IN PSOR Webinars
2020
Leadership Team

What is the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC)?

- The NLC allows LPNs and RNs to have one multistate license with the privilege to practice in their home state and other NLC states.
- There are 34 member states, including Kentucky, Indiana, West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, and Missouri.
- A nurse may hold a multistate license, issued by the home state, in only one party state at a time.
- Example #1: I live in Newburgh, IN but practice as an RN in Owensboro, KY. I need an Indiana Multi-State License
- Example #2: I live in Evansville, IN but practice as an RN in Evansville, IN and Owensboro, KY – I still need an Indiana Multi-State RN.

What are the requirements to qualify for a multistate license?

An applicant for licensure in a state that is part of the NLC will need to meet the following uniform licensure requirements:

1. Meets the requirements for licensure in the home state (state of residency);
2. a. Has graduated from a board-approved education program; or b. Has graduated from an international education program approved by the authorized accrediting body in the applicable country and verified by an independent credentials review agency;
3. Has passed an English proficiency examination (applies to graduates of an international education program not taught in English or if English is not an individual’s native language);
4. Has passed the NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® Examination or predecessor exam;
5. Is eligible for or holds an active, unencumbered license (i.e., without active discipline);
6. Has submitted to state and federal fingerprint-based criminal background checks;
7. Has not been convicted or found guilty, or has entered into an agreed disposition, of a felony offense under applicable state or federal criminal law;
8. Has no misdemeanor convictions related to the practice of nursing (determined on a case-by-case basis), or entered into an agreed disposition regarding a practice-related misdemeanor;
9. Is not currently a participant in an alternative program;
10. Is required to self-disclose current participation in an alternative program; and
11. Has a valid United States Social Security number.

What happens if a nurse moves between two party states?

- If a nurse changes primary state of residence by moving between two (2) party states, the nurse must apply for licensure in the new home state, and the multistate license (“MSL”) issued by the prior home state will be deactivated in accordance with applicable rules adopted by the Commission.
- The nurse may apply for licensure in advance of a change in primary state of residence.
- A multistate license shall not be issued by the new home state until the nurse provides satisfactory evidence of a change in primary state of residence to the new home state and satisfies all applicable requirements to obtain a multistate license from the new home state.
- If a nurse changes primary state of residence (“PSOR”) by moving from a party state to a non–party state, the multistate license issued by the prior home state will convert to a single-state license (“SSL”), valid only in the former home state.

How is primary state or residence determined under the NLC rules?

- For compact purposes, primary state of residence is not related to property ownership in a given state. It is about one’s legal residency status.
- Examples to determine legal residency status:
  - Driver’s license
  - Voter registration
  - Federal income tax return
  - Military form no. 2058, vehicle registration
  - Bank accounts
  - Library card
- A nurse with residences in both Kentucky and another party state, or a nurse who acquires a residence in Kentucky, may choose to designate Kentucky as their primary state of residence. Compact state nurses who have multiple residences may designate only one as their primary state of residence, and should evidence that choice in the foregoing types of records. Verification of records may be required.
Current Situation

- In 2019, Indiana passed legislation to join the Compact
- Information about IN joining the compact was published in the Spring KBN Connection
- Indiana began accepting MSL applications effective 7/1/2020
- KBN started issuing responses to licensees in July 2020 that they would need to apply in IN as their Primary state of residence and obtain a Multi State Licenses in Indiana prior to renewals
- In late July, KBN received a number of calls stating that Identigo - the agency used for Criminal Background Checks in Indiana - had a backlog in the Southern Indiana locations.
- There are approximately 4000 KY licensees with an IN PSOR

Background

- As a part of the enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC), RN applicants and LPN applicants must apply for and hold a multi-state license in the Primary State of Residence
- Since NLC changes were implemented in 2018, KY has granted ONLY a multi-state license to eligible applicants with a Kentucky PSOR. Residents of a non-compact state (like Ohio) may receive SSL in Kentucky. Residents of other compact states are ineligible for SSL in Kentucky, unless they demonstrate ineligibility for MSL in the PSOR due to active discipline, convictions, or alternative program participation. These applicants, who are ineligible for MSL in their PSOR, may obtain a SSL in Kentucky.
- Prior to 2018, Kentucky’s application process did not allow applicants to choose single state or multi-state, the default was MSL - and if they had a PSOR in another compact state they were not able to renew a Kentucky license or obtain a license in Kentucky

Assessment

- After consultation with the IN BON, it was determined that there is a backlog of CBC appointments in Southern Indiana, although there are locations outside of that area.
- It was verified that several employers have the bulk of the licensees (UofL, Baptist, and Norton) - may account for more than ½ of the licensees.
- Not all of the licensees have dual licensure (both IN and KY)
- Confusion has arisen as to who needs to apply for a MSL in Indiana

Resolution

- It was determined in consultation with the eNLC administration and KBN General Counsel, that the CBC delay has cause individuals with an IN PSOR to be unable to obtain a MSL in their home state, resulting in KY’s ability to grant renewal in the 2020 renewal period (September 15 – October 31st, 2020)
- All RNs and LPNs who are eligible for multistate licensure in Indiana will need to apply for IN MSL before they renew the KY license, they will need to upload the IN email confirming application when they renew the KY license
- Once the KY renewal application is submitted, no refunds will be processed.

Examples:

- APRNs
  - I live in Indiana but work in Kentucky – I will need to obtain an IN RN MSL – but continue to renew their KY APRN license.
  - I live in Indiana but practice in both Indiana and Kentucky – I will need an IN RN but both a KY APRN license, and IN CSR (for APRNs)
- RN’s
  - My driver’s license address is IN – I need an IN MSL, even if I never work as a nurse in IN
  - My driver’s license is in KY – I can now practice in IN with only my KY MSL
- LPN’s
  - Same rules apply as RNS

Indiana Links

- https://www.in.gov/pla/NLCIndianaInformation.htm
- https://www.in.gov/pla/NLCFrequentlyAskedQuestions.htm
Questions?