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Compact state as a RN. To practice as an APPN, that nurse would need to obtain an APPN license but not another RN license in the state in which they wish to practice. An APPN must have a APPN license for every state in which they practice. RNs who do not live in a Compact state but wish to practice in one must obtain a single state license from that state. Nurses are responsible for practicing in compliance with the rules and regulations of the state in which they practice.

**How can a Nurse Practitioner who has been out of nursing return to active practice?**

Answer: The advanced practice nurse who does not meet “active Practice” requirements (has practice less than 200 hours during the renewal period or who has not practiced within the most recent 3 years prior to application for reinstatement licensure) must complete requirements which focus on currency of knowledge and demonstrated practice competence prior to issuance of a renewable license.

Applicants who have been out of practice for 3-5 years must complete 200 hours of advanced nursing practice under the direct supervision of a fully licensed APPN or physician practicing in their same specialty practice area. Applicants who have been absent from practice for a period greater than 5 years but less than 10 must complete at least 300 hours of advanced nursing practice under the direct supervision of a fully licensed

APPN or physician practicing in their same specialty practice area. At the completion of this practice, the Board must receive from the supervising practitioner a statement assessing the applicant’s knowledge and practice ability. This statement should support the issuance of a renewable license.

Applicants who have been absent from practice for a period of greater than 10 years must submit an assessment of knowledge and clinical ability as well as a plan for remediation for consideration by the APPN Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will recommend a course of action for consideration by the Board of Nursing.

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**Idaho Board of Nursing**

[www2.idaho.gov/ibn](http://www2.idaho.gov/ibn)

**Idaho Board of  
Nursing**

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**Frequently Asked  
Questions**

**Advanced Practice  
Professional  
Nurses  
2007-2009**



**PO BOX 83720  
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Telephone (208) 334-3110



**Question: My Masters degree in nursing is in a clinical specialty. Can I call myself a Clinical Nurse Specialist?**

Answer: July 1, 1999 rules of the Idaho Board of Nursing related to advanced practice professional nursing (IDAPA 23.01.01.271-389) took effect. The Nursing Practice Act defined Advanced Practice Professional Nurses as certified nurse-midwives, clinical nurse specialists, nurse practitioners and registered nurse anesthetists. (NPA 54-1402) The rules described the standards of practice (IDAPA 23.01.01.280) for each category of advanced practice professional nurse and the qualifications for licensure and renewal. (IDAPA 23.01.01.285-300) Clinical nurse specialist qualifications require that a nurse be currently licensed to practice as a professional nurse in Idaho and hold a master's or higher degree in nursing with clinical specialization from a program accredited by a national organization recognized by the Board. Qualifications also require that the CNS pass a certification exam administered by an organization recognized by the Board and be currently nationally certified as a clinical nurse specialist in the designated nursing specialty from an organization recognized by the Board. (IDAPA 23.01.01.285) states that it is unlawful to falsely represent by use of any designation, title or statement that you are a Clinical Nurse Specialist if you are not licensed pursuant to this chapter.

**Question: What is IDACARE? Who must provide information for inclusion in the IDACARE database? I tried and the system will not let me in.**

Answer: IDACARE, managed by the Idaho Department of Administration, was implemented following the passage of the Idaho Patient Freedom of Information Act of 1998. It is an electronic database that profiles selected licensees in order to assist Idaho's citizens in their selection of personal health care providers. IDACARE includes information about educational preparation, work history, malpractice history, final board disciplinary action and other pertinent information required by law. Advanced practice professional nurses, including certified nurse midwives, clinical nurse specialists, nurse practitioners and registered nurses anesthetists are required to provide initial and updated data to IDACARE upon issuance of initial licensure and at the time of each biennial licensure renewal. Licensees who do not comply by providing required information in a timely basis may be subject to disciplinary action, including assessment of administrative fines. Updates to IDACARE must be accomplished on-line. If you are unable to access the IDACARE database it may be a computer – “cookie” issue. You can call the Board Office at (208) 334-3110 and staff will assist you.

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

Answer: Whenever a change of name occurs for a licensed nurse, 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, [www2.idaho.gov/ibn](http://www2.idaho.gov/ibn). This can be filled out, notarized and mailed to the Board office. A copy of the marriage license with the seal intact may be sent instead of the affidavit for change. Once the Board

receives this, you may begin using your new name professionally. A copy of the license with the new name may be obtained by completing the application for duplicate certificate and mailing it to the Board with a \$10.00 fee.

Your new address may be added to the affidavit for name change and staff will change it in the Board records. If you are not changing your name but have recently moved, please call, e-mail or mail the Board office with your new address. Whenever a change of a licensee's mailing address occurs, the Board must immediately be notified of the change. (IDAPA 23.01.01.008.02.) The Board utilizes the most recent mailing address on record for purposes of all written communications with the licensee. This includes notification of renewal and notices related to disciplinary action.



**Question: I am a CRNA who works as a traveler. When will there be an APPN Compact?**

**How does the Compact work as I travel to other Compact states?**

Answer: In 2001 Idaho became the 13<sup>th</sup> member of the Nurse Licensure Compact. The Nurse Licensure Compact allows Licensed Practical Nurses and Licensed Professional Nurses (RN) to hold a license in their state of primary residence that then extends the privilege to practice in other Compact states without needing to obtain additional licenses. Boards of Nursing in Compact states are discussing how to implement a multistate licensure compact that will do the same for advanced practice nurses. Lack of uniformity among the states in the laws that regulate APPNs need to be addressed before an APPN Compact will become realistic. An Advanced Practice Nurse with a Compact RN license can practice in any other