Welcome to this brief educational video on the Nurse Licensure Compact and primary state of residence requirements. The objectives of this video are to provide you with a general overview of the Nurse Licensure Compact, to explain primary state of residence, and to provide you with some tangible examples. The NLC allows for one multi-state license for many states.

It is an interstate agreement that allows RNs and LPNs to practice physically via telehealth or via other electronic means in all compact states.

So which states are part of the NLC? You can see from the map that there are 34 blue states. This means that 34 states have enacted the NLC. 32 of those states have implemented. Indiana and NJ are light blue because they have yet to implement.

Once Indiana and New Jersey implement nurses with legal residence in those states will then be able to apply for a multistate license. Nurses who already have a multistate license from another NLC state will then be able to practice in these newer states.

So, how exactly does a compact license work? To be eligible for a multi-state license, a nurse must meet 11 uniform licensure requirements for a multi-state license.

Also, a nurse must declare a compact state as his or her primary state of residence. Primary state of residence, abbreviated PSOR, refers to your state of legal residence. Sources that can verify your PSOR include your driver's license, your federal income tax return, or your voter registration.

There are a lot of myths about what PSOR means. First off, PSOR does not pertain to home or property ownership. A nurse cannot declare more than one state as their PSOR. They can reside in more than one state but only one is primary. So what happens if you want to change your PSOR?

If you want to permanently make another state your new state of legal residence, let's take a look at the next few examples. In this first example, a nurse has to change her legal residence from one compact state, Arizona, to another compact state, Texas.
[music] In this situation, the nurse should understand she can apply for a license by endorsement with the Texas Board of Nursing. She should apply immediately and not delay as there is no grace period. She should not wait until her former license expires.

And, she should understand that she can practice on her former multi-state license only until she is issued a new multi-state license from her new primary state of residence. In this next scenario, this nurse will be moving from a non-compact state, California, to become a legal resident of a compact state, New Mexico.

This nurse will have to apply for license by endorsement with the New Mexico Board of Nursing. He may apply before or after the move. If they apply in advance of the move, he may be issued a single-state license or his application may be held until he has proof of legal residence. Once the nurse is able to decrease New Mexico as his state of legal residence, he can contact the Board of Nursing to request a multi-state license.

As soon as the board confirms that all eligibility and residency requirements are met, they will issue him a multi-state license. In this final scenario, a nurse needs to change his legal residence from a compact state, Colorado, to a non-compact state, Illinois. [music] Like in the previous two scenarios, the nurse will have to apply for license by endorsement in Illinois.

They may apply before or after the move. Upon changing legal residence to a non-compact state, Illinois, he will have to notify the Board of Nursing of Colorado of his new address. The nurse will need to know that, after changing legal residency from a compact state, Colorado, to a non-compact state, Illinois, his multi-state license from his former PSOR, Colorado, will be changed to single-state.

Thank you for watching this educational video about primary state of residence. If you have any questions or need additional information, don't hesitate to contact us. We have a variety of other informational videos and resources available to you, and you can find those on our toolkit page.