The Mission of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing is to safeguard the life and health of the citizens of Louisiana by assuring persons practicing as Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses are competent and safe.

APRN Corner
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2016 APRN Licensure Renewal

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) must renew both their Registered Nurse (RN) and APRN license each fall for the next calendar year. To renew as an APRN, the nurse must either:

A. Hold current national certification in each licensed advanced practice role and population focus, with primary source proof on file with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN). APRNs whose certification has expired, or will expire by December 31, 2015, will be required to have their national certifying organization send primary source proof of their recertification directly to LSBN prior to renewing their Louisiana nursing license(s) online. If your certification is due to expire this calendar year, apply for recertification with your certifying body as soon as possible and indicate that proof of your recertification must be sent to LSBN by their office. Copies of recertification cards, emails and/or letters sent to the APRN from their organization will not be accepted by LSBN. Once proof of recertification has been received by LSBN directly from the APRN’s certifying organization, the APRN will be authorized to complete the 2016 online licensure renewal.

OR

B. If national certification was not available in the advanced role and population focus (formerly referred to as ‘specialty’) when the APRN was originally licensed, the nurse must submit evidence to LSBN that commensurate requirements were met during 2015, prior to being deemed eligible for license renewal. All practice hours and continuing education (CE) must be at the advanced practice level (advanced assessment, diagnosis and management of conditions, pharmacology, etc.) and directly related to the full scope of the advanced practice role and population focus for which the commensurate licensure had been granted. Click here for copy of the VR-1 form which must be completed, signed and mailed to the LSBN office together with sufficient advanced practice CE for Board staff review and approval prior to the APRN being authorized to complete the 2016 online licensure renewal. We encourage all APRNs holding a commensurate role to send their complete VR-1 packet to the LSBN office for review as soon as possible.

APRN’s with Prescriptive Authority

Each year an APRN with prescriptive authority must obtain six (6) contact/credit hours of continuing education (CE) in pharmacotherapeutics (pharmacology). The pharmacology CEs must be at the advanced practice level and related to the APRN’s licensed role and population focus. APRN’s will be requested to attest that they have completed/complied with this requirement during the on-line renewal. Advanced pharmacology CE documentation for APRN renewal must be accredited by an agency/organization recognized by LSBN for advanced practice, click here to view list.
Each calendar year an APRN with prescriptive authority (which is required for collaborative practice) must obtain six (6) contact/credit hours of continuing education in pharmacotherapeutics [pharmacology] to renew his/her APRN license.

Annual continuing education for pharmacology must be at the advanced practice level and related to the APRN’s licensed advanced role and population focus/specialty. CE documentation (i.e. CE certificate of completion) must clearly indicate that the pharmacology topics completed by the APRN are accredited by one of the following agencies or organizations:

- Any State Board of Nursing
- Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)
- Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- American Nurses Association (ANA)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)
- American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA)
- American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM)
- American Psychiatric Association (APA)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA)
- Emergency Nurses Association (ENA)
- National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health (NPWH)
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners (NAPNAP)

Pharmacology credit/contact hours must be completed, documented and verified [self-audited] by the APRN prior to his/her annual licensure renewal online. It is the responsibility of each nurse to obtain valid documentation demonstrating completion/accreditation of their pharmacology CE from the CE provider, maintain the documents five (5) full years, and be able to supply them to LSBN staff for review upon request if the nurse is later selected for CE audit.