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Omission of Fingerprint Submission will Delay Multistate Licensure

Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses can apply for a Multistate License during the renewal process. If you desire to change your license status from a single state to a multistate, you must meet all requirements for a multistate license including submitting fingerprints for a federal criminal background check. This step is often missed by nurses and will delay the processing of your application. To review the requirements for a multistate application you can access the instructions at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/MSLexisting.pdf>

You must submit fingerprints for a federal criminal background check no more than (90) days prior to application. The fingerprints can be obtained at an IdentoGo center sponsored by Idemia. To schedule your fingerprint appointment, visit: <https://ok.ibtfingerprint.com/> and enter the following service code [REDACTED]. If you do not have computer access, you can schedule an appointment by calling (877) 219-0197. Please note, your fingerprints must be obtained only at an IdentoGO center sponsored by Idemia. Results are provided directly to the Board office and must be received prior to the expiration date of your nursing license. If you are out of state and there is not an IdentoGO site near you, contact the Board for a fingerprint packet which will be mailed to you.

In review, to complete application for a multistate license:

- You must meet the requirements for application
- You must submit fingerprints for federal criminal background check.
 - Fingerprint images must be submitted no more than 90 days prior to this renewal application.
 - The fingerprint-based background check must be completed prior to the expiration date of your nursing license.

In order to complete the application process, you should allow at least 2 weeks for the criminal background check results to reach the Board office.

Oklahoma Board of Nursing Warns APRNs of Spoofing Phone Scam

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing (Board) is cautioning Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) of an imposter telephone scam where callers are spoofing the Board's main telephone number (405) 962-1800 to trick APRNs into sending them money in the form of gift cards. The Board has received several reports of situations in which scammers have used technology to modify what telephone number appears on caller ID to impersonate the Board of Nursing telephone number. Scammers have indicated that disciplinary action will occur immediately on the license of the APRN should the APRN not comply with the request of signing bond documents and providing money in the form of gift cards. Thus far, reports to the Board indicate APRNs are the target of the scam.

The Board of Nursing WILL NOT:

1. Demand payment of any kind by telephone in order to initiate an investigation and/or to prevent an investigation from occurring; and/or
2. Request that payment to the Board of Nursing be made in the form of gift cards.

If you receive a telephone call from someone claiming to be from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and requesting money, please take the following steps:

1. Contact the Board of Nursing at (405) 962-1800 regarding the incident.
2. You may contact the Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General, Consumer Protection Unit by telephone at (405) 521-2029 or by email at consumerprotection@oag.ok.gov and provide a description of the incident.

Please contact the Board of Nursing prior to responding to telephone calls demanding money for matters related to your nursing license.

2021 Nurse Corps Scholarship Program

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has opened the 2021 [Nurse Corps Scholarship Program](#) (SP) application cycle.

Nurse Corps SP provides financial support to students enrolled in nursing degree programs in exchange for a commitment to serve in high-need areas across the country. Scholarship support includes payment of tuition, required fees, other reasonable educational costs, as well as a monthly living stipend. After graduation, scholarship recipients fulfill their service commitment at an approved health care facility with a critical shortage of nurses.

HRSA has received a historic increase in funding this year under the American Rescue Plan. With this additional funding, Nurse Corps anticipates making significantly more awards overall, including in the following areas:

- Up to 20 percent of total awards to nurse practitioners (NP) specializing in psychiatric mental health
- Up to \$5 million to women's health NPs and certified nurse midwife advanced practice nurses and registered nurses (RNs) who wish to pursue a career in women's health
- Up to \$2 million for career pathway/entry-level health professionals such as certified nursing assistants, home health aides, medical assistants, and licensed practical (vocational) nurses seeking degrees to become RNs

Visit the [Nurse Corps Scholarship Program](#) and [Nurse Corps Facebook](#) pages to learn more.

Before applying, review the [Application and Program Guidance \(APG\)](#) for information on eligibility and requirements.

The application cycle closes on May 6.

Requirements for APRNs Adding a New Specialty and National Certification

An Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) who wishes to add a new area of specialty and national certification must meet initial requirements for advanced practice licensure, as identified in the *Oklahoma Board of Nursing Rules*: 485: 10-15-4(a). If you are currently a licensed Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and you want to add a new area of specialty, you will access or create an individual account through the Nurse Portal <https://okbn.boardsofnursing.org/okbn>.

All licensure requests are submitted through the Nurse Portal. For additional information, you may review the application instructions located on the Oklahoma Board of Nursing website <http://nursing.ok.gov/practice.pdf> and the list of *APRN Certification Examinations Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing* <http://nursing.ok.gov/prac-natlcert.pdf> to ensure your certification is listed.

An APRN in accordance with the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act, may prescribe medications that are within their scope of practice. The APRN must hold prescriptive authority recognition for each added advanced practice certification in order to prescribe medications and other medical supplies.

Do You Want a License Expiration Reminder?

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing provides the Nursys e-Notify system resources to both licensed nurses and employers of licensed nurses. Nursys e-Notify is an innovative national nurse licensure notification system that provides real-time notifications, alerting the subscribed party when changes such as license status, license expiration, pending license renewals and public disciplinary action are made to a nurse's license record. Nursys e-Notify is a FREE, convenient way for nurses to receive license expiration reminders and status updates of their nursing license, and to track license verifications for endorsement. Licensed nurses and employers of licensed nurses may subscribe to the service FREE of charge at: <https://www.nursys.com/EN/ENDefault.aspx>

Name and Address Changes

Convenient Way to Provide Name and Address Changes

Name changes and address changes can now be provided through your Nurse Portal Account.

To make the name change, you will create an individual account through the Nurse Portal <https://okbn.boardsofnursing.org/okbn>. Name Changes are submitted through the *Other Application* link in your Nurse Portal account. In addition to providing your change of name, please upload a certified copy of the legal document changing your name to the newly requested name. If needed, additional instructions for creating your account can be viewed at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/nurseportalinfo.pdf>

To change your address, access your Nurse Portal Account, click on "Manage Profile". Next, click on "Demographics", scroll to "Contact Information". To complete the process, click on "+ Change Address", noted on the right-hand side of the page, and enter your new address.

Recent Policy Revisions

The following policies have been revised/approved and are available for review by hyperlink provided.

Approved during the January 2021 Board Meeting:

Limited Obstetric Ultrasound and Limited Ultrasound in a Reproductive Medicine Setting Examinations Performed by Registered Nurse Guidelines, #P-13 <http://nursing.ok.gov/rultra.pdf>

Preceptor Policy for Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses, #E-02 <http://nursing.ok.gov/ed-precpt.pdf>

Policy of Names, #OBN-03 <http://nursing.ok.gov/namepol.pdf>

Licensure Verification of Nursing Licenses, #OBN-02 <http://nursing.ok.gov/photocopy.pdf>

All guidelines are available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/prac1.html>

"This publication is issued by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing as authorized by the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act [59 O.S. § 567.1, et seq.] and is located at the following website: <http://nursing.ok.gov/pubs.html> This publication has been submitted in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes."

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