

NOTICE OF INTENT

**Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Nurse Licensure Compact
(LAC 48:I.Chapter 88)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to adopt LAC 48:I.Chapter 88 as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and R.S. 37:1018-1020. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

Act 577 of the 2018 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature enacted R.S. 37:1018-1020, which directed the Department of Health (LDH) to establish provisions governing the Nurse Licensure Compact, a multi-state compact for nurses to obtain multi-state license privileges, in order to decrease redundancies in the consideration and issuance of nursing licenses, and to provide an opportunity for interstate practice by nurses who meet LDH's uniform licensure requirements. In compliance with the requirements of Act 577, the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to adopt provisions governing the Nurse Licensure Compact.

**Title 48.
PUBLIC HEALTH-GENERAL
Part I. General Administration
Subpart 3. Licensing and Certification**

Chapter 88. Nurse Licensure Compact

§8801. Definitions

Department-the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), the department.

Health Standards Section (HSS)-the section in LDH responsible for licensing health care facilities and agencies, certifying facilities and agencies applying for participation in the Medicaid (title XIX) and Medicare (title XVIII) programs, and conducting surveys and inspections.

Home State-the party state which is the nurse's primary state of residence.

Licensing Board-a party state's regulatory body responsible for issuing nurse licenses.

Multi-State License-a license to practice as a registered nurse (RN) or a licensed practical nurse/licensed vocational nurse (LPN/LVN) issued by a home state licensing board that authorizes the licensed nurse to practice in all party states under a multi-state licensure privilege.

Multi-State Licensure Privilege-a legal authorization associated with a multistate license permitting the practice of nursing as either an RN or LPN/LVN in a remote state.

Nurse-registered nurse (RN) or licensed practical nurse/licensed vocational nurse (LPN/LVN), as defined by each party state's practice laws.

Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC)-Part V of Chapter 11 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 37:1018 through 1020.

Party State-any state that has adopted the Nurse Licensure Compact.

Remote State-a party state other than the home state.

Single-State License-a nurse license issued by a party state that authorizes practice only within the issuing state and does not include a multi-state licensure privilege to practice in any other party state.

State-a state, territory or possession of the United States and the District of Columbia.

State Practice Laws-a party state's laws, rules and regulations that govern the practice of nursing, define the scope of nursing practice and create the methods and grounds for imposing discipline. State practice laws do not include requirements necessary to obtain and retain a license, except for qualifications or requirements of the home state.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and R.S. 37:1018-1020.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 45:

§8803. General Administration

A. Pursuant to R.S. 37:1018-1020 et seq., all health care entities licensed and/or certified by the Health Standards Section of LDH including, but not limited to, those specified in §8803.B.1-25 shall:

1. register with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's (NCSBN) Nursys e-Notify system; and

2. provide required nurse data for collection of aggregate data from employees on the number and geographic representation of registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses/licensed vocational nurses (LPNs/LVNs) employed in Louisiana practicing pursuant to a multi-state or single state license, as determined by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) and the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners (LSBPNE).

B. Once registered, the licensed facility/agency, the LSBN and the LSBPNE shall have real-time access to nurse licensure verification including expirations, upcoming renewals and discipline from all nurse licensure compact states. The real-time notifications shall be delivered to employer inboxes automatically and immediately available to the requisite nursing boards prior to an RN or LPN/LVN furnishing any such services in one or more of the following licensed and/or certified health care facilities and agencies:

1. nursing facilities (NF);

2. home health agencies (HHA);
3. hospice agencies;
4. emergency medical transportation services (EMTS);
5. behavioral health services (BHS) providers;
6. home and community-based services (HCBS) providers;
7. adult day health care (ADHC) providers;
8. intermediate care facility for people with developmental disabilities (ICF-DD);
9. adult residential care providers (ARCP);
10. hospitals;
11. rural health clinics (RHC);
12. outpatient physical therapy (OPT) clinics;
13. comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facilities (CORF);
14. pediatric day health care (PDHC) facilities;
15. end stage renal disease (ESRD) clinics;
16. federally qualified health centers (FQHC);
17. forensic supervised transitional residential and aftercare (FSTRA) facilities;
18. psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTF);
19. therapeutic group homes (TGH);
20. ambulatory surgical centers (ASC);

- 21. outpatient abortion facilities (OAF);
- 22. support coordination agencies (SCA);
- 23. adult brain injury (ABI) facilities;
- 24. community mental health centers (CMHC); and
- 25. portable x-ray providers.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and R.S. 37:1018-1020.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 45:

§8805. Licensed Facility and Agency Requirements

A. In accordance with federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations, agencies and facilities licensed by the department shall comply with state nurse licensure laws to ensure the health and safety of the public.

B. The governing body of the health care facility or agency licensed by the department shall be responsible for registering with the NCSBN's Nursys e-Notify system (or other system as designated by the state board of nursing).

C. Facilities and agencies licensed by the department as health care providers shall report data to the applicable state nurse licensing board on the number and geographic representation of RNs and LPNs/LVNs employed by the licensed health care facility or agency practicing pursuant to a multi-state license, as determined by the respective licensing board.

D. The report shall be completed prior to an RN or LPN/LVN furnishing any nursing services in this state. Failure of an employer to submit this data to the board shall not be a basis for disciplinary action against or restriction of the multi-state license of any RN or LPN/LVN.

E. The governing body of the licensed health care facility or agency shall be responsible for the development, implementation and enforcement of policies and procedures related to §8805.A-D, as applicable to the facility or agency.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and R.S. 37:1018-1020.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 45:

Implementation of the provisions of this Rule may be contingent upon the approval of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if it is determined that submission to CMS for review and approval is required.

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, no direct or indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and will have no impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170.

Interested persons may submit written comments to Cecile Castello, Health Standards Section, P.O. Box 3767, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or by email to MedicaidPolicy@la.gov. Ms. Castello is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. A public hearing on this proposed Rule is scheduled for Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 118, Bienville Building, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. At that time all interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit data, views or arguments either orally or in writing. The

deadline for receipt of all written comments is 4:30 p.m. on the next business day following the public hearing

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH

Secretary