
What is the Program for Recovering Nurses (PRN)?

The Program for Recovering Nurses (PRN) is an alternative to disciplinary action administered by the Board of Nursing. This program channels impaired nurses into treatment and rehabilitation and monitors their return to safe, effective practice while providing for public protection. If you know of a colleague who is no longer able to practice safely because of drugs, alcohol use or a mental health disorder, or if you 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.

Did You Know?

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 or a divorce decree authorizing the change may be sent instead of the affidavit for change of name. Once the Board receives one of these items, you may begin using your new name professionally.

Administrative rules (IDAPA 23.01.01.008.02) require that you keep the Board updated on your current address. You can notify the Board by calling Board office and talk with a staff person or send your new address by mail. Please include 

⇒ your full name, license number or social security number and new address. The Board phone number is (208) 334-3110. Changes can also be faxed to (208) 334-3262.

Idaho Board of Nursing

280 North 8th Street, Suite 210
Mailing: PO Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0061

Phone: 208-334-3110
Fax: 208-334-3262

Idaho Board of Nursing

Licensed Practical
Nurse
2010—2012

Frequently
Asked
Questions



{ www.ibn.idaho.gov }

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Board of Nursing doing to protect the environment?

The Idaho Board of Nursing is committed to moving towards environmentally friendly processes and transactions. Instead of a paper licensure application, nurses now receive a reminder postcard advising that it is time to renew. Renewal can now be accomplished on-line, a more timely, error-free process. 90% of nurses renewed on line in 2009.

Instead of requesting written verification of licensure from the Board, employers are encouraged to check the Board's electronic database for licensure information. In addition, the Board plans to discontinue the use of printed wallet licensure certificates in the near future. Licensees will be able to print a copy of their license off the Internet if they desire.

I haven't been able to find a LPN position; can I work as a CNA?

LPNs have the knowledge and ability to perform CNA functions. If you are licensed to practice as an LPN in Idaho you do not need to be on the CNA Registry to work in a CNA position.

Can LPNs delegate in Idaho?

LPNs in Idaho can and do delegate to unlicensed assistive personnel and technicians/technologists as well as other LPNs. The delegating nurse retains accountability for the delegated acts and the consequences of delegation as defined in administrative rules of the Board, IDAPA 23.01.01.400.

Where can I find information about the history of Licensed Practical Nurses in Idaho?

Licensed Practical Nurses of Idaho (LPNI), the professional organization for licensed LPNs in Idaho, maintained a detailed record of the history of LPNs in Idaho until 2002, when the organization folded. This treasured information, a great deal of which is referenced in the recently published book, Charting Idaho Nursing History, by R. Hudspeth and V. Kaiser, is now available at: www.idahohistory.net or at the Idaho State Historical Museum at 610 Julia Davis Drive, Boise, Idaho 83702-7646.

How can I become more involved in the work of the Board of Nursing?

The Board of Nursing hosts an open forum at each regularly scheduled meeting in order to allow time for dialogue and input from the public. Plan to attend a meeting of the Board to hear their deliberations and participate in the Forum. Or, notify the Governor of your interest in being appointed to the Board. The nine-member board includes 1 advanced practice professional nurse, 5 professional nurses, 2 LPNs and 1 consumer. To receive more information on the responsibilities of being a Board member, call the Board of Nursing office.

Can I be charged with patient abandonment if I quit my job without giving sufficient notice?

Abandonment is defined in administrative rules of the Board (IDAPA 23.01.01.010) as "termination

of a nurses/patient relationship without first making appropriate arrangements for continuation of required nursing care. The nurse/patient relationship begins when responsibility for nursing care of patient is accepted by the nurse. 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 directed to an attending physician or to a staff supervisor prior to leaving the assignment constitutes termination of the nurse/patient relationship". Failure to provide adequate notice of termination to an employer does not necessarily constitute 'abandonment'.

The hospital where I work expects me to give IV push medications. Is this within my scope of practice?

To determine your scope of practice, use the Board's "Decision-Making Model" and refer to the scope of practice for LPNs defined in "Administrative Rules" of the Idaho Board of Nursing (IDAPA 23.01.01.400 and 460).

The Decision-Making Model provides the process to be considered in determining scope of practice questions. The answer may be different for each licensed practical nurse and for each situation.

Only after considering all of the questions posed in the Model will you be able to answer whether this is in your scope of practice.