

Professional Licensing Agency
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Indiana Implements Nurse Licensure Compact

The Indiana State Board of Nursing (ISBN) is pleased to announce that it will implement the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) on July 1, 2020. The NLC is an agreement between partner states, which have all implemented the compact, that allows nurses who reside in a compact state to hold one multistate license. This multistate license grants the nurse the authority to practice, either in person or via telehealth, in the state they reside in and the [other 33 NLC states](#).

The NLC outlines a set of uniform licensure requirements, which includes educational standards and a federal criminal background check, that all applicants must meet so that patients are assured that they are receiving the best care. Furthermore, the NLC requires prompt disciplinary action to be taken against any nurse violating the laws of the state they are practicing in and mandates that any disciplinary action be recorded in a national database.

The ISBN hopes that the NLC will give Hoosier patients better access to high-quality nursing care, reduce regulatory barriers so Indiana nurses can easily utilize their skills, and improve emergency response across state lines in times of crisis. For more information on how the implementation of the NLC may impact you, please see below:

For Nurses:

The ISBN will begin accepting applications for multistate licenses on July 1, 2020.

- Nurses who hold an active Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) license and whose primary state of residence is Indiana may convert their existing Indiana license to a multistate license.
 - You will not be required to do so, but you may be unable to practice in other NLC states unless you convert your license.
 - You can convert your license at any time after July 1, 2020. You do not need to wait until a renewal cycle and can start the process whenever you decide.
- New nursing applicants, after July 1, 2020, will be able to determine if they want to hold a single-state Indiana license or a multistate license at the time of application.

The process to convert your existing license or apply for a multistate license will be posted, alongside additional information, on the ISBN Website at: www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm.

For Hoosier Patients:

The thousands of Indiana residents who interact daily with our quality nurses should likely see no disruption as a result of NLC implementation. The existing nursing workforce in Indiana will still be able and ready to assist, but there may be additional healthcare options available as nurses who hold multistate licenses and reside in other states begin to work in Indiana. All nurses who practice in the State of Indiana, either on a multistate or single state license, will still be held to the high standards which Hoosiers have come to expect from the ISBN. Patients will be able to verify that any nurse has an active license to practice, or to see if they have been disciplined by another state, by checking the national database at: www.nursys.com.

For Healthcare Employers:

The NLC presents an opportunity for healthcare employers to engage a new potential workforce to assist patients. A nurse who resides in one of the [33 NLC member states](#) and holds a multistate license will be able to work in Indiana beginning July 1, 2020. These nurses, whether practicing in-person or via telehealth, will be required to follow all relevant Indiana statute or rules just as current nurse employees must. To verify that a nurse holds a multistate license, or to review disciplinary action against them, an employer may check the national database by visiting: www.nursys.com and using their QuickConfirm report. Additionally, employers may register their nursing workforce in the e-Notify tool in Nursys to receive notification of disciplinary action taken against them in any state they practice in.

For more information about how the NLC will be affecting the State of Indiana, visit www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm.

For general information about the NLC, visit www.ncsbn.org/nlc.

Media Contacts:

For any media inquiries or questions on how your organization can be kept informed about the NLC implementation, please contact the Professional Licensing Agency via the contact below.

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