Understanding Primary State of Residence

Nov 9, 2021
About Us

Jim Puente, MS, MJ, CAE
Director
Nurse Licensure Compact

Maggie Bieniek
Associate
Nurse Licensure Compact

nursecompact@ncsbn.org
Which States are Part of the NLC?

38 states have enacted the NLC

For details see: www.ncsbn.org/NLC_Map.pdf
Terminology

- **Multistate License or Compact License**: one license issued in the home state valid for practice in all NLC states.
- **Party State**: any NLC state
- **Single State License**: valid only in state of issuance.
- **Home State**: the primary state of residence (PSOR)
- **Remote States**: NLC states other than the home state
- **PTP**: Privilege to Practice. The authority for a multistate license holder to practice in other NLC states.
Primary State of Residence is Key!
How is PSOR Defined?

- 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.
Rules Related to Changing PSOR
Can I Apply Before Moving?

Yes!

Article IV

c. If a nurse changes primary state of residence by moving between two party states, the nurse must apply for licensure in the new home state, and the multistate license issued by the prior home state will be deactivated in accordance with applicable rules adopted by the Commission.

1. The nurse may apply for licensure in advance of a change in primary state of residence.
402. (1) On all application forms for multistate licensure in a party state, an applicant shall declare a primary state of residence.
Declaration of PSOR Form (Sample)

Primary state of residence means the state of a person’s declared fixed permanent and principal home for legal purposes; domicile.

1. I am declaring **STATE** as my Primary State of Residence in compliance with the above Primary State of Residence definition.

2. I am declaring a Non-Compact State as my primary state/territory of residency. My primary state of residence is a state not participating in the Nurse Licensure Compact. (See the list of Non-Compact states). I declare that the selection below is my primary state of residence and serves as my permanent and principal home for legal purposes. (This option should also be used by applicants whose primary place of legal residency is in another country/territory/province).

3. I am currently a resident of another Compact State. I am in the process of moving to **STATE** and I would like to begin the application process for obtaining a multi-state license in **STATE**. I understand that I cannot be issued a multistate license until I complete the move and subsequently declare **STATE** as my primary state of residence by declaring a new primary state of residence in the Nurse Portal dashboard.
   
   I further understand that I may be requested to provide documents which serve as proof of legal residency in **STATE**, before a license will be issued.
   
   If I hold an active unrestricted multistate license in the compact state where I currently reside, I understand that I may practice in **STATE**, until a license is issued in **STATE**.

4. I am declaring another Compact State as my primary state of residence (please select the state below). I am not eligible for a multistate license in my primary state of residence and am therefore requesting a single state license in **STATE**.

5. I am declaring another Compact State as my primary state of residence. I am not eligible for a Multistate or a single state license in **STATE**.
(2) A nurse who changes primary state of residence to another party state shall apply for a license in the new party state when the nurse declares to be a resident of the state and obtains privileges not ordinarily extended to nonresidents of the state, including but not limited to, those listed in 402 (4) (a) – (e).
(1) A nurse who changes his or her primary state of residence from one party state to another party state may continue to practice under the existing multistate license while the nurse’s application is processed and a multistate license is issued in the new primary state of residence.

(2) Upon issuance of a new multistate license, the former primary state of residence shall deactivate its multistate license held by the nurse and provide notice to the nurse.
Which States are Part of the NLC?

NLC States
38 states have enacted the NLC

For details see:  www.ncsbn.org/NLC_Map.pdf
How Can Employers Ensure Nurses Hired from NLC States are Appropriately Licensed?

- Check the license status on [www.nursys.com](http://www.nursys.com) using the Quick Confirm feature.

- **Determine if the nurse is changing the PSOR or not.** Is the nurse moving and becoming a resident of your state (or perhaps of an adjacent state, if the job is near state lines)? Is the nurse only in your state temporarily and then returning home?

- The nurse **changing PSOR** must apply for license by endorsement upon moving.

- The nurse **not changing PSOR** will practice in your state under her existing multistate license. I.e., The nurse’s intent is to return to her home state /PSOR.

- Employers often implement a policy by which nurses who need to apply for license by endorsement, do so and provide proof within X number of days, e.g., 10 days.
Where can the nurse practice as an RN and/or PN?

A visual representation of all the states where the selected nurse has authorization to practice

View Now

1. Go to nurSys.com then click nurSys QuickConfirm
2. Search by your Name, License Number or NCSBN ID.
3. Click "View Report"

On Nursys QuickConfirm Report page, click “Where can the nurse practice as an RN and/or PN?”

NURSYS.COM
Thank You!

Questions?

Email: nursecompact@ncsbn.org

Toolkit: https://www.ncsbn.org/nlc-toolkit.htm

Web: www.nlc.gov