

Executive Director
Jenny Barnhouse, DNP, RN

Governor
J. Kevin Stitt

Mission statement of the Oklahoma Board of Nursing:
Public Protection Through Nursing Regulation

May 2025

Welcome to the Oklahoma Board of Nursing (OBN) Newsletter! The newsletter is the best way to keep up with current trends/issues/changes in the regulation of nursing and Advanced Unlicensed Assistant (AUA) practice, licensure/recognition/certification, and pre-licensure nursing education programs in the state of Oklahoma.

In 2024, the OBN modernized its website, featuring multiple areas of expansion, including the practice/Advanced Practice webpage. The newly redesigned newsletter further supports the modernization efforts in the agency's communication with licensees. In addition to the website and newsletter, the OBN has utilized artificial intelligence to update the telephone directory for more streamlined call handling. It is always encouraged that you reach out to OBN staff via the Message Center located in your Nurse Portal Account as the most efficient method of communication regarding licensure applications.

For more information about the overall functions of the Board of Nursing, please visit the [About](#) section on the OBN website.

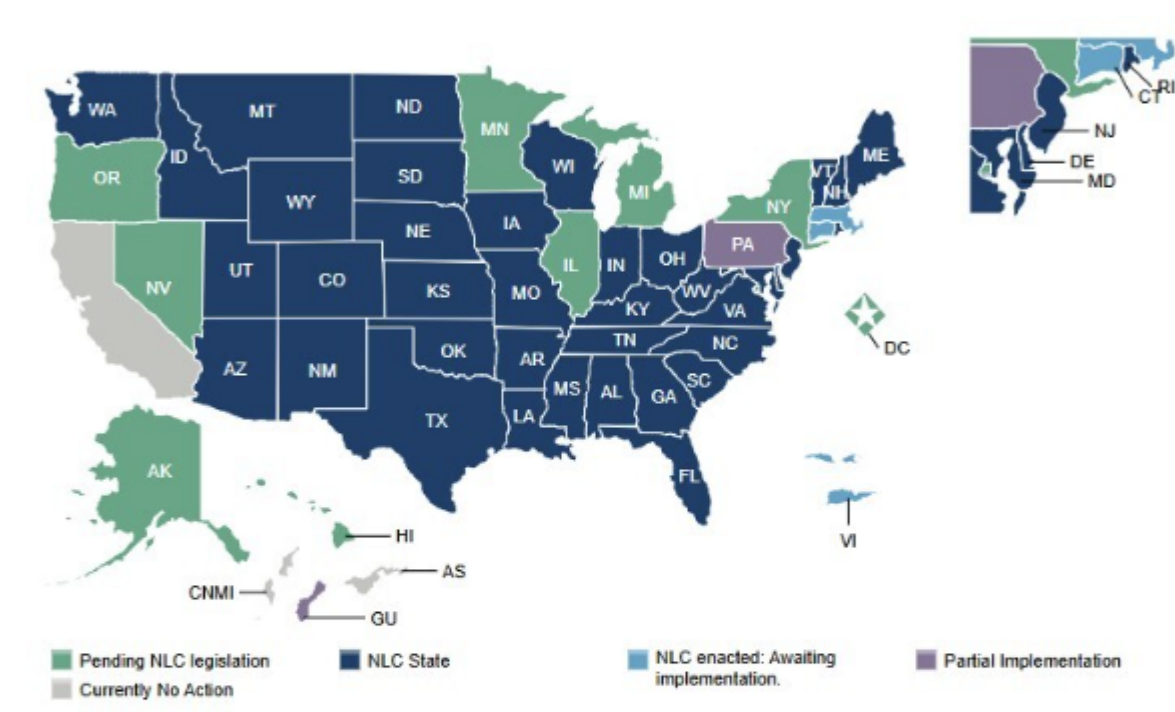
Current Board Members and Terms

Meet the Oklahoma Board of Nursing! The Board is composed of eleven members appointed by the Governor: six Registered Nurses (RN), three Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), and two public members. One of the RN members serves as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse. Members are generally appointed for a period of five years, except for public members, who serve coterminously with the Governor.

Board Members annually elect the Board Officers (President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer) from its membership to serve one-year terms. Kyle Leemaster, the immediate past-President of the Board will be recognized at the May 2025 Board meeting for his service and leadership as he completes his five-year term.

President Nikole Hicks, PhD, RN, CNE Term: 2021-2026	
Vice-President Shawn Stachovic, LPN Term: 2022-2026	Secretary/Treasurer Callie Rinehart, MSN, RN, CPN Term: 2022-2027
Paul Curtis Baker, PhD, RN Term: 2024-2028	Cynthia Leathers, MBA-HCM, BSN, RN Term: 2024-2029
Kyle Leemaster, MBA, RN Term: 2020-2025	Rachel Plunkett, AS, LPN Term: 2024-2028
Carol Kennedy, MSN, APRN-CNP, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC Term: 2025-2026	
Alisen Anderson, MAG Public Member Term: 2024-2027	Melissa Bird, MBA Public Member Term: 2025-2027

NLC 60-Day Rule for Multistate Licensees: Relocation and Primary State of Residence



The Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators (ICNLCA) adopted a Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) rule pertaining to the requirement of nurses when relocating and therefore, changing primary state of residence (PSOR).

Rule 402(2): A multistate licensee who changes primary state of residence to another party state shall apply for a multistate license in the new party state within 60 days (effective January 2, 2024).

To access the full NLC rule text, click the button below.

[Access NLC Rules](#)

Criminal History Webpage

In response to the passage of SB1691, the webpage *Applicants with Criminal History* was developed on the Board of Nursing’s website. This webpage provides information to an individual with criminal history who may be considering initial nursing licensure in Oklahoma or disqualifying crimes for current licensees. Recent further expansion of this webpage has provided a space for Occupational Licensing and Criminal History periodic reporting.

[View Criminal History Webpage](#)

Upcoming Changes to the Notification of License Expiration Dates

Effective January 1, 2026, the OK Board of Nursing will transition to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Nursys e-Notify system as the license renewal reminder notification for LPNs, RNs, and APRNs. Nursys e-notify is a FREE, convenient way for nurses to receive license expiration reminders and status updates on the license.

It is encouraged that you set up a free account by December 31, 2025, if you want to receive reminders to renew your license before the expiration date. Practicing nursing without an active license is a violation of the Nursing Practice Act and Rules. As a reminder, OK license renewals and Prescriptive Authority for APRNs occur every two years. Nurses can renew their license in the Nurse Portal up to 90 days before the expiration date of the license. LPN licenses expire the last day of the month in the birth month of odd years; RN and APRN licenses, and Prescriptive Authority recognition, expires the last day of the month in the birth month of even years.

Click the button below to sign up and enable automated license notifications and status updates for LPNs, RNs, and APRNs from participating Boards of Nursing.

[Nursys e-Notify Sign Up](#)

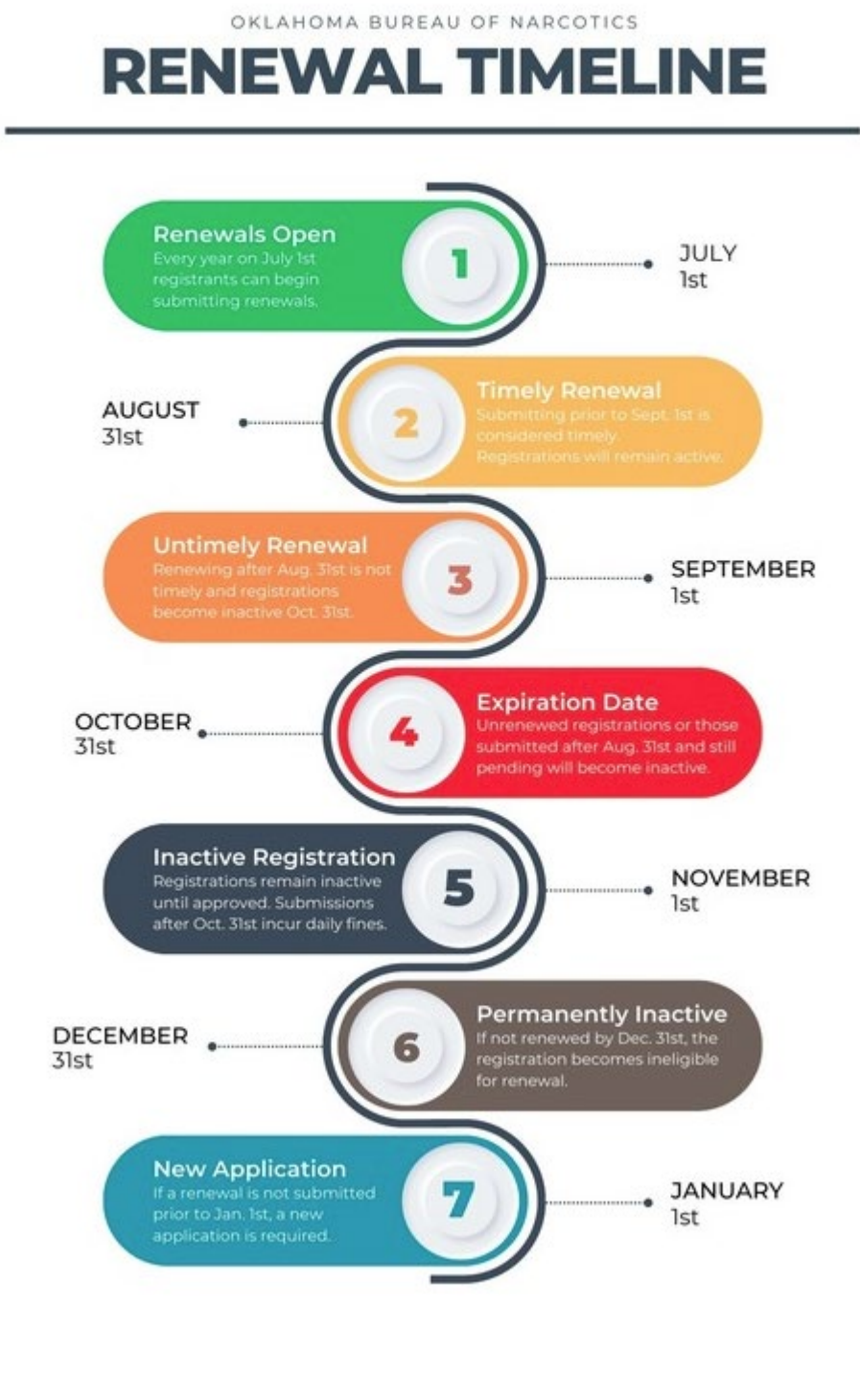
Updates to the Nurse Portal and License Renewal

The Nurse Portal is now compatible with mobile devices. All license, recognition and AUA certification renewals are completed through the Nurse Portal. Registered Nurse licenses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse licenses, and prescriptive authority recognitions expire the last day of the licensee's birth month in even-numbered years following the date of issuance. Practical Nurse licenses and AUA certifications expire the last day of the licensee's/certificate-holder's birth month in odd-numbered years following the date of issuance. The application fee includes the processing of your application and licensure through the current renewal period. Fees are not pro-rated and are non-refundable.

NOTICE: There is not a renewal grace period and expirations will occur on the last day of the birth month as described above. Questions? Please message licensing staff via the Message Center located in your Nurse Portal account.

License Renewal Guidelines	Nurse Portal Set Up Instructions	Nurse Portal: Log In or Create Account
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OK Bureau of Narcotics Renewal Timeline



Changing Supervising Physician(s) for Prescriptive Authority

Under the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act it is the responsibility of the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN-CNP, APRN-CNS, APRN-CNM) with prescriptive authority recognition to document with the OK Board of Nursing the supervising physician(s) for prescriptive authority. If there is any change (i.e., addition, deletion) in the supervising physician(s), the APRN must document the change with the Board by filing a ***Request for Change in Physician(s) Supervising Advanced Practice Prescriptive Authority*** within thirty (30) days of the change.

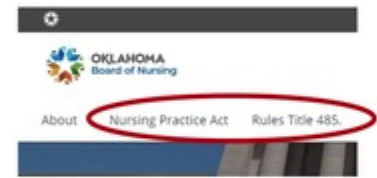
Notification of the change in supervising physician(s) is accomplished through the Nurse Portal. In effort to complete the process promptly, the APRN should review and follow the instructions for Change in Supervising Physician for Advanced Practice Prescriptive Authority.

Instructions: Change in Supervising Physician for Prescriptive Authority

NOTICE: Should an APRN with Prescriptive Authority Recognition receive notice that the supervising physician is no longer available to serve as supervising physician, the APRN must **immediately** cease practice prescribing (unless the APRN has an additional supervising physician).

Practice Resources

Did you know the Oklahoma Board of Nursing offers many resources online to provide guidance for your nursing practice questions? Along the top of each page on the OBN website, there is a header menu providing links for navigation, as well as the tiled menu under Online Resources from the main landing page.



As a Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Nurse, or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, you are ultimately responsible for determining your personal and legal scope of practice in compliance with the **Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act (ONPA)** and **Oklahoma Board of Nursing Rules (O.A.C. Title 485)**. The best way to make sure you are practicing within your scope is to be familiar with these documents. Both are available at no charge when accessed from the Board’s website. Access the ONPA and Rules via the header menu (pictured) and also from the buttons below.

[Access the ONPA](#)

[Access the Rules](#)

In addition, there is a significant amount of topic-specific Board-approved practice guidance available on the website under the *Guidelines and Position Statements* menu tile (pictured at right). One of the most frequently referenced documents under this section is the **Decision-Making Model for Scope of Nursing Practice Decisions: Determining Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse Scope of Practice Guidelines**. The seven-step decision-making model is for use in determining whether an activity is within a nurse's personal scope of practice. Formal nursing practice opinions issued by the Board are listed in Addendum A of this guideline.



[View the Decision-Making Model](#)



Under the Practice/Advanced Practice menu tile (pictured left), resources are available including practice policies and guidelines, application instructions and forms, and valuable prescribing information. Effective January 1, 2016, APRNs shall have completed an accredited graduate level advanced practice registered nurse education program in at least one of the following population foci: family/individual across the lifespan, adult gerontology (acute and/or primary), neonatal, pediatrics (acute and/or primary), women's health/gender related, or psychiatric/mental health. APRNs are responsible to ensure they practice within their role title (APRN-CNP, APRN-CNS, APRN-CNM) and population foci.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Certification Examinations Approved by The Oklahoma Board of Nursing for Initial Licensure is available on this webpage and via the button below. The document also provides those APRN Certification Examinations no longer approved by OBN for initial licensure.

[APRN Certification Examinations](#)

If you still have practice-related questions after reviewing resources available on our website, reach out to Mike Starchman, CPA, RN, Deputy Executive Director, at: michael.starchman@nursing.ok.gov.

NOTICE: Board staff can provide guidance and help you locate resources but do not provide legal advice about specific practice issues.

APRN Preceptorship Tax Credit Info

HB 3351 was passed by the Oklahoma Legislature in 2024 creating a tax credit for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) who serve as preceptors for APRN students. The new law allows qualified APRNs to claim a credit of \$165 each for up to three preceptorship rotations and \$340 each for up to seven subsequent rotations. The tax credit is funded by \$4 allocated from every annual APRN licensure fee collected by the Board of Nursing. The Board of Nursing has not increased licensure fees as of this point in time. To apply for the tax credit, please contact the Oklahoma Health Care Workforce Training Commission at (405) 604-0020 or visit their website for more information.

[OK Health Care Workforce Training Commission Website](#)

Oklahoma Tax Law Change Reminder

Legislation has changed how the Oklahoma Board of Nursing (Board) interacts with licensees who are not tax compliant. Prior to November 1, 2023, Oklahoma law (68 O.S. §238.1) prohibited the Board from issuing or renewing a license until the taxpayer was deemed compliant by the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC). Effective November 1, 2023, HB 1956 (2023) eliminated that prohibition. Starting November 1, 2023, the Board no longer includes tax compliance in determining whether a license should be renewed or reissued.

Please be aware that HB 1956 authorizes the OTC to garnish the wages of the licensee to collect any delinquent taxes, penalties, and interest owed. The Oklahoma Board of Nursing cannot address tax issues. If you receive a notice from the OTC, you must contact them directly.

[OK Tax Commisison Contact Info](#)

Timely Submission of Name and Address Changes



- Pursuant to OAC 485:10-7-9, all licensed RNs and all licensed LPNs are to notify this Board of a name/address change within 30 days of the change.
- Pursuant to OAC 485:10-10-11, all certified AUAs are to notify this Board of a name/address change within 30 days of the change.
- Pursuant to OAC 485:10-15-10, all licensed APRNs are to notify this Board of a name/address change within 30 days of the change.
- **Address changes** are to be submitted through the Manage Profile/Demographics section of the Nurse Portal account.
- **Name changes** are to be submitted through the Other Applications link of the Nurse Portal account.
- **Email address changes** are to be submitted through the Manage Profile link of the Nurse Portal account.

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: <https://oklahoma.gov/nursing/publications/newsletters.html>

This publication has been submitted in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

