

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSES

TO THE GOVERNOR
OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

THE HONORABLE EARL RAY TOMBLIN

FOR THE PERIOD

JULY 1, 2010 TO JUNE 30, 2012

PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE 7, SECTION 4
OF
THE CODE OF WEST VIRGINIA

SUBMITTED FOR THE BOARD BY:
LAURA SKIDMORE RHODES, MSN, RN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSES
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December 11, 2012

Dear Governor Tomblin:

The West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses (Board) is pleased to submit the Annual Report which covers the activities during the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years.

For over one hundred years of nursing regulation the Board has been vested in their mission to protect the citizens of West Virginia through the regulation of the practice of registered professional nurses. At the end of the fiscal year there were 28,218 registered professional nurses regulated by the Board. Board members and staff provide presentations throughout the state in an effort to assure the most current information is available to those providing nursing care to those in West Virginia. The Board supports the role of advanced practice nurses in providing for the health care needs of West Virginia. Over 657 advanced practice registered professional nurses have active Prescriptive Authority Privileges granted by the Board.

The Board also regulates Dialysis Technicians. There are 149 certified Dialysis Technicians in West Virginia serving the needs of the dialysis population.

The Board continues to provide data for the Office of Threat Preparedness to provide RN verification of licensure for their volunteer healthcare provider database. This database will play an important role in disaster relief.

The Board remains open for communications with other agencies, the public and licensees through an Open Forum time during each Board meeting, the newsletter, the phone system, mail, facsimile and the Internet with e-mail (rnboard@state.wv.us) and web page (www.wvrnboard.com).

The Board and its staff are available to answer questions about this report or other matters pertaining to the regulation of registered professional nursing and dialysis technicians in the State of West Virginia.

Sincerely,

Robin Walton, EdD, RN
Board President

Overview of Board Activities and Responsibilities

The mission of the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses (Board) is to promote and protect public health, safety and welfare through the regulation of the practice of registered professional nurses. Further, the Board is authorized to regulate the practice of Dialysis Technicians to protect public health, safety and welfare. The West Virginia Legislature has empowered the Board to perform a number of functions to ensure this mission is accomplished.

The Board is authorized to, among other things, adopt and amend rules and regulations, accredit and prescribe standards for educational programs preparing persons for registered professional nursing licensure, examine, license and renew licenses, and conduct hearing(s) upon charges calling for discipline of a licensee or revocation or suspension of a license.

The Board is also authorized to adopt and amend rules and regulations, accredit and prescribe standards for educational programs preparing persons for Dialysis Technician certification, certify and renew certifications, and conduct hearing(s) upon charges calling for discipline of a certification or revocation or suspension of a certification.

In order to fulfill its mission the Board has developed specific goals. These goals are found on page 7 of this report. Included with the Board's goals and objectives are performance measures.

In 2004 the West Virginia Center for Nursing (Center) was been created to establish a statewide strategic plan to address the nursing shortage in the state and to facilitate recruitment and retention of nurses. The Center is funded in part by a supplemental fee added to the license renewal for RN's and LPN's. The Board continues to work with and support the efforts of the Center.

This overview provides a brief description of the Board's activities over the past year in the fulfillment of its mission. Also provided with this report are statistical data which show the Board's licensure statistics over the past two years. The majority of these reports begin on page 58. Additionally, to give an even broader view of the Board's activities, included with this year's report are tables and charts covering a ten (10) or twenty (20) year time period revealing how the number of registered professional nurses has increased or decreased during the time frame, the number of students that have graduated from nursing programs throughout the state during this time, disciplinary actions that have taken place, as well as other interesting facts regarding the functions of the Board. This information can be found throughout the Report. A Graph Table of Contents is provided for the reader's convenience (see page iii).

One of the most important ways the Board achieves its mission is ensuring that it is easily accessible to the public, its licensees and to other state and national agencies. To that end, the Board convenes an average of 10 days a year, with Committees meeting an additional 4 days a year. The law requires one meeting per year. In accordance with the law, Board meeting notices are

Overview Continued

filed timely with the Secretary of State. The agenda for each meeting is also provided to each nursing school, to Directors of Nursing across the state, and interested parties. A list of Board meeting dates is provided in this report on page 12. Notice of the meeting is also included in the Board newsletter, which is published at least twice a year and mailed to every licensee and to those persons expressing an interest in receiving the newsletter, and on the web site. A copy of each newsletter is located on the Board's web site at www.wvrnboard.com.

At the beginning of each Board meeting there is an Open Forum. Open Forum still allows anyone in attendance at the meeting the opportunity to raise issues of concern with the Board and to have an open discussion with Board members.

The Board office is available by telephone twenty four hours a day, seven days a week through a voice mail system 1-877-743-6877(NURS). During regular business hours, Monday through Friday, the office is staffed to respond to questions by phone, facsimile, e-mail, U.S. mail and from persons coming to the office. A list of all Board staff is on page 13 of this report.

Additional avenues the Board utilizes to remain accessible to the public are by way of e-mail and web page. The Board's e-mail address is rnboard@state.wv.us. The web site address is www.wvrnboard.com. Most of the Board's applications are available for downloading from the web.

The Board has informational brochures available to the public on continuing education, discipline and the complaint process. The Board maintains a number of other brochures from organizations regarding patient rights and nurse/patient boundaries. Because the Board sees educating the public as one of its priorities, it continues to be active in providing information through presentations at various sites throughout the state. These presentations cover Board functions, the licensing process, mandatory continuing education, advanced practice, prescriptive authority, discipline and how to file a complaint. Board staff participated in several presentations in FY2012.

One of the main functions of the Board in the fulfillment of its mission is the regulation of the nursing programs in the State of West Virginia. Currently, there are 22 schools of nursing providing 23 nursing programs (the University of Charleston has bachelor and associate degree programs) in the state that require Board approval. Mountain State University School of Nursing was closed by the Board effective August 31, 2012. A list of the schools of nursing providing both baccalaureate and associate degrees, as well as other programs not requiring Board approval, is provided in this report on pages 24 through 27. Also included in this report are statistics on the number of graduates from baccalaureate and associate degree programs and statistics on licensees holding advanced degrees.

The accreditation process of a school of nursing goes far beyond the initial accreditation of that school. It is an ongoing process. Each year every Board approved program is required to submit an Annual Report to the Board for review. The Annual Report covers every aspect of the program, from the financial status to the degrees held by instructors and most importantly the quality of the information being taught to the student. The Board also conducts a number of on-site visits to programs to have a hands on view of the activity taking place at the school. During the on-site visit, Board representatives have the opportunity to view the quality of the information contained in the library for nursing students

Overview Continued

and to also speak with nursing students on campus regarding the nursing program. In FY2012 the Board performed 6 visits to campuses in the state for purposes of On-Site Accreditation visits and follow up visits.

Another Board function is to provide a test for graduates to successfully complete for initial licensure. Currently, that test is known as the National Council Licensure Examination -RN (NCLEX-RN). It has been a computer adaptive test since April 1994. The candidate may take the examination at any test center in the United States, U.S. Territories, or several countries across the world provided the state where they wish to hold initial licensure is designated, and an application specific to that state has been completed and approved.

The national pass rate for first time candidates taking the licensure examination during FY2012 is ***88.80%. West Virginia's percentage is ****86.12%. This percentage ranks West Virginia as*** thirty-eight (38) out of fifty-four (54) member board jurisdictions. This information is provided through a report from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

From the graduates who pass the licensing examination who are able to hold the title registered professional nurse, there are a number of individuals who pursue advanced certifications and practice in more specialized areas. The Board regulates advanced certifications and practice in more specialized areas. The Board regulates 1,502 nurses with Announcement of Advanced Practice. This number includes the ****657 nurses having prescription writing privileges granted by the Board. A breakdown of this information is found on pages 102 through 105 of this report. As part of the prescription writing privilege application process, the Board of Medicine, the Board of Pharmacy, the Board of Osteopathy, and the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency are notified of each new prescriptive authority privilege issued.

Because nurses are continuing to specialize in different areas, the Board's approach to discipline continues to evolve. Disciplinary cases continue to increase in complexity. Board staff process a significant number of discipline related records. In past years the majority of complaints against registered nurses, resulting in action, involved the use, misuse and abuse of drugs and alcohol. Although these issues still make up the majority of the complaints, there is an increase in practice related issues, such as documentation errors and the lack of competency. Health care institutions are utilizing more unlicensed individuals than ever before. With the predicted decrease in available registered nurses and the increase in work demand on the nurses who are available, the amount of complaints with practice issues will surely rise over the next several years. Statistical information regarding the Board's disposition of complaints and disciplinary action taken over the past two (2) years is provided on pages 64 and 65 of this report. A pie chart on page 63 represents a summary of disciplinary action for the past ten years.

In order to completely fulfill its mission to protect the public, the Board recognizes the necessity in maintaining open communication with other related national and state agencies. In that regard, the Board always sends representatives to meetings of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.(NCSBN) and is actively involved in the discussion and voting processes which occur at these meetings. The Executive Director, Laura Skidmore Rhodes, is the immediate past president

Overview Continued

of the Board of Directors for NCSBN. Marty Alston, Secretary II/Accounting Assistant II currently serves on the Awards Panel for NCSBN. Alice R. Faucett, General Counsel and Director for Discipline previously served on the Professional Discipline, International Relations and Legal Issues Committees for the Council on Licensure Enforcement and Regulation.

The Board, in conjunction with NCSBN, developed an on-line continuing education program for registered professional nurses about the current law. This program offers two (2) continuing education hours which qualify for inclusion in the total twelve (12) hour requirement each year.

Locally, the Board keeps an ongoing alliance with the West Virginia State Board of Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN Board). Because the two agencies generally have to address similar topics and certainly in the employment arena they usually function together, it is important to the Board to ensure that communication lines are open with this agency. In 1995, the Joint Nursing Regulatory Committee was formed to enhance communications between Board and the LPN Board, and between the Board and constituents. This committee lead to the practice of holding a yearly Joint RN/LPN Board meeting. Together the two Boards publish a document entitled "Criteria for Determining Scope of Practice for Licensed Nurses and Guidelines for Determining Acts That May Be Delegated or Assigned by Licensed Nurses" or simply the "Purple Book". This document was updated last year.

Board members and staff are diligent in their efforts to assure Board accomplishes its mission and goals. Staff ensure that records reflecting the Board's financial status are accurately maintained. This information is provided on pages 14 through 19 of this report. Board members are kept thoroughly apprised of all operations by Board staff.

Legislation was passed during the 2005 session which placed the regulation of the Dialysis Technician Education programs and Dialysis Technicians under the jurisdiction of the Board. There are***153 certified dialysis technicians in West Virginia. Information about Dialysis Technicians is provided on pages 179 through 196.

As previously stated, there continues to be a predicted decrease in the number of registered nurses available for employment in upcoming years. This decrease will not only effect West Virginia, but will be a national decrease. However, because of the size of our state, the effect on West Virginia will be easily felt. As reflected on pages 68 through 71 of this report, licensees have steadily endorsed out of West Virginia to other states, with the exception of FY05 when more nurses endorsed into WV. This is directly related to an influx of nurses preparing to assist a West Virginia hospital in the event of a strike. As the citizenship ages and illnesses increase, the need for registered nurses will increase. More nurses are still needed. Not having enough nurses makes it even more important for the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses to fulfill its goal to protect the public.

When the impending nursing shortage was recognized, schools of nursing across the state increased enrollment in their nursing programs thus reflecting the slight increase in the number of register nurses. There are approximately **3,214 students enrolled in West Virginia schools of nursing to obtain an initial degree in nursing.

Overview Continued

The West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses continues to fulfill its mission of protecting the citizens of West Virginia through the regulation of the education and practice of 28,218 registered professional nurses, as well as the 153 Certified Dialysis Technicians.

Should you have any questions, suggestions or desire more information please contact this office at (304) 558-3596 or 1-877-743-NURSE(6877) or write to 101 Dee Drive, Suite 102, Charleston, West Virginia, 25311-1620. Our e-mail address is rnboard@state.wv.us and our web page is www.wvrnboard.com.

Total Number of Registered Professional Nurses

At the end of FY2010 were 30,057 registered professional nurses holding an active West Virginia license. This is an increase of 7,839 since 2002. This number is 861 more than in FY2009. Registered Professional Nurses remain the largest group of licensed health care providers in West Virginia.

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of RN's	22,218	22,516	22,333	22,981	22,868	22,008	25,686	27,032	28,218	29,196	30,057

BOARD MEETINGS

2012

2011

February 18, 2010	Special Board Meeting
February 28, 2010	Emergency Board Meeting
March 18-19, 2010	Regular Board Meeting, Education and Disciplinary Matters
June 2, 2010	Special Board Meeting
June 16-17, 2010	Regular Board Meeting, Education and Disciplinary Matters
June 16, 2010	Joint RN and LPN Board Meeting
August 25, 2010	Special Board Meeting
October 21-22, 2010	Regular Board Meeting, Education and Disciplinary Matters
November 12, 2010	Special Board Meeting

Board Members 2010 - Current

Robin Walton, EdD, RN, FNP-BC (Cabell County)
Board President beginning October 1, 2010.
Dr. Walton's first term expires June 30, 2011.

Judy Nystrom, Public Member (McDowell County)
Board Secretary through June 30, 2012.
Ms. Nystrom's term expired June 30, 2009. She continues to serve until further notification from the Governor.

Mary Friel Fanning, DNP, MSN, RN (Monongalia County)
Board Secretary beginning July 1, 2012
Ms. Fanning was appointed on January 6, 2010. Her term expires June 30, 2012.

Joyce Egnor, MSN, RN (Nicholas County)
Ms. Egnor was appointed January 6, 2010. Her term expires June 30, 2013.

Teresa Ritchie, DNP, MSN, RN (Calhoun County)
Ms. Ritchie was appointed on January 6, 2010. Her term expires June 30, 2014.

L. Ann Bostic, CRNA (Kanawha County)
Ms. Bostic was appointed on September 29, 2010. Her term expires June 30, 2015.

Mary Elizabeth Farmer, PhD, Public Member (Raleigh County)
Dr. Farmer was appointed on October 12, 2010. Her term expires June 30, 2015.

**STAFF
OF THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS
FOR REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSES**

Laura Skidmore Rhodes, MSN, RN Employed March, 1992	Executive Director
Robin A. Lewis, EdD, MSN, RN, FNP-BC Employed July, 2012	Associate Director
Alice R. Faucett, JD Employed September, 1997	General Counsel and Director of Discipline
Margaret Weinberger Employed January, 1997	Data System Coordinator
Margaret “Marty” Alston Employed October, 1997	Secretary II/Accounting Assistant II
Lauranna F. Ware Employed August, 2001	Secretary I
Leslie Morris Employed July, 2002	Discipline Assistant
Tonya Hancock Employed November, 2004	Office Assistant III
Dean Henson Employed April, 2009	Office Assistant II
Karen Blankenship, RN Employed May, 2011	Nurse Investigator

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

The Board is required to be self sustaining and does not receive any revenue from the State's General Revenue Fund. The bar graph on page 15 indicates the receipts and disbursements since 2000. The receipts for the Center for Nursing (\$256,270.00) are transferred to the Center's Fund, and Fines (\$35,637.00) are transferred to the General Revenue Fund, Both amounts are represented separately on the receipts graph.

GRADUATES OF SCHOOLS OF NURSING PREPARING INDIVIDUALS FOR INITIAL LICENSURE AS A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE

1992 - 2010

West Virginia has 21 schools of nursing which offer a total of 22 nursing programs preparing individuals for initial licensure. There are other programs which offer additional degrees for those already licensed. This graph shows the number of individuals graduating from schools of nursing in West Virginia to prepare for **initial licensure**. More schools are graduating nursing students at various times throughout the year in addition to the traditional spring graduation. Schools are now reporting the number of graduates in a calendar year.

During a short time between 1990 and 2010, there were three basic degrees offered, bachelor degree, associate degree and diploma, graduating a total of 17,941 students. The last diploma program, St. Mary's Hospital, graduated its last class in 1996. At that time, St. Mary's joined with Marshall University to offer an Associate Degree in nursing.

The highest number of graduates occurred in 2007 when 1,162 candidates graduated from West Virginia nursing programs. The lowest number of graduates was in 2001 with 598 graduates. Should the historical cycle of graduates repeat itself, there should be another increase in the number of graduates over the next four to five years. The prediction for a scarcity of registered professional nurses due to the aging workforce, retirement of nursing educators and a decrease in the number of persons interested in nursing as a career is still a concern even though the current economy has resulted in a shift back to work. RNs working part time are now working full time, those in retirement have returned to work and those planning to retire are waiting until the economy is better. Though more males are choosing nursing as a career, the profession remains predominantly female.

YEARS	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
NUMBER OF GRADUATES	791	782	762	941	869	843	873	746	712	7 21

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
694	598	618	712	763	869	978	1,162	1,134	1,216	1,157

EDUCATION

The education section of the Board has grown significantly over the past ten years. One of the Board's functions is to provide a test (NCLEX-RN) for graduates of accredited nursing programs to pass successfully for initial licensure. The education section reviews the applications and transcripts to assure qualifications are met. West Virginia NCLEX-RN pass rates are monitored annually. Advanced practice requirements including midwifery and prescriptive authority are processed through the education section of the Board, assuring qualifications, credentials and educational requirements are met.

The Board is responsible for the regulation of West Virginia nursing programs preparing registered professional nurses for initial licensure. The Education section of the Board reviews reports, faculty qualifications, changes reported by the programs and performs accreditation site visits to assure the requirements in the law are met. Statistics such as program pass rates and graduate numbers are maintained by the education section of the Board.

The education section also serves to provide access to information related to the practice of registered professional nursing. Educational brochures, presentations and responding to practice questions via telephone, email and written requests are among the avenues the Board provides information. The Board developed an on-line continuing education course about the law pertaining to West Virginia registered professional nurses.

Continuing education requirements for registered professional nurse are monitored by an auditing process for compliance with the law. Licensees are randomly selected for auditing of their continuing education completed during a reporting period. Auditing of licensees occurs after every reporting period. The education section also reviews any requests for waivers of the continuing education requirement. Continuing Education Providers may apply for a providership with the Board. Providers are audited for compliance with requirements in 19CSR11 annually.

EDUCATION REPORT

JULY 1, 2008 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009

EXAMINATION APPLICANTS GRADUATING FROM A U.S. NURSING PROGRAM	1330
EXAMINATION APPLICANTS GRADUATING OUTSIDE U.S.	0
EXAMINATION APPLICANTS WITH MILITARY EDUCATION	0
EXAMINATION APPLICANTS REVIEW FOR NON DISCIPLINARY ISSUES	0
ENDORSEMENT APPLICANTS REVIEW FOR NON DISCIPLINARY ISSUES	0
RENEWAL OF LICENSE REVIEW FOR NONDISCIPLINARY ISSUES	18
REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE REVIEW FOR NONDISCIPLINARY ISSUES	6
MIDWIFE LICENSE INITIAL APPLICATIONS	8
RENEWAL OF MIDWIFE LICENSE APPLICATIONS	58
REINSTATEMENT OF MIDWIFE LICENSE APPLICATIONS	0
ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADVANCED PRACTICE APPLICATIONS	170
PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY INITIAL APPLICATIONS	88
REINSTATEMENT OF PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY APPLICATIONS	53
RENEWAL OF PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY APPLICATIONS	547
CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDERSHIP INITIAL APPLICATIONS	25
CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATIONS	161
CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER AUDITS	7
CONTINUING EDUCATION LICENSEE AUDITS	56
CONTINUING EDUCATION LICENSEE WAIVER REQUESTS	0
 <u>NURSING PROGRAMS</u>	
ACCREDITATION VISITS	12
INITIAL ACCREDITATION	3
TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP	0
CONTINUING ACCREDITATION	2
SATELLITE ACCREDITATION	4
NATIONAL ACCREDITATION	0
FOLLOW UP VISITS	3
 NEW FACULTY APPROVED USING BOARD GUIDELINES	 140
CURRICULUM CHANGES APPROVED USING BOARD GUIDELINES	2

EDUCATION REPORT

JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010

EXAMINATION APPLICANTS GRADUATING FROM A U.S. NURSING PROGRAM	1257
EXAMINATION APPLICANTS GRADUATING OUTSIDE U.S.	0
EXAMINATION APPLICANTS WITH MILITARY EDUCATION	0
EXAMINATION APPLICANTS REVIEW FOR NON DISCIPLINARY ISSUES	0
ENDORSEMENT APPLICANTS REVIEW FOR NON DISCIPLINARY ISSUES	0
RENEWAL OF LICENSE REVIEW FOR NONDISCIPLINARY ISSUES	19
REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE REVIEW FOR NONDISCIPLINARY ISSUES	5
MIDWIFE LICENSE INITIAL APPLICATIONS	7
RENEWAL OF MIDWIFE LICENSE APPLICATIONS	61
REINSTATEMENT OF MIDWIFE LICENSE APPLICATIONS	5
ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADVANCED PRACTICE APPLICATIONS	129
PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY INITIAL APPLICATIONS	79
REINSTATEMENT OF PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY APPLICATIONS	59
RENEWAL OF PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY APPLICATIONS	6
CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDERSHIP INITIAL APPLICATIONS	38
CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATIONS	158
CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER AUDITS	14
CONTINUING EDUCATION LICENSEE AUDITS	125
CONTINUING EDUCATION LICENSEE WAIVER REQUESTS	2
<u>NURSING PROGRAMS</u>	
ACCREDITATION VISITS	19
INITIAL ACCREDITATION	3
TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP	0
CONTINUING ACCREDITATION	1
SATELLITE ACCREDITATION	6
NATIONAL ACCREDITATION	0
FOLLOW UP VISITS	9
NEW FACULTY APPROVED USING BOARD GUIDELINES	28
CURRICULUM CHANGES APPROVED USING BOARD GUIDELINES	2

**VETERANS
ADMITTED TO LICENSURE EXAMINATION
UNDER
WEST VIRGINIA CODE 30-24-2**

FY2010

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	0
NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS COMPLETED	0
NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS INCOMPLETE	0
NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WHO TOOK EXAMINATION	0
APPLICANTS DENIED ADMISSION TO EXAM	0
NUMBER PASSED AND LICENSED	0
NUMBER FAILED	0
PERCENTAGE PASSING	0%

FY2009

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	0
NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS COMPLETED	0
NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS INCOMPLETE	0
NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WHO TOOK EXAMINATION	0
APPLICANTS DENIED ADMISSION TO EXAM	0
NUMBER PASSED AND LICENSED	0
NUMBER FAILED	0
PERCENTAGE PASSING	0%

ENDORSEMENT ACTIVITY

Registered professional nurses may obtain a license in another state through the process of endorsement. Each state has its own endorsement application and process, which includes a verification of licensure from another Board of Nursing. In the endorsement process, a Board of Nursing from another state accepts the nursing credentials validated by the original state of licensure. Some states also require verification of licensure from each state the person ever held a license. The verification is an official document which validates licensure, exam results (only provided by the original state of licensure), method of licensure (whether by exam or endorsement), and if there are any criminal convictions, disciplinary actions taken or complaints pending against the license.

Registered professional nurses may hold a nursing license in several states at the same time. Nurses living close to state borders and nurses traveling to various places are included in this group. From January 1, 1990 through June 30, 2010 a total of 20,187 registered professional nurses endorsed into West Virginia and 24,940 have requested a verification for endorsement out to other states.

DISCIPLINE

The disciplinary section is constantly being reviewed to ensure efficiency. The disciplinary chart shows the number of final actions taken against a licensee since 2000. The chart does not indicate the actual number of cases that the disciplinary section has to review. It is safe to say that between 2000 and 2010 there were over 100 complaint driven disciplinary cases reviewed per year. In addition, there are hundreds of other cases that were reviewed by this department that were not true disciplinary cases. For instance, if an applicant, whether it is a first time applicant or endorsement or renewal applicant, indicates a criminal conviction, a drug or alcohol addiction or provides any other negative answer on the application, then that application is passed on to the disciplinary section. Some of these instances result in disciplinary action, but most do not. Yet, there is still a great amount of time and effort put into investigating the individual. There are also a great amount of resources utilized to investigate complaints which are ultimately dismissed. Although no action is taken in these cases, in order to determine a dismissal is warranted, the time and effort spent investigating the allegations is significant. Also, many of the complaints against licensees are resolved by way of consent agreement. This means that the disciplinary section is constantly monitoring licensees to ensure compliance with the agreement. Further, with the change in the child support laws, affirmative responses to these questions are also passed along to the disciplinary section.

The pie chart indicates final actions taken between 2000 and 2010. However, there were many more cases reviewed during this time that required further review by the Disciplinary Department. The disposition of the disciplinary cases includes 84 Reprimands, 228 Probations, 231 Suspensions, 4 Revocations, 20 Surrenders, 141 Denials and 632 Dismissed After Investigation. The Board also holds contested case hearings. Between 2000 and 2010, 21 hearings were held.

A licensing system developed by IS&C permits tracking of licensing activities. Board staff can now track the number of applications reviewed by each department. During the last fiscal year the Discipline Department reviewed 574 applications. This review included 128 Exam Applications, 45 Endorsement Applications, 93 Reinstatement Applications and 303 renewal applications.

NURSING (RN) GRADUATES IN WEST VIRGINIA BY DEGREE

Between 2000 and 2010 a total of 9,901 students graduated. The total number of graduates include; Baccalaureate graduates 4,716 and Associate Degree graduates 5,185.

The class of 2009 had the largest number of graduates with 1,216. The lowest number of graduates occurred in 2001 with 598 graduates.

The Bachelor Degree graduate numbers increased between 1993 and 1994 by 217 in 1993 and 310 in 1994. This increase was stable through 1996 when there was a slight decrease every other year until 2002. Since 2002 there has been a steady increase of about 30 additional BSN graduates each year until 2006 when the number increased by 104 and in 2007 increased by 101 graduates. There was a slight decrease in the total number of graduates in 2008 and an increase again in 2009.

Between 1989 and 2009 a total of 17,439 students graduated from schools of nursing preparing for initial licensure. The graph on the opposite page reflects information for this twenty year period. The graph does not include registered professional nurses pursuing additional nursing degrees, such as a Bachelor degree after obtaining an Associate degree, or a Master's or Doctoral degree.

DIALYSIS TECHNICIANS

The law relating to regulating dialysis technicians was first passed in 2005. There are currently one hundred fifty three (153) Certified Dialysis Technicians in West Virginia. Temporary permits have been issued to ninety-one (91) persons. Dialysis Technician Training Programs are also under the authority of the Board. Twenty-four (24) programs have been approved by the Board. Receipts for the 2010 fiscal year total \$45,775.00. The FY10 expenditures total \$26,942.74. A section of the Board's web site is dedicated to Dialysis Technicians. The Board and staff are available to answer any questions related to the regulation of dialysis technicians in West Virginia.

DIALYSIS TECHNICIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chairperson:

Linda Williams, CRNA, JD
RN Board Member

Dialysis Technician Members:

Amy Cavalier, DT - Bruceton Mills, WV
Judith Haid, DT - Elkview, WV

RN Members:

Kathy Carper, RN - Charleston, WV
Cheryl Sizemore - Logan, WV

MD Member:

Dr. Mary L. Lewis - Charleston, WV

**DISCIPLINARY REPORT
JULY 1, 2008 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009**

DISMISSED	96
APPROVE EXAM APPLICANT	147
DENY EXAM APPLICANT	2
APPROVE ENDORSEMENT APPLICANT	58
DENY ENDORSEMENT APPLICANT	23
APPROVED REINSTATEMENT	108
DENY REINSTATEMENT	15
REVIEW MIDWIFE APPLICATION	0
REVIEW PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY APPLICATION	0
REPRIMAND	1
PROBATION	22
PROBATION COMPLETED	14
SUSPENSION	19
SUMMARY SUSPENSION	7
REVOCAATION	1
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER	3
TREATMENT	13
GRANT MODIFICATIONS	3
DENY MODIFICATIONS	4
HEARINGS	1
RENEWALS REVIEWED	318
TOTAL COMPLAINTS FILED	200
CASES PENDING	54
TOTAL CASE ACTIVITY	1,109

**DISCIPLINARY REPORT
JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010**

DISMISSED	36
APPROVE EXAM APPLICANT	128
DENY EXAM APPLICANT	2
APPROVE ENDORSEMENT APPLICANT	45
DENY ENDORSEMENT APPLICANT	2
APPROVED REINSTATEMENT	91
DENY REINSTATEMENT	2
REVIEW MIDWIFE APPLICATION	0
REVIEW PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY APPLICATION	0
REPRIMAND	1
PROBATION	32
PROBATION COMPLETED	16
SUSPENSION	32
SUMMARY SUSPENSION	0
REVOICATION	2
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER	1
TREATMENT	13
GRANT MODIFICATIONS	1
DENY MODIFICATIONS	5
HEARINGS	2
RENEWALS REVIEWED	303
TOTAL COMPLAINTS FILED	146
CASES PENDING	138
TOTAL CASE ACTIVITY	998

December 28, 2010

Natalie Tennent, Secretary of State
State of West Virginia
Building 1, Suite 157K
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0770

RE: Annual Report

Dear Secretary:

Enclosed with this letter please find a copy of the Annual Report for 2009 and 210 biennium for the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses.

Should you have any questions or require further information please contact me.

For the Board,

Laura S. Rhodes, RN, MSN
Executive Director

December 28, 2010

Gregory M. Gray, Clerk
West Virginia House of Delegates
Building 1, Room M212
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0470

Dear Mr. Gray:

Enclosed with this letter please find a copy of the Annual Report for 2009 and 2010 biennium for the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses.

Should you have any questions or require further information please contact me.

For the Board,

Laura S. Rhodes, RN, MSN
Executive Director

December 28, 2010

Darrell E. Holmes, Clerk
West Virginia Senate
Building 1, Room M211
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0800

Dear Mr. Holmes:

Enclosed with this letter please find a copy of the Annual Report for 2009 and 2010 biennium for the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses.

Should you have any questions or require further information please contact me.

For the Board,

Laura S. Rhodes, RN, MSN
Executive Director

December 28, 2010

The Cultural Center
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Dear Librarian:

Enclosed with this letter please find a copy of the Annual Report for 2009 and 2010 biennium for the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses.

Should you have any questions or require further information please contact me.

For the Board,

Laura S. Rhodes, RN, MSN
Executive Director

December 28, 2010

The Legislative Library
State Capitol, Room MB-27
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Dear Librarian:

Enclosed with this letter please find a copy of the Annual Report for 2009 and 2010 biennium for the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses.

Should you have any questions or require further information please contact me.

For the Board,

Laura S. Rhodes, RN, MSN
Executive Director

**REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN ADVANCED PRACTICE WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY
FY'08**

COUNTY IN WEST VIRGINIA	APN'S WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY: RESIDENCE BY COUNTY
BARBOUR	0
BERKELEY	13
BOONE	4
BRAXTON	3
BROOKE	0
CABELL	50
CALHOUN	1
CLAY	2
DODDRIDGE	0
FAYETTE	12
GILMER	0
GRANT	5
GREENBRIER	7
HAMPSHIRE	3
HANCOCK	3
HARDY	3
HARRISON	11
JACKSON	11
JEFFERSON	9
KANAWHA	62
LEWIS	4
LINCOLN	0
LOGAN	13
MARION	10
MARSHALL	1
MASON	7
MCDOWELL	4
MERCER	17
MINERAL	3
MINGO	8

COUNTY IN WEST VIRGINIA	APN'S WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY: RESIDENCE BY COUNTY
MONONGALIA	51
MONROE	1
MORGAN	2
NICHOLAS	7
OHIO	14
PENDLETON	1
PLEASANTS	5
POCAHONTAS	2
PRESTON	5
PUTNAM	20
RALEIGH	40
RANDOLPH	6
RITCHIE	2
ROANE	4
SUMMERS	4
TAYLOR	4
TUCKER	1
TYLER	1
UPSHUR	4
WAYNE	2
WEBSTER	3
WETZEL	1
WIRT	1
WOOD	22
WYOMING	5
RESIDENCE OUT OF STATE	69
TOTAL	543

**REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN ADVANCED PRACTICE WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY
FY'09**

COUNTY IN WEST VIRGINIA	APN'S WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY: RESIDENCE BY COUNTY
BARBOUR	0
BERKELEY	14
BOONE	4
BRAXTON	2
BROOKE	0
CABELL	50
CALHOUN	2
CLAY	2
DODDRIDGE	0
FAYETTE	13
GILMER	0
GRANT	5
GREENBRIER	7
HAMPSHIRE	2
HANCOCK	3
HARDY	4
HARRISON	13
JACKSON	12
JEFFERSON	9
KANAWHA	64
LEWIS	3
LINCOLN	0
LOGAN	12
MARION	13
MARSHALL	1
MASON	8
MCDOWELL	3
MERCER	17
MINERAL	3
MINGO	6

COUNTY IN WEST VIRGINIA	APN'S WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY: RESIDENCE BY COUNTY
MONONGALIA	52
MONROE	0
MORGAN	0
NICHOLAS	7
OHIO	11
PENDLETON	1
PLEASANTS	5
POCAHONTAS	2
PRESTON	7
PUTNAM	21
RALEIGH	40
RANDOLPH	7
RITCHIE	2
ROANE	5
SUMMERS	3
TAYLOR	5
TUCKER	1
TYLER	1
UPSHUR	6
WAYNE	1
WEBSTER	3
WETZEL	1
WIRT	1
WOOD	22
WYOMING	5
RESIDENCE OUT OF STATE	66
TOTAL	547

West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses

ENDORSEMENT REPORT July 1, 2010- June 30, 2011

State	Endorsement In	Endorsement Out
ALABAMA	15	14
ALASKA	1	0
ARIZONA	7	12
ARKANSAS	3	4
CALIFORNIA	30	51
COLORADO	11	18
CONNECTICUT	5	92
DELAWARE	2	4
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	4	23
FLORIDA	68	105
GEORGIA	33	50
HAWAII	0	1
IDAHO	0	1
ILLINOIS	28	115
INDIANA	50	65
IOWA	9	2
KANSAS	5	5
KENTUCKY	135	82
LOUISIANA	7	5
MAINE	4	3
MARYLAND	95	63
MASSACHUSETTS	9	76
MICHIGAN	21	78
MINNESOTA	16	9
MISSISSIPPI	3	0

State	Endorsement In	Endorsement Out
MISSOURI	15	7
MONTANA	1	43
NEBRASKA	7	1
NEVADA	0	7
NEW HAMPSHIRE	3	1
NEW JERSEY	24	91
NEW MEXICO	3	6
NEW YORK	108	59
NORTH CAROLINA	63	87
NORTH DAKOTA	2	1
OHIO	250	279
OKLAHOMA	5	3
OREGON	5	4
PENNSYLVANIA	240	124
RHODE ISLAND	0	37
SOUTH CAROLINA	17	40
SOUTH DAKOTA	3	0
TENNESSEE	16	27
TEXAS	20	90
UTAH	9	2
VERMONT	2	4
VIRGINIA	184	107
WASHINGTON	6	12
WEST VIRGINIA	0	0
WISCONSIN	6	86
WYOMING	0	1
FOREIGN	1	0

TOTAL

1550

1996

West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses

ENDORSEMENT REPORT July 1, 2009- June 30, 2010

State	Endorsement In	Endorsement Out
ALABAMA	7	6
ALASKA	0	0
ARIZONA	14	13
ARKANSAS	8	4
CALIFORNIA	32	45
COLORADO	17	9
CONNECTICUT	7	71
DELAWARE	6	4
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	2	30
FLORIDA	51	76
GEORGIA	41	25
HAWAII	2	7
IDAHO	2	2
ILLINOIS	60	31
INDIANA	81	55
IOWA	8	2
KANSAS	8	4
KENTUCKY	77	78
LOUISIANA	6	3
MAINE	2	6
MARYLAND	87	54
MASSACHUSETTS	12	43
MICHIGAN	25	54
MINNESOTA	14	24
MISSISSIPPI	3	5

State	Endorsement In	Endorsement Out
MISSOURI	26	6
MONTANA	1	43
NEBRASKA	1	1
NEVADA	2	10
NEW HAMPSHIRE	4	6
NEW JERSEY	14	55
NEW MEXICO	3	6
NEW YORK	156	53
NORTH CAROLINA	37	61
NORTH DAKOTA	2	1
OHIO	245	219
OKLAHOMA	5	7
OREGON	0	8
PENNSYLVANIA	223	113
PUERTO RICO	0	0
RHODE ISLAND	2	46
SOUTH CAROLINA	10	22
SOUTH DAKOTA	3	3
TENNESSEE	18	22
TEXAS	19	95
UTAH	3	0
VERMONT	3	5
VIRGINIA	127	93
WASHINGTON	5	11
WEST VIRGINIA	0	0
WISCONSIN	9	69
WYOMING	0	7
AMERICA SAMOA	1	0
FOREIGN	0	0

TOTAL

1,491

1,613

DIALYSIS TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAMS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Fresenius Medical Care of North America:

Beckley - Classroom site
Bruceeton Mills
Charleston - Classroom site
Charlestown (Kearneysville)
Clarksburg
Elkins
Fairmont - Classroom site
Hagerstown, MD
Hurricane
Martinsburg
Morgantown
Oak Hill
Princeton
Two Virginia's (Bluefield)
Welch (Wytheville VA Education Center)
Weston

Da Vita

Charleston
Lewisburg
Logan
Parkersburg

Collins Career Center

Greater Charleston Dialysis

New Martinsville Dialysis

Wheeling Renal Care