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## **Making Travel Nursing Easier with a Multistate License Video Transcript** ©2020 National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

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### **Presenter**

NCSBN Nurse Licensure Compact Department

Meet James, a travel nurse. James is a resident of a non-compact state. Therefore, he's not eligible for a compact license. In order to practice, James needs to be licensed in every state where his patients are located. James can maintain or apply for as many single-state licenses as he needs to practice as a travel nurse. This process can be costly, burdensome, and time-consuming.

Amy is also a travel nurse, but she lives in a compact state and holds a multistate license. For travel nurses like Amy, having a multistate license removes barriers to practice, eliminates duplicate of application processes, and unnecessary fees. Under the Nurse Licensure Compact or NLC, Amy's multistate license allows her to practice in all compact states without any additional requirements as long as she maintains her primary state of residence.

Primary state of residence is not about home or property ownership. All of Amy's legal documents such as her driver's license, federal tax return, and voter registration need to be from the same state, her home state. Before Amy can practice in another state, both Amy and her employer need to confirm her authority to practice there.

This can be done via Nursys QuickConfirm. It can verify if Amy has a multistate license and if she has any additional single-state licenses in non-compact states. As a travel nurse and a holder of a multistate license, Amy needs to remember if she is temporarily practicing in another state and her driver's license expires, she should not obtain a driver's license in the state where she is temporarily practicing.

Similarly, she should not register to vote in the state where she is temporarily working. Either of these actions would unintentionally change her declared home state. She would then be required to obtain a new license in the new primary state of residence by completing the endorsement application. If Amy decides to change her primary state of residence to another state, she needs to immediately apply for license by endorsement in her new home state.

If Amy's new home state is a compact state, she can continue practicing on her former multistate license, but only until she is issued a new multistate license. She cannot wait until her license expires before applying for a new one. If her residency changes to a non-compact state, she will no longer be eligible to hold a multistate license.

Amy's multistate license from her former state will be converted to a single-state license. As you can see, the NLC makes being a travel nurse easier by increasing the number of states you can practice in with one multistate license. Understanding the NLC and how it pertains to travel nurses will help you achieve the full benefits of your multistate license.

For additional information about the NLC, visit [ncsbn.org/nlc](https://ncsbn.org/nlc). ♪ [music] ♪