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News & Updates

[National Nursing Workforce Survey](#)

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) and the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers (Forum) have partnered to conduct a national sample survey of nurses. Since 2013, the survey is conducted every other year and collects important information about Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical/Vocational (LPN/VNs) in the United States. The data is used to describe the nursing workforce, predict shortages and design programs to benefit nurses as well as patients throughout the country.

The surveys have the logos of both NCSBN and The Forum. The forms are delivered through the U.S. mail and respondents have the option of filling out the form and returning it in a pre-paid postage envelope provided, or going online using an assigned code and entering their responses into a web form.

The recipients of the survey are randomly picked. Please consider completing the survey if you receive the mailing. For more information, click the link in the article heading above.

Results of the survey will be published in a future article of the *Journal of Nursing Regulation*. The 2017 National Nursing Workforce Survey may be found [HERE](#).

[Novel Coronavirus News Headlines](#)

Since the first announcements of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) hitting the news, there is widespread concern about the ease of transmission, impact to travel, health ramifications and possible loss of life. Internationally, healthcare workers are at high risk for epidemics and disease outbreaks, as was seen with the Ebola virus in 2014-2016, and with SARS in 2003.

The *Health Affairs* article found at the following link calls for the steps that should be taken to protect and equip the healthcare workforce from the dangers of epidemics:

"Novel Coronavirus Should Prompt Examination Of Impact Of Outbreaks On Health Care Workers," *Health Affairs* Blog, February 14, 2020. DOI: [10.1377/hblog20200214.587257](https://doi.org/10.1377/hblog20200214.587257)

Interesting News

Click on the links below for more information.

[2020 is the Year of the Nurse and Midwife](#)

The World Health Organization has deemed 2020 the year to celebrate nurses and midwives. What will you do to celebrate? Tweet your answer to @IABdofNursing #SupportNursesandMidwives #Nurses2020 #Midwives2020

[New YouTube Videos Released](#)

The Enforcement Division of the IBON has released two new videos about reporting criminal convictions. See the Board's YouTube channel to watch! Other available videos include how to recover password and sign-in information for the licensure system.

[Nurse Corps Loan Repayment](#)

[Program](#) application period is open through March 12, 2020 See the link in the title for additional information.

[Iowa Legislation](#)

The Iowa Legislature is in their 6th week of the 88th General Assembly. February 21st is the final date for Senate bills and joint resolutions to be reported out of Senate Committees and House bills and joint

The Iowa Department of Public Health continues to track the Coronavirus topic and has issued several announcements. There are people who are being monitored by the IDPH in the state of Iowa, with no confirmed cases. Stay up-to-date about this emerging health issue by visiting the IDPH site at this link: <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus>

Mandatory Reporter Training

The Department of Human Services is the state agency responsible for providing the education to all mandatory reporters of abuse in the State of Iowa. All Iowa nurses are required to take the education course if they examine, attend, counsel, or treat children or dependent adults in the course of their work. See this link to set up your account and begin the training: [MANDATORY](#)

The certificates of completion for the courses do not show nursing continuing education (CE) credit. However, with proof of a certificate of completion for each course, you may count 2.0 contact hours of nursing CE towards your license renewal requirements.

If a nurse has a certificate of completion from the IDPH mandatory abuse reporter training dated prior to 7/1/2019, that certificate is good through the expiration date on their document. The IDPH course certificates were issued for five years.

License Verification Steps

Reminder: As of 7/1/2019, wallet cards are no longer issued with license renewals. Nurses and nursing employers can access the most recent information about a nurse licensee by accessing the Board's IBON Online Services site. A nurse's license number must be entered to view the information. See the following link to access the information: [License Verification](#)

Alternatively, the public may use the information available at Nursys.com to verify licensure, see license restrictions, and set up reminders to renew licenses. See the site at this link: <https://www.nursys.com/>

QuickConfirm® is the license verification system and may be accessed by simply entering a name or license number.

e-Notify® is the system for licensees to set up reminders about their license renewal.

For official verification of licensure, Nursys® Licensure Verification may be accessed at the same site. There is a cost for the official verification through the Nursys® system.

See the NCSBN Videos about the use of those systems at this [LINK](#)

resolutions out of House committees. See the Legislative website for daily committee meetings, bill activities and legislative actions. **The Iowa Board of Nursing is tracking several bills at this time, but did not introduce any legislation this year.**

Board Orders

For a listing of licensees who have been disciplined by the IBON in the last year, see the link in the heading. The list is updated approximately every quarter.

ARNP Opioid Prescribing CE Requirements

ARNPs must take a CE class if they prescribe opioids for chronic pain. **The web page was updated this week to provide ARNPs with additional information about the definition of "prescribing."**

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