



June 8, 2020

National Council of State Boards of Nursing: Statement on Diversity and Equality in America

NCSBN shares in the pain and trauma that the nation is experiencing as we confront the inequitable treatment of black and other minority Americans. NCSBN joins the nation in calling for a critical examination of how issues of racism, social injustice, intolerance, and inequality are addressed and resolved.

As a leading nursing organization, NCSBN seeks to empower and support nursing regulatory bodies in their mandate to protect the public. Nursing regulators are dedicated to licensing a diverse, competent nurse workforce to ensure that ALL individuals have access to quality health care. Nurses have earned the reputation as the most trusted profession who embrace a code of conduct that requires us to care for individuals based on their needs, not based on the color of their skin, or any other characteristic or categorization. We are committed to finding enduring solutions that make the nation and the world fair, just and safe for all.

At this pivotal moment, as an organization committed to public safety, we recognize how vital it is to listen and respond to those calling for an end to systemic racism and not allow those who seek destruction and violence to overshadow the importance of purposely moving toward a new era of diversity, inclusiveness and change. This cannot be done in isolation. NCSBN stands ready to work with nursing colleagues and the rest of the health care community to effect long-lasting change. To this end, we will begin by critically examining regulatory processes for bias and develop additional learning resources to support equitable treatment for all.