

Helpful Tips for Nursing Graduates Video Transcript

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Presenter

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- [Jim] Okay, we're going to get started. My name is Jim Puente. I'm the director of the Nurse Licensure Compact. And today we're going to talk about how the Nurse Licensure Compact works, in particular for nursing students and new graduates. And this webinar is being recorded, so we're recording as we speak. And at the end of the presentation, we will provide you with the slides through email.

At the end of the presentation, if you have any questions, you may unmute yourself at that time to ask your question. So, let's go ahead and get started. The Nurse Licensure Compact: Licensing Without the Hassle.

What new grads need to know. All right. Let's get started. So, I'm assuming everyone can see the slides. If you cannot, let me know. But this is the current map of the Compact states, of which there are 39

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When you're practicing in a telehealth mode, you are required to be licensed in the states where your patients are located. So keep that in mind that if you have a job that requires you to practice via telehealth in 10 different states, that requires you to have a license in each of those states.

Of course, unless you have a multi-state license, and these are Compact states. So, it's important to keep in mind that you have to be a resident of a Compact state in order to be able to get a Compact License.

Nurses who live in non-Compact states cannot get the Compact License because their state hasn't joined the Compact yet. At the time that you're applying for a license, the state Board of Nursing will evaluate to see if you meet all of the requirements for a Compact License. Okay? So that is something that they will go through as a part of your application process.

It's a good idea to try to think of the Compact License as a driver's license, because if you ask yourself which state issues your driver's license, it is the state where you live. That's where you go to your state Department of Motor Vehicles and get a license.

And if you were to change your state of residency and move to some other state in the country, you know that you need to get a new driver's license in that new state. And that's the exact same way that the nurse Compact License works. While you're holding the license, while you're maintaining residency in a state, you're able to drive in any state in the country.

And eventually, when all 50 states are in the Nurse Compact, you'll be able to hold one license in your state of residency and practice in any state in the country. So keep in mind those similarities that it's issued in your state of residency and allows you to practice in every other Compact state, the way that your driver's license allows you to drive in every other state that joined the Driver's License Compact.

Most people aren't aware that there's such a thing as a Driver's License Compact, but that's the reason that you don't have to get a separate driver's license in every state, because the other states accept the driver's license of your home state. And that's the way the nurse Compact works as well.

But the most important aspect here is that knowing that if you ever ct herve2o2f06 612l be able to hold one lic EMC

that, when you complete the application, there's going to be a form in the application, and that form is going to ask you, "What is your primary state of residency for legal purposes?"

And you're going to indicate that state on that line, and then the Board of Nursing is going to ask you for proof to back up what you just indicated on that line. So, if I say my state of residency is Missouri, now I should have a Missouri driver's license and maybe an additional piece of identification to verify that that's my state of residency.

Okay? All right. A few additional things. Just to reiterate. Primary state of residency is the state where you legally reside and the state where you can prove that you reside.

So that proof can be shown by your driver's license, your voter's registration card, etc. When we talk about primary state of residency, we're not talking about owning a home or owning property. You may,

employer is hiring you and looking to see what licenses you have, they would go to nursys.com because it's going to show which licenses you have, what the expiration date is, when it was issued, whether it's a Compact License or a non-Compact License, meaning a single-state license.

But also it's going to show if you have any discipline, because if you were disciplined at any time, that's public information, and it will be included there. Within your record, when you pull up your record in nursys.com under the Quick Confirm tab, you'll see that you also have what's called a Unique Nurse

- [Female] I do want to move to Georgia. So, should I just move to Georgia, get my driver's license over there and get that proof of residency, and then apply for the Georgia Board of Nursing?
- Yeah. Are you a student, new graduate?
- No, in spring, I will graduate, but I'll be graduating from North Dakota.
- You're going to graduate in North Dakota, but you're going to be living in Georgia?
- Correct.
- Okay. So when you're ready to apply, you're going to apply to the Georgia Board of Nursing, and you're going to complete the license by examination application. And that application will ask you to provide a piece of proof that you're a Georgia resident.
- Okay, that sounds good. All right. Thank you.
- Okay, sure. You're welcome. Anyone else? We do have an item in the chat that just came up. It says, "Just to confirm if I understand correctly, if a person changes their state of residency to a Compact state but already has a Compact License, they have to apply for another Compact License?"

they register with Pearson VUE." So normally, in order to register with Pearson VUE, you have to be authorized to test.

The Board of Nursing authorizes you to test, it's called ATT, and you do that by starting the application process with the board. Praise [SP] says, "I'm curious on when you have to get the new license after moving states." Immediately.

So, upon moving to another state, I would say within the first few weeks, you should be starting the application process in the new state. McKenzie says, "So does the Compact License really only benefit those that do travel nursing?" No, it benefits all types of nurses. It benefits every nurse that may go to another state, whether it's travel nursing, whether it's because you're a home health nurse, visiting nurses on either side of the border, whether you're a flight nurse traveling to other states, whether you're a telephonic or telehealth nurse talking with patients in other states, whether you're responding to a disaster like the hurricane that happened recently, or even the pandemic.

So, it's for any nurse that needs the ability to practice in another state without having to go through a licensure process. And keep in mind that you may live on a border with another state where you live in one state and work in the other state.

You only need a license in your home state. You won't need to get a license in the neighboring state if it's also another Compact state. So, the Compact was developed because a nurse needs to have a separate license in every state of practice. And that is a burden, and it's cumbersome and it's expensive, and it takes time.

And the second part of your question is, how does CE work with that? So, if the state that issued your Compact License, if they require CE, you would do it for that state. And if those non-Compact states where you were issued a license require CE, then you also need to do it for them.

But within the Compact... I'm going to have to mute everyone again, one second. Within the Compact, you only do it for one state, which is your home state, if they require it. Any other questions?

"What's an example of discipline that would show on the Nursys database?" Well, I would say your license gets suspended, your license is revoked. I think those are the prime examples.

When there's a limitation put on your practice, then that's going to be indicated on the Nursys database.