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New Online Oklahoma Nurse Portal

The Oklahoma Board of Nursing launched the new online Nurse Portal (Portal) on October 13, 2020. Through the Portal, applications, renewals, name and address changes, as well as complaints against a licensee are submitted in an electronic format.

Nurse Portal features include the following:

Nurse Portal Account: Specific to each nurse and applicant, information is displayed including real-time updates on the status of the individual's submitted application. Each licensed nurse will have their own individual account.

License/Certificant Applications: In addition to submitting all applications online, documents that are needed in order to consider an application complete will be required to be uploaded at the point of application submission resulting in a more efficient licensing process.

License/Certificate Renewal: The renewal process has changed in format primarily, but the process of online submission remains similar. ***Note:** Renewal applications are available to individual licensees ONLY within the 90-day period preceding the license expiration date.

License Verification: The public will continue to have access to primary source verification information for Oklahoma licensees / AUA certificant.

Submitting a Complaint on a licensee or certificant: There is now a portal specific to submission of a complaint.

Name/Address Changes: These licensing tasks will be submitted via your individual Nurse Portal account.

Message Center: A new feature in the Nurse Portal account of the applicant/licensee allows for communication with Board staff.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

The Oklahoma State Department of Health provides updated information surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine at <https://oklahoma.gov/covid19/vaccine-information.html>. The linked information includes the new COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Population Framework for Oklahoma, as well as Oklahoma's DRAFT COVID-19 Vaccine Plan submitted to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on October 16, 2020.

Temporary Licensure Reinstatement Pursuant to Pandemic Emergency Rules

Pursuant to *Pandemic Emergency Rules* effective April 21, 2020, any individual who has an inactive Oklahoma RN or LPN nursing license that has been inactive for less than five years may be issued a **temporary single state nursing license**, if the individual meets all reinstatement requirements except continuing qualifications for practice. There is no fee for the temporary license. The application, *Reinstatement of Temporary RN/LPN Pursuant to Pandemic Emergency Rules*, may be submitted through the *Other Application* link in your Nurse Portal account.

To make application, you must create an individual account through the Nurse Portal at <https://okbn.boardsfnursing.org/okbn>. If needed, additional instructions for creating your account can be viewed at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/nurseportalinfo.pdf>.

Requirements for APRNs Adding a New Specialty and National Certification

An Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) who wishes to add a new area of specialty and national certification must meet initial requirements for advanced practice licensure, as identified in the *Oklahoma Board of Nursing Rules: 485:10-15-4(a)*. If you are currently a licensed Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and you want to add a new area of specialty, you will access or create an individual account through the Nurse Portal <https://okbn.boardsfnursing.org/okbn>.

All licensure requests are submitted through the Nurse Portal. For additional information, you may review the application instructions located on the Oklahoma Board of Nursing website <http://nursing.ok.gov/practice.pdf> and the list of *APRN Certification Examinations Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing* <http://nursing.ok.gov/prac-natlcert.pdf> to ensure your certification is listed.

An APRN in accordance with the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act, may prescribe medications that are within their scope of practice. The APRN must hold prescriptive authority recognition for each added advanced practice certification in order to prescribe medications and other medical supplies.

Oklahoma Health Alert Network

The Oklahoma State Department of Health Acute Disease Service uses four types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals. The four types of documents include Alerts, Advisories, Updates and Events. Many of the recent documents have provided information related to COVID-19 including screening tools, testing requirements and other resources.

Licensed nurses can request access to Oklahoma Health Alert Network (OK-HAN) to receive health alerts. Access will allow you to review all official Oklahoma Health Alerts. If you would like access, you may email the OK-HAN Coordinator at: okhan@health.ok.gov

Advanced Nursing Education-Assault Nurse Examiners Program

The Application closes on February 17, 2021

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2021 for the Advanced Nursing Education-Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (ANE-SANE) Program. This program will increase access to physical and mental health care treatment for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. Grantees will train Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) to practice in rural and underserved health settings.

Eligible applicants are accredited:

- Schools of nursing
- Nursing centers
- Nurse-managed health clinics
- Academic health centers
- State or local health departments
- HRSA-supported health centers
- Rural health clinics
- Public or non-profit hospitals

Refer to page 8 of the [funding opportunity](#) to view all eligible applicants.

HRSA expects approximately \$8 million to be available in FY 2021 to fund 16 grantees.

For a complete list of funding opportunities, visit the [HRSA website](#).

Apply for this grant on [grants.gov](#).

Name and Address Changes

Convenient Way to Provide Name and Address Changes

Name changes and address changes can now be provided through your Nurse Portal Account.

To make the name change, you will create an individual account through the Nurse Portal at <https://okbn.boardsfnursing.org/okbn>. Name Changes are submitted through the *Other Application* link in your Nurse Portal account. In addition to providing your change of name, please upload a certified copy of the legal document changing your name to the newly requested name. If needed, additional instructions for creating your account can be viewed at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/nurseportalinfo.pdf>

To change your address, access your Nurse Portal Account, click on "Manage Profile". Next, click on "Demographics", scroll to "Contact Information". To complete the process, click on "+ Change Address", noted on the right-hand side of the page, and enter your new address.

Recent Policy Revisions

The following policies have been revised/approved and are available for review by hyperlink provided.

Approved during the November 2020 Board Meeting:

Meeting Requirements for Continuing Qualifications for Practice for License Renewal Guidelines, #P-23
<http://nursing.ok.gov/cqlicenserenewal.pdf>

CRNA Inclusionary Formulary, #P-50A <http://nursing.ok.gov/prac-crnafrm.pdf>

Exclusionary Formulary for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses with Prescriptive Authority, #P-50B
<http://nursing.ok.gov/prac-exclusfrm.pdf>

Refresher Course Policy, #P-17 <http://nursing.ok.gov/refresher.pdf>

All guidelines are available at: <http://nursing.ok.gov/prac1.html>

“This publication is issued by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing as authorized by the Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act [59 O.S. § 567.1, et seq.] and is located at the following website: <http://nursing.ok.gov/pubs.html>. This publication has been submitted in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes.”

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