



In 2013, NCSBN's members began to discuss what the optimal licensure model would look like and eventually agreed that revising the current NLC (implemented in 25 states between 2000 and 2016) and the current APRN Compact (which was developed in 2001 but never implemented) would be in the best interests of all. In March of 2015 revisions to the two compacts were completed and in May 2015 a special assembly of delegates representing all BONs (two from each state) approved the new compacts. An ambitious initiative was kicked off to commit staff and financial resources to advocate for state adoption of the newly enhanced NLC (eNLC) and the APRN Compact.


Moving Forward—the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC)

Like the NLC, the eNLC increases access to health care, protects patient safety, reduces costs and supports state-of-the-art health care delivery. It also enhances nurses' mobility across states and allows nurses to quickly cross state borders when there is a disaster. The eNLC is also cost-effective, since an organization may share the expenditure of multiple licenses nurses can incur by crossing state lines. It also removes multiple and duplicate regulatory requirements, cutting down costs for nurses.

New provisions to the eNLC (as compared to the original NLC) include uniform license requirements (all states have the same licensure requirements) and state authority to obtain and submit criminal background checks.

In order to receive a multistate license in the eNLC, a nurse must meet the home state's qualifications, graduate from a board of nursing-approved nursing education program, pass the NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® Exam, have no active discipline on their license, submit to a criminal background check, have no prior state or federal felony convictions and have a valid Social Security number. The eNLC also contains a grandfathering provision: a nurse already holding a home multistate license on their compact's effective date can retain and renew that license. A nurse who changes their primary state of residence after the NLC's effective date must meet the new eNLC requirements to obtain a multistate license from their new home state.

To join, individual states must first enact eNLC model legislation. NCSBN staff are working with state legislatures to help accomplish this by testifying at committee hearings, participating in telephone and in-person meetings with legislators in target states, and drafting language to help bills move forward. ♦



You may if you are faculty teaching didactic courses, or supervising clinical experiences, and your students are located outside the state in which your nursing program is located. Just as nurses who work in clinical settings and care for patients in another state via telehealth, faculty who teach online students located in another state usually require additional nursing licenses unless a state offers an exemption for faculty or it is currently part of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC).

Many faculty and their deans are unaware of this important requirement. In most states, faculty must abide by the same



