

I am moving to Utah from Idaho; since both are Compact states, do I need to get an Utah license?

Idaho became the 13th member of the Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact) in 2001. The Compact is a licensure model in which a nurse who holds a license to practice in their primary state of residence and that state is a Compact state is granted the privilege to practice in other Compact states without holding a separate license in those states. The primary state of residence means the state of an individual's declared, fixed and permanent residence. To clarify the beginning of the 30-day period referenced in the Compact rule language that states: "A nurse changing primary state of residence, from one party state to another party state, may continue to practice under the former home state license and multi-state licensure privilege during the processing of the nurse's licensure application in the new home state for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days." A license held in any other Compact state will then become invalid. Remember, it is a nurse's responsibility to practice in accordance with the laws and the rules of the state in which she/he is practicing. The 23 Compact member states can be identified at www.ncsbn.org.nlc.

I recently moved and got married. What is my responsibility in terms of my license?

When a licensed nurse legally changes his/her name, the Board must be notified immediately (IDAPA 23.01.01.008.01). An affidavit for change of name can be found on the Board web site at www.ibn.idaho.gov. This can be filled out, notarized and mailed (or faxed) to the Board office. A copy of the marriage license with the seal intact may be sent instead of the affidavit for change of name. Once the Board receives either the affidavit or marriage license, you may begin using your new name professionally.

It is also required (IDAPA 23.01.01.008.02) that you keep the Board updated on your current address. You can notify the Board by calling the Board office and using the automated system, talking with a staff person or sending your change of address by mail. Please include your full name, license number or social security number and old and new address. The Board phone number is (208) 334-3110.

The Mission of the Board of Nursing is to regulate nursing practice and education for the purpose of safeguarding the public health, safety and welfare.

Licensed Professional Nurse (RN)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

2009—2011



Idaho Board of Nursing

PO Box 83720—Boise, Idaho 83720-0061

I called the Director before my shift and told her that I quit. She told me that she was going to file a complaint of abandonment. Can I lose my license?

Abandonment is defined in the rules of the Board of Nursing (IDAPA 23.01.01.010) as the termination of a nurse/patient relationship without first making appropriate arrangements for continuation of required nursing care. The nurse/patient relationship begins when responsibility for nursing care of a patient is accepted by the nurse. Although failure to provide adequate notice of resignation may be regarded as unprofessional, refusal to accept an employment assignment or refusal to accept or begin a nurse patient relationship is not abandonment. Reasonable notification, or a timely request for alternative care for a patient prior to leaving the assignment, constitutes termination of the nurse/patient relationship.

The hospital where I work wants me to give procedural sedation. Is this within my scope of practice?

To determine your scope of practice, use the Decision-Making Model and refer to the scope of practice for RNs defined in "Administrative Rules" of the Idaho Board of Nursing. (IDAPA 23.01.01.400-401.)

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The Decision-Making Model will present questions to be considered in determining scope of practice.

1. Is the task expressly prohibited by the Nursing Practice Act or limited to the scope of practice of advanced practice professional nurses or prohibited by law? (*There is nothing in the Act that expressly prohibits this.*)
2. Was the act taught as part of your basic nursing education? (*Procedural sedation is not taught in pre-licensure programs*); and - Do you possess current knowledge and competency to do this? (*Can you document the knowledge and skills needed? How could you become competent in this procedure?*)
3. The act is consistent with standards of practice published by a national specialty nursing organization or supported by recognized nursing literature or reputable published research? (*The Emergency Nurses Association along with eight other health care organizations in 2008 issued a consensus statement supporting the use of trained and supervised nurses to administer procedural sedation under specific guidelines.*)
4. Does your employment setting have established policies and procedures authorizing you to perform this?
5. In a similar situation, would this same standard of care be provided by a reasonable and prudent nurse with similar education and experience and are you prepared to accept the consequences of the act?

The rules defining RN practice do not address specific medications or procedures. The Decision-Making Model provides the format for determining scope of practice questions. The answer will not be the same for each professional nurse or in every situation.

Only after all of the above have been considered, will you be able to answer whether this is in your scope of practice.

What is the Program for Recovering Nurses? (PRN)

Unsafe behaviors resulting from mental and emotional conditions or habitual chemical use pose a safety risk to the public and are grounds for Board discipline. However the Board believes that nurses who are actively engaged in recognized recovery methods do not represent a threat to the public. The Program for Recovering Nurses (PRN), guides impaired nurses into treatment and rehabilitation and monitors their return to safe, effective practice while in essence sparing their nursing license by not following a process of formal disciplinary action. If you know of a colleague who is no longer able to practice safely because of drugs, alcohol use or mental health disorder, or you, yourself are suffering from one of these primary illnesses contact the PRN at 1 800 386-1695 or visit them online at www.southworthassociates.net. PRN is a non-public program, meaning that your participation will not be reported publicly.

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