NCSBN Unveils New Nursys.com Web Site with Enhanced Nurse Licensure Verification Tools

LLR Streamlines Board Processes

The Story of The Staff at The Board of Nursing
The purpose of the Board of Nursing is to assure the safe and effective practice of nursing in South Carolina. The Board licenses qualified individuals as registered nurses or licensed practical nurses. Complaints are investigated and disciplinary action taken whenever necessary.

Mission of the Board: The mission of the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina is the protection of public health, safety, and welfare by assuring safe and competent practice of nursing.

The Palmetto Nurse is published quarterly by the South Carolina Board of Nursing. Each issue is distributed to every actively licensed LPN, RN, APRN, as well as to nurse employers and nurse educators. Nurses, students, and professionals from healthcare organizations turn to this publication for updates on clinical practices and information on government affairs initiatives to discover what best practices are being implemented, and for insight into how healthcare providers are facing today's challenges.
Nurses Week 2009 has recently been celebrated across the United States as well as other countries.

Every year employers, nurse leaders, pharmaceutical companies, associations related to nursing, family members and others recognize a nurse’s efforts to and say “Happy Nurse’s Day, and thanks for all you do.” Some nurses are fortunate enough to receive recognition all year long. Whatever the case may be, encouragement is appreciated.

While celebrations have been happening for years, have your shared the events that you experienced on “Nurse’s Day” with anyone? Do you tell your family at the end of the day and do you tell your professional colleagues? You should, as your story will vary but the importance will not. Nurses are extremely respected as professionals in the health field and adored by patients and family members.

Sometimes your celebrations are unexpected such as the case of the nurse who worked private duty for two elderly sisters. The older sister Mary, was 103, and her younger sister, Alice, was 101. Approximately two years later, unbeknownst to the nurse, when the last surviving sister passed away the nurse was left one hundredth of the estate, which was a rare gift.

Share the celebrations and stories and enjoy them.

Until Next Time.
When was the last time you went on the Board’s Web site? The Board recommends that all nurses visit the Web site (www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/) at least monthly for up-to-date information on nursing licensure. When a new advisory opinion is issued or a current advisory opinion revised, it is updated on the Web site within two weeks. The Competency Requirement, Competency Requirement Criteria, which includes continuing education contact hours, Licensure information, Advisory Opinions, Position Statements, and the Nurse Practice Act are just a few of the valuable tools and information you will find on the Web site.

The Advisory Opinions, Position Statements and the Nurse Practice Act are located under Laws/Policies. The Competency Requirement and Competency Requirement Criteria, which includes continuing education contact hours, are located under Licensure. The Board hopes you will find this information useful in your nursing practice.
In May 2008, House bill 3631 was passed implementing criminal background checks for applicants and current licensees. This bill is another step toward meeting the Board of Nursing’s goal and mission, which is to provide health and safety to the citizens of South Carolina and to protect the public.

The Criminal Background Check process was implemented on March 2, 2009, by the Office of Licensure and Compliance. Anyone that submits an application after that date must have digital fingerprints taken at a nearby pre-approved facility. Information on obtaining your fingerprints is included in the licensure applications. There are approximately eight sites available in South Carolina. The background check requirement applies to all initial licensure and reinstatement of licensed practical nurses, registered nurse and advanced practice registered nurses.

The existing population of licensed nurses, approximately 60,000, will undergo a criminal background check beginning immediately via random audit. Do not call the Board of Nursing or the Office of Licensure and Compliance to ask when or if you will be audited. You will receive the information you need to provide the background check if you are selected.

Section 40-33-38 (C) of the South Carolina Nurse Practice Act requires that all licensees notify the board in writing within 15 days of an address change. So that you do not miss important time-sensitive information, such as your renewal notice and audit notice or other licensure information, please notify the board immediately whenever you change addresses. Failure to notify the board of an address change may result in a public reprimand and a $500 civil penalty. You may change your address on-line utilizing the address change form under Online Services found on the board’s Web site: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/.
Joan Bainer, MN, RN, NE BC, Administrator

Do you know the Board of Nursing staff members? Here is our story:

**Joan Bainer, MN, RN, NE BC** is the Board Administrator. Bainer has been with the Board of Nursing for approximately nine years and has practiced in many areas of nursing over the years with an emphasis in psychiatric/mental health. She first worked with the Board as a Nurse Consultant for Practice in the 1990s and returned to the Board in 2006 to serve as administrator. Bainer coordinates and collaborates with staff, Board members, the Advisory Committee on Nursing, Practice and Standards Committee, Advanced Practice Committee, investigative and disciplinary committees and internal and external customers. She provides Legal Aspects of Nursing presentations in the office for disciplined nurses, nurses seeking reinstatement and those wanting to brush up on their knowledge. Bainer also provides these presentations for various nursing employers across the state. She continuously updates the presentation and is currently revising the program to meet the needs of her audiences. Bainer is currently participating as a Fellow in the on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Institute on Regulatory Excellence. Her project is to develop and evaluate strategies to increase communication in the nursing community related to regulation and to establish a leadership role (or mechanisms) to disseminate knowledge of regulation through a variety of learning resources such as CDs, webstreaming, power point and teleconferencing. Bainer has served and continues to serve on NCSBN committees, including the Chemical Dependency Committee. She is also the editor for the Palmetto Nurse.

**Nancy Murphy, RN, BC, MS, CPM, Nurse Consultant for Education,** has been at the Board of Nursing for more than nine years. Murphy is responsible for the initial approval and ongoing Board approval processes for 46 nursing education programs in South Carolina to include associate and baccalaureate nursing degree programs and practical nursing programs. She works closely with the Board to obtain the necessary documentation for approval of nursing education programs. Murphy’s nursing experience includes a variety of clinical, education and management positions. She is well known for her problem solving abilities, anticipating needs and is skilled in multitasking, especially in areas related to project management. Murphy will always step forward to initiate research and apply the results to the task at hand. She has served on NCSBN committees over the past three years. We salute Major Nancy Murphy for her service in the United States Army Nurse Corp. Murphy is a Certified Public Manager. We also congratulate Murphy for being selected as the 2009 recipient of the NCSBN Exceptional Contribution Award. This award is presented for significant contributions by a board of nursing staff member. Murphy will receive her award at a ceremony during the NCSBN Delegate Assembly in Philadelphia, PA in August 2009.

**Phyllis Raynor, RN, MSN, Nurse Consultant for Practice,** is the newest addition to the Board of Nursing staff. While Raynor has been with the Board since December 2008, she is not new to the nursing profession. She has years of nursing faculty experience, clinical nursing practice in a variety of settings as well as management and customer service. Raynor is responsible for researching and answering practice-related questions for advanced practice registered nurses (APRN), registered nurses (RN) and licensed practical nurses (LPN). She also provides information prior to application submission to nurses seeking initial nurse licensure in our state. She provides Legal Aspects of Nursing presentations in the office for disciplined nurses, nurses seeking reinstatement and those wanting to brush up on their knowledge. Raynor conducts random RN and LPN licensure competency audits as well as APRN audits throughout the year. She coordinates work through the Practice and Standards Committee and Advanced Practice Committee meetings and presents committee recommendations to the Board for official review and action. Raynor attended an NSCBN APRN roundtable meeting in the spring and has also attended various meetings in our area related to the practice of nursing.

**Dottie Buchanan, Assistant to the Administrator,** began her 30-year state career in 1979. She has been at the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) since its creation in 1994 and with the Board of Nursing for the past 10 years. For those of you who have had the pleasure of speaking with Dottie, you will quickly discover that she is an advocate for nursing. She takes a personal and professional interest in providing excellent customer service to everyone that makes contact with her. Buchanan works with the Board, Advisory Committee on Nursing, Practice and Standards Committee, and the Advanced Practice Committee in addition to her other duties. Buchanan is certified as an Associate Public Manager. She participates at the agency level on committees and with new technologies. Buchanan is the unofficial Board of Nursing historian and has archived and protected important documents over her years with the Board. At the kickoff for the South Carolina Nurses Association (SCNA) conference on September 11, 2010, Buchanan will be sharing some of this information in celebration of 100 years of nursing regulation. She is also the assistant to the editor for the Palmetto Nurse.
RETURNED CHECKS
When submitting any fees to the Board of Nursing, please be certain there are sufficient funds in your account to cover your check and that the check has cleared before closing any account. Section 40-1-50(G) of the South Carolina Code of Laws states that a license shall be suspended if a fee payment is made by a check that is subsequently returned by the financial institution unpaid and is not made good within 10 days of official notification. This suspension is exempt from the Administrative Procedures Act. Unpaid checks constitute a non-payment of license fees. Section 40-33-38 (C) of the South Carolina Code of Laws (Nurse Practice Act) requires that all licensees notify the board in writing within 15 days of any address change. When a check is returned, replacement funds plus the returned check fee allowed by law will be charged.
Nancy Murphy- Nurse Consultant for Education on receiving the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Exceptional Contribution Award.
LLR has made several internal organizational changes over the past few months in an effort to streamline processes, achieve consistency among the professional and occupational boards, and to provide a higher quality of customer service to our licensees and the public.

“The restructuring of state agencies in 1994 brought the professional and occupational boards under one roof, but the boards were essentially operating separately,” Director Adrienne Youmans said. “Restructuring gave us the unique opportunity to continue streamlining processes that the boards have in common, thus saving money and becoming more efficient. In turn, we are able to provide our licensees and the public with a higher level of customer service.”

The professional and occupational boards have been divided, internally, into two sections: the Office of Building and Business Services and the Office of Health and Medical, which houses the Board of Nursing and other medically and health-related boards.

There are two other offices that handle specific responsibilities for the boards – The Office of Licensure and Compliance and the Office of Investigations and Enforcement.

The Office of Licensure and Compliance was established within the last year to consolidate processes dealing with initial licensure applicants, annual and biennial renewal applicants and licensees requiring compliance with board orders. This office is responsible for licensing and regulating the activities of more than 130 professions and occupations with a license base of more than 250,000 individuals and businesses.

The Office of Investigations and Enforcement is responsible for investigating complaints involving a possible violation of a professional or occupational practice act. The Office also investigates Labor complaints for wage disputes and child labor.

In addition, a customer care center is being established to handle a majority of the calls coming into LLR.

“When the center is fully staffed, there will be 12 highly trained Customer Care Center representatives helping people who call this agency,” Communications Assistant Director Lesia Kudelka said. “The goal of the center is to provide our customers with timely and accurate information and quality service.”

LLR is also promoting its online services. Licensees can renew and check the status of their licenses online and potential licensees can apply for initial licensure online.

### Below is a list of contacts for nursing professionals and potential licensees:

#### Board of Nursing
- Joan Bainer, Administrator  (803) 896-4537
- Dottie Buchanan, Assistant to the Administrator  (803) 896-4533
- Nancy Murphy, Nurse Consultant – Education  (803) 896-4529
- Phyllis Raynor, Nurse Consultant – Practice  (803) 896-4522
- Email: Nurseboard@llr.sc.gov

#### Office of Licensure and Compliance
- Fax Number 803-896-4525
- Initial Licensure (Health Programs)
- Roselind Bailey-Glover  (803) 896-4620
- Laura McDaniels  (803) 896-4691
- Renewal Licensure (Health Programs)
- Annette Disher  (803) 896-4504
- Byron Ray  (803) 896-4624

#### Other Licensure Services
- Dwight Hayes  (803)896-7832
- Jessica DeBenedetto  (803)896-4576

#### Compliance
- Sherry Wilson  (803) 896-4659

#### Office of Investigations and Enforcement
- Chief Investigators (Health and Medical Programs Investigations)
- Kathy Meadows  (803) 896-7824
- Pleas Fagle  (803) 896-4689
- David Love  (803) 896-4840 (All Labor Complaints)
Disciplinary actions taken by the South Carolina Board of Nursing are reported to the NURSYS national nursing database, which is maintained by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, and is the verification system utilized by the Board. Actions are also reported to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB) databank, which is maintained by the federal government. Public disciplinary actions are also available for viewing on the Board of Nursing Web site under Disciplinary Actions. Below is a list of the final orders posted on the Web site during February 2009 through April 2009.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adams, Joyce Faye LPN</td>
<td>Floyd, Nicole S., RN</td>
<td>Moore, Kimberly M., RN</td>
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<td>Ammons, Patti Ann, LPN</td>
<td>Foley, Karolyne M., RN</td>
<td>Nance, Melissa K., RN</td>
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<td>Andrews, Beverly Joyce LPN</td>
<td>Foster, Elysa C., RN</td>
<td>Pinckney, Myra D., RN</td>
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<td>Bane, Rena Darlene, RN</td>
<td>Gallagher, Steven J., RN</td>
<td>Price, Kathryn Joan, RN</td>
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<td>Barber, Holly A., RN</td>
<td>Gause, Pamela S., LPN</td>
<td>Purvis, Jr., Reese J., RN</td>
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<td>Barss, Edna K. RN</td>
<td>Gillespie, Loma Amanda, RN</td>
<td>Ray, Kerri A, LPN</td>
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<td>Bobbitt, Kimberly M. (Miller), RN</td>
<td>Gilliam, Jennifer M., RN</td>
<td>Roberts, Laura Anita, RN</td>
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<td>Brandt, Barbie Kinard, RN</td>
<td>Gould, Lori Jean, RN</td>
<td>Russ, Judith, RN</td>
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<td>Brandt, Michael J., RN</td>
<td>Griffin, Kerry C., RN</td>
<td>Simpson, Algileen Lloyd, LPN</td>
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<td>Bryson, Sue E., LPN</td>
<td>Hackley, Rebecca Kimberly, LPN</td>
<td>Slavin, Rhonda C., RN</td>
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<td>Burney, Patricia S., LPN</td>
<td>Hager, Donna Jean, LPN</td>
<td>Stacy, Kimberly Michelle, RN</td>
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<td>Calderson, Guillermo Aranda, LPN</td>
<td>Hall, Sandra A., RN</td>
<td>Tant, April J, LPN</td>
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<td>Callihan, Felicia D., RN</td>
<td>Hinman, Karen Nicole RN</td>
<td>Terrell, Ashley Cathleen, LPN</td>
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<td>Campbell, Julie Amanda, RN</td>
<td>Hull, Ginny RN</td>
<td>Tisdale, Edna L., RN</td>
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<td>Choberka, Paul Michael, LPN</td>
<td>Inman, Teresa Diane, RN</td>
<td>Todd, Jinjer Jarvis, RN</td>
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<td>Clark, Lori Anne, RN</td>
<td>Jones, Christy Nichole, RN</td>
<td>Tomlinson, Carolyn Y., LPN</td>
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<td>Craig, Sr, Paul D., RN</td>
<td>Jones, Mary J., LPN</td>
<td>Unabia, Vanessa Mary, RN</td>
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<td>Craver, Nancy L., RN</td>
<td>Lagroon, Sheila Benita, RN</td>
<td>Vuicich, Stanley David, RN</td>
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<td>Davis, Darlene Gwenette, LPN</td>
<td>Lam, Amanda Nicole RN</td>
<td>Walters, Geneva E, LPN</td>
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<td>Davis, Harriette L., RN</td>
<td>Lewis, Sandra F., APRN</td>
<td>Ward, Tammy Lynn, RN</td>
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<td>Degree, Angela Marie, RN</td>
<td>Littlejohn, Jane Kathryn, RN</td>
<td>West, Stacy Lynn, RN</td>
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<td>DeJaynes, Diane Gale, RN</td>
<td>Livingston, Marcia, RN</td>
<td>Wick, Gayle Elizabeth, LPN</td>
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<td>Denemark, Sharon Renee, RN</td>
<td>Macon, Vernice W., LPN</td>
<td>Williams, Tamara Laskey, RN</td>
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<td>Dowswell, Patricia D., LPN</td>
<td>Masters, Benjamin Blake, RN</td>
<td>Wilson, Chanda Delia, LPN</td>
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<td>Edwards, Janice D., RN</td>
<td>Mayo, Jan C, RN</td>
<td>Wilson, Robin L., LPN</td>
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<td>Eshleman, Lori Leigh, RN</td>
<td>McCauley, Cristy M. RN</td>
<td>Wilson, Dindy L., RN</td>
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<td>Faulkenberry, Cynthia Anne, RN</td>
<td>McGarity, Teresa A., RN</td>
<td>Wolfe, Tacoma Nicola, LPN</td>
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<td>Flannigan, Nancy, LPN</td>
<td>Miller, Cheryl E., RN</td>
<td>Wright, Janice Ivie, RN</td>
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<td>Floyd, Kelley Marie, RN</td>
<td>Miller, Kami Rae, RN</td>
<td>Young, Bonnie Jeanne, RN</td>
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At its May 2009 meeting, the South Carolina Board of Nursing voted to revise the Position Statement on Pharmacotherapeutics Education Required for Prescriptive Authority Application. The current revision is regarding online continuing education hours accepted for prescriptive authority. Now, there is no limit to the number of contact hours that can be obtained online from an approved provider. We will accept all contact hours obtained online provided that the continuing education providers are approved by the Board and the contact hours meet additional requirements as outlined in our Position Statement.

Position Statement on Pharmacotherapeutics Education Required for Prescriptive Authority Application

Approved by the S.C. Board of Nursing: July 2004
Revised by the S.C. Board of Nursing: May 2009
Section 40-33-34(E) and (F) outline the requirements for applying for initial prescriptive authority and renewal, including education in pharmacotherapeutics. Among other requirements, the statutes specify that in order to be granted prescriptive authority, a NP, CNM or CNS must provide evidence of completion of 45 contact hours of education in pharmacotherapeutics acceptable to the Board within two years preceding the application or provide evidence of prescriptive authority in another state meeting 20 hours in pharmacotherapeutics acceptable to the Board within two years before the date of application.

Additionally, in order to be granted controlled substance prescriptive authority, at least 15 of those hours must be education in controlled substances acceptable to the Board if the NP, CNM or CNS initially is applying in this state to prescribe in Schedules III through V controlled substances. Thereafter, for renewal of prescriptive authority, 20 contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics within the preceding two years are required. For a NP, CNM or CNS with controlled substance prescriptive authority, two of the 20 hours must be related to prescribing controlled substances.

Continued on next page
Initial Application Requirements

1. For first time applicants for prescriptive authority, 45 contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics education must have been completed in the two years prior to the date of the application. Additionally, if the NP, CNM or CNS initially is applying to prescribe controlled substances, 15 of the 45 contact hours must be education in controlled substances acceptable to the Board. This also applies to NPs, CNMs or CNSs previously holding prescriptive authority in another state but whose privileges in that state have expired by more than six months.

NPs, CNMs or CNSs who have graduated within the preceding two years and who have completed the required 45 contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics within the last two years of the curriculum meet the educational requirements for prescriptive authority. If the NP, CNM or CNS initially is applying to prescribe Schedules III through V controlled substances, 15 hours of the 45 must be education in controlled substances acceptable to the Board.

2. NPs, CNMs or CNSs with documented current prescriptive authority in another state must submit documentation of at least 20 hours within the 2 years preceding the date of their application. 15 hours of education in controlled substances acceptable to the Board must be part of the 20 hours if the NP, CNM or CNS currently has equivalent controlled substance prescribing authority in another state.

Renewal Application Requirements

1. For renewal of prescriptive authority, 20 contact hours of continuing education in pharmacotherapeutics related to the NP’s, CNM’s or CNS’s certification specialty must be obtained every two years and documented upon Board request. For an NP, CNM or CNS with controlled substance prescriptive authority, two of the 20 hours must be related to prescribing controlled substances.
2. The Board randomly audits renewal applications and, if requested, documentation of education in pharmacotherapeutics must be provided within the time specified in the request. Failure to timely comply will result in suspension of prescriptive authority and possible disciplinary action.

**Educational Requirements**

1. Contact hours may be obtained through courses taught in an approved program of study or through approved continuing education offerings, which may include personal attendance at real time course sessions (including remote locations), self-study courses, video based and computer based courses. Examples of learning may include web-based on-line education, distance education and learner-centered programs.

2. For initial applications, a maximum of 15 percent, or 6.75 hours, may be obtained through approved alternative, natural, herbal or complementary pharmacotherapeutics education. For renewal applications, a maximum of 15 percent or 3 hours, may be obtained through approved alternative, natural, herbal or complementary pharmacotherapeutics education.

3. Renewal applicants selected for audit must provide the following evidence of pharmacotherapeutics education, as applicable:

   a. Documentation of attendance either by official transcript or copies of certificates of continuing education attendance. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the educational institution to the Board of Nursing. Graduates of in-state graduate nursing programs may hand-carry official transcripts to the Board offices and will be accepted if transcripts are personally delivered to Board staff members in officially sealed envelopes.

   b. Documentation of continuing education approval by an authorized or accredited provider (i.e., national certifying organization, college or university, state regulatory body, national or state professional organization). It is the responsibility of the NP, CNM or CNS to assure that the documentation includes the number of hours received in any particular session or course.

   c. A description of course content which is applicable to the APRNs specialty area(s) of practice.
NCSBN Unveils New Nursys.com Web Site with Enhanced Nurse Licensure Verification Tools

Chicago - The National Council of State Boards of Nursing’s (NCSBN) Nursys.com license verification Web site recently unveiled a new and improved verification process, which makes nurse license verification quicker, easier and free of charge to employers and the general public.

The Licensure QuickConfirm application allows employers and the general public to verify licenses from a public access Nursys licensure participating board of nursing.* Within minutes, a detailed report is generated, containing the nurse’s name, jurisdiction, license type, license number, license status, expiration dates, as made available by the board of nursing for all licenses held and any discipline against the license.

In addition, Nursys.com enables nurses to verify their licenses from a Nursys licensure participating board of nursing** when applying for endorsement into another state by using the online Nurse Licensure Verification application. Nurses can verify their licenses by completing the Nursys verification process for $30 per license type, per each state board of nursing where the nurse is applying. The nurse’s license verification is available immediately to the endorsing board of nursing.

“We feel that online nurse licensure verification is extremely important, especially in the evolving and often mobile world of health care,” said Kathy Apple, MS, RN, CAE, NCSBN CEO. “Nursys.com contains data obtained directly from the licensure systems of the boards of nursing. This allows nurses and employers to verify licenses in a secure manner while boards of nursing continue to protect the public.”

For those states participating in the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC), which is a mutual recognition model of nurse licensure that allows a nurse to have one license (in his or

Continued on next page
her state of residency) to practice in multiple states, Nursys.com can be used to verify a nurse’s NLC status (multistate/single state) and any discipline against privilege to practice from an NLC state. A nurse must legally reside in an NLC state to be eligible for a multistate license in the NLC. An active, unencumbered, multistate license allows the nurse to practice in all 23 NLC*** jurisdictions. Questions about NLC eligibility and legal residency can be directed to the state’s board of nursing. Currently, Nursys.com is the only verification tool available that provides the status of a multistate license’s privilege to practice in NLC jurisdictions.

Mission: The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), composed of member boards, provides leadership to advance regulatory excellence for public protection.

*QuickConfirm Public Access Licensure Participating Boards of Nursing as of May 1, 2009:


**NLC Participating States as of May 1, 2009: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin.

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) is a not-for-profit organization whose members include the boards of nursing in the United States, the District of Columbia and four U.S. territories- American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands. The College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia is an associate member.
Chicago - The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) will recognize its dedicated and exceptional membership and guests at its annual awards ceremony during the NCSBN Delegate Assembly, to be held in Philadelphia, Aug. 12 -14, 2009.

Specific award recipients include:

Nancy Murphy, MS, RN, BC, CPM, education consultant, South Carolina State Board of Nursing, will receive the Exceptional Contribution Award, which is awarded for significant contribution by a board of nursing staff member.

Faith Fields, MSN, RN, executive director, Arkansas State Board of Nursing, will be honored with the prestigious R. Louise McManus Award. Individuals receiving this award have made sustained and lasting significant contributions through their deep commitment and dedication to the purposes and mission of NCSBN.

Sheila Exstrom, PhD, RN, nursing education consultant, Nebraska Board of Nursing, will receive the Meritorious Service Award, which is granted to a board or staff member of a member board for positive impact and significant contributions to the purposes of NCSBN.

The Ohio Board of Nursing will be awarded the Regulatory Achievement Award that recognizes the member board that has made an identifiable, significant contribution to the purpose of NCSBN in promoting public policy related to the safe and effective practice of nursing in the interest of public welfare.