Nurse Licensure Compact
New Grads and Students Webinar

About Us

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Presentation Objectives

1. Understand the concept of an Interstate Compact and describe how the NLC works.
2. Describe how the NLC is related to the Driver’s License Compact.
3. Understand Nursys.com
4. Obtain answers to your questions.
5. Learn about NLC Resources and why you should visit Nursecompact.com
6. Debunk Common Myths and Misunderstandings

What is the Nurse Licensure Compact?

A statutory agreement between two or more states established for the purpose of remedying a particular problem of multistate concern.

Each party state is a signatory to the same contract. For that reason there is a need for “substantive sameness.”

The NLC allows for a nurse to have one multistate license (issued from his/her primary state of residency).

The NLC permits the nurse to practice in other compact states (physically or via telehealth) subject to each state’s laws.
How Does it Work?

A resident of a compact state is issued a multistate license that is valid for practice (physically or telephonically) in all Compact states.

In order to be eligible for a multistate license a nurse *MUST* be a legal resident of a compact state.

A nurse needs to meet the Uniform Licensure Requirements for a compact license.

The NLC is Similar to the DLC...

The NLC was originally developed based on the Driver’s License Compact (DLC).

- It shares the same concept of one multistate license issued in the Primary State of Residence (PSOR) and accepted in all member states.

- You can drive across state lines with one license because other states are members of the driver’s license compact. They accept the license of your PSOR.
Why Need More than One License?

- You need more than one license because practice requires licensure.
- Practice takes place in the state where the patient/consumer is located at the time nursing service is provided.

MSL Enhances Mobility and Portability

- Telehealth practice (call center, triage, case managers, etc)
- Disaster recovery assistance
- Military spouse relocation; military moonlighting or training in civilian facilities
- Nursing faculty engaged in distance education
- Access for rural populations and healthcare shortage areas
- Facility staffing: travel nursing
- Home health and hospice
- Transport nursing
- Nurses residing near borders and practicing in an adjacent state.

WHAT IS THE LICENSE APPLICATION PROCESS LIKE?
Frequently Asked Application Questions

- Where can I find the application?
- How much does it cost?
- How long does processing take?
- Will I need to pass NCLEX again if I move?
- What if I need a license in another state?

Application Example

- You can find the application of the Board of Nursing website.
- Select Application for License by Exam.
License by Exam Resource

www.ncsbn.org/nlc-toolkit.htm

Key Points for New Grads
KEY POINTS RELATED TO NCLEX

01 The NCLEX can be taken in any state.

02 It is a national exam; the same everywhere.

03 You should never have to pass it again, even when moving (in the US).

04 There is no requirement that it has to be taken in the state where your school is located or where you reside.

05 Unless you plan to practice in the state where you graduated from a nursing program, there is no requirement that you apply for your 1st license in that state.

06 If you are or will be a resident of a compact state: Apply to the state which you plan to declare as your primary state of residence and in which you will practice.

ADDITIONAL FACTS TO UNDERSTAND…

- PSOR is the state where you can prove you legally reside. It is the state from which you have your Driver's License, voter registration card, and state declared on your federal tax filing.

- Residency does **NOT** pertain to home or property ownership.

- There can only be **ONE** PSOR.

- All of your legal documentation should be in that one PSOR.
Common Misunderstandings

TRUE OR FALSE:
A nurse can only have one license.

FALSE

- A nurse residing in a compact state, can only hold one multistate license, but as many non-compact state licenses as needed.

Which States are Part of the NLC?

- **34** States have enacted the NLC

- **33** States have implemented the NLC

*New Jersey is allowing nurses who hold active, unencumbered, multi-state licenses issued by Nurse Licensure Compact member states to practice in New Jersey under their multi-state licenses.*
Non-Compact to Compact

- Apply for licensure by endorsement in the new state of residency.
- Your individual, single state license issued by the non-compact state is not affected.
**Compact to Compact**

- You can practice on the former home state license until your license in the new state is issued.
- Upon moving to a new compact state, you will be required to apply for license by endorsement. Proof of residency may be required.
- You will be issued a new multistate license and the former license is inactivated.
- You must notify the BON in the former home state of your new address.

**Compact to Non-Compact**

- You must apply for license by endorsement in the new state of residency.
- Your compact license is changed to a single-state license which is valid only in that state.
- You must notify the BON of the compact state of your new address.
Which Nurse Practice Act Do I Follow?

NPA for each state can be located at ncsbn.org/npa.htm.

A nurse should follow the NPA of the state where the patient is located at the time nursing service is provided.

Which State’s CE’s Should a Nurse Meet?

The state which is your home state and issued you a compact license, is the state to which you owe your CE.

If a nurse holds licenses in non-compact states, each of those states might have their own requirements for CE and nurses are required to complete these in addition.
1. Go to nurSys.com then click QnurSys®
2. Search by your Name, License Number or NCSBN ID.
3. Click “View Report”
4. On Nursys QuickConfirm Report page, click “Where can the nurse practice as an RN and/or PN?”
Online Resources

NLC Toolkit:
ncsbn.org/nlc-toolkit.htm
How Can Nurses Become Involved in Supporting Legislation?

- Educate stakeholders about the NLC
- Send a letter to legislator and governor via www.nursecompact.com
- Contact or meet with these elected officials
- Start a petition at www.change.org and send to your legislator
- Volunteer to testify when a bill is heard before a legislative committee
- Be the catalyst to get your national organization/employer to formally endorse the NLC
Knowledge Check

Question #1

How many multistate licenses can a nurse hold, living in a compact state?
Answer

A nurse can only hold one multistate license, issued from his/her PSOR, but as many single state licenses in non-compact states as he/she needs.

Question #2

How many licenses can a nurse hold, living in a non-compact state?
If a nurse does not legally reside in a compact state, the nurse is not eligible for a multistate license, but can hold as many single-state licenses as he or she needs.

After I receive my first license, what is the process for receiving my second license?
Answer

After you obtain your initial license by exam and need another license, you need to complete the license by endorsement application.

Question #4

If I move from a compact state to a non-compact state and change legal residency, do I get to keep my multistate license?
Answer

No, if you change your legal residency to a non-compact state, you are no longer eligible for a compact license and it will be changed to single state.

Question #5

Where should I apply for license by exam and authorization to test?
Answer

- If you are applying to a compact state for a multistate license, you should apply in the state where you intend to legally reside.

- If you are applying for a license in a non-compact state, you should apply for a license in the state where you intend to practice.

Question #6

How does the NLC benefit nurses who are military spouses?
Answer

- They are able to benefit from a multistate license because they can practice with a MSL throughout relocations to other compact states as long as they are maintaining legal residency in the home of record that issued them the MSL license.

Thank You!

Questions?

Email:
nursecompact@ncsbn.org

Toolkit:
Ncsbn.org/toolkit.htm

nursecompact.com