NLC has a representative that is a member of the NLC Commission. The NLC Commission is the governing body of the NLC, so every member state has a voice in the governance of the NLC. Regular meetings of the NLC Commission are held which increases the communication and collaboration among the NLC Commissioners.

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