

Issue

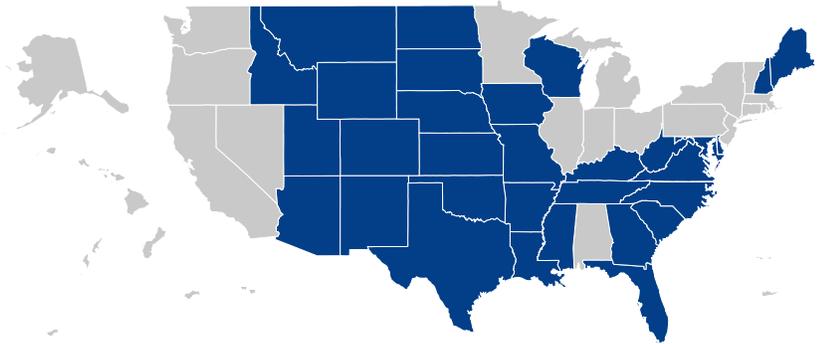
Modern health care delivery requires that nursing care, today and in the future, be dynamic and fluid across state boundaries, but the 100-year-old model of nurse licensure is not flexible, adaptable nor nimble enough to best meet this need.

Solution

The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) increases access to care, protects patient safety and reduces costs while supporting state-of-the-art health care delivery – for today and in the future. The NLC allows for registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) to have one multistate license, with the privilege to practice in their home state and other NLC states without obtaining additional licenses.

Proven, Safe and Efficient

- The NLC has been operational and successful for more than 18 years and continues to grow each year with the addition of new states.
- All the safeguards that are built into the current state licensing process are required before a nurse is issued a multistate license.
- The NLC has uniform licensure requirements so that all states can be confident that new nurses practicing within the NLC have met a set of minimum requirements, regardless of the home state in which they are licensed.
- All states that participate in the NLC conduct federal criminal background checks to determine eligibility for a multistate license.



Benefits of the NLC

- **Access to Care:** Expands access to nursing services across the country quickly and efficiently, which is essential for the health of many rural and underserved communities.
- **Telehealth:** Enables nurses to practice in person or provide telehealth nursing services to patients located across the country without having to obtain additional licenses.
- **Disaster Relief:** Allows nurses to immediately cross state borders and provide vital services in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency, without the need to wait for a declaration of emergency.
- **Military Families:** Allows military spouse nurses to seamlessly continue working without having to obtain a new license each time they relocate.
- **Online Education:** Facilitates online nursing education by reducing educators' need for multiple licenses.
- **Cost Effective:**
 - For Nurses: Nurses do not have to obtain additional nursing licenses, making practicing across state borders affordable and convenient.
 - For Employers: The NLC also removes a burdensome expense for organizations that employ nurses and may share the expenditure of multiple licenses.
- **Flexible Licensure:** Allows nurses who are ineligible for a multistate license to still obtain a single state license based on their state's requirements and statutes.

