



IDFPR

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

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JB PRITZKER
Governor

MARIO TRETO, JR.
Secretary

CAMILE LINDSAY
Director

The Illinois Board of Nursing convened an open meeting on Friday, May 2, 2025 at 9:01 a.m. The meeting was held in the IDFPR offices located at 555 W. Monroe Street, Chicago, IL 60661 and at 320 W. Washington Street, Springfield, IL 62786. The locations were connected by video conferencing.

A quorum of board members were physically present for the meeting:

Carmella Mikol, Chair
Dean Baron, Member
Thomas Carroll, Member
Sharaine James, Member
Maria Nardulli, Member
Jennifer Smith, Member

Kristine Tierney, Vice Chair
Trayce Bartley, Member
Ameca Grass, Member
Alpana Patel, Member
Pamela Pearson, Member

Department staff were physically present for the meeting:

Michele Bromberg, Nursing Coordinator
Ricky J Breen Jr, Associate General Counsel
Todd Robertson, Board Liaison

Education Committee

Motion made/seconded to approve a feasibility study in accordance with 68 IAC 1300.340 (a)(2) for a new Practical Nursing program that will be provided by Stellar Career College located at 205 W Randolph St, Ste 200; Chicago, 60606. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made/seconded to approve a feasibility study in accordance with 68 IAC 1300.340 (a)(2) for relocation of an extension campus for an ADN ladder program with PN exit option provided by Spoon River College. The extension campus is relocating from 208 S. Johnson; Macomb, 61455 to 2500 E Jackson; Macomb, 61455. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made/seconded to approve the continuous placement of student nurses from Marquette University College of Nursing in Milwaukee, WI for clinical placement within academic institutions and clinical facilities located in Illinois. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion - Remediation Strategies for IL Programs with less than 75% Pass Rates

A remediation plan requirement is found in 68 Illinois Administrative Code 1300.230 (b)(3) for nursing education programs whose graduates have an annual pass rate of less than 75% for their first time taking the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX). The Board approved a remediation plan in 2016 setting forth strategies for nursing programs to implement to increase their annual pass rate to 75% for graduates taking the NCLEX for the first time. The remediation plan was revised by the Board in 2021 and the plan was last reviewed by the Board in 2023. The Board discussed further revisions to the Administrative Support section of the remediation plan to

address organizational changes and efforts to promote program stability within the nursing program. A motion was made and seconded to implement changes to the remediation plan as discussed.

Discussion - Nurse Portfolio Credentialing Commission

The Division received an inquiry from an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) licensed in Illinois who received notification from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) that ANCC transferred their [Advanced Genetics Nursing \(AGN-BC\)](#) and [Genetics Nursing \(RN-BC\)](#) certification programs to the [Nurse Portfolio Credentialing Commission](#) (NPCC) in February 2025. Accordingly, as of **March 14, 2025**, ANCC is no longer administering the Advanced Genetics Nursing or Genetics Nursing certification renewal applications and NPCC is responsible for all activities related to the renewal of these certifications.

The Illinois APRN asked the Division whether an NPCC certification in Advanced Genetics Nursing and Genetics Nursing would qualify for as an acceptable certification in accordance with 68 Illinois Administrative Code 1300.400 for the purpose of renewing an Illinois APRN license pursuant to 68 IAC 1300.40 (a).

This matter was set aside pending receipt of information showing that the certifying body meets the criteria outlined in 68 IAC 1300.40 (a)(3).

Closed Session

Motion made/seconded to close the session pursuant to Section 2 (c)(15) of the Open Meetings Act. Roll call vote - Yes: Mikol, Tierney, Baron, Bartley, Carroll, Grass, James, Patel, Nardulli, Pearson, Smith. Motion passed and session closed at 10:17 a.m.

Return to Open Session

Motion made/seconded to return to open session at 11:06 a.m. Motion passed by voice vote.

Recommendations made in closed session on May 2, 2025

Mr. Breen reported that the Nursing Board made the following recommendations:

Enforcement Deliberations

MARTIN WEST

Case: 2024-09052 License: 041.467347

Indefinite suspension for a minimum of 2 years with continuing education related to diabetes and upholding the standards of the profession.

JESSICA WIDMER

Case: 2024-08924 License: 041.385345

Indefinite Suspension for a minimum of 2 years.

YOLANDA EIGHTS

Case: 2024-07278 License: 041.341071

Indefinite Suspension for a minimum of 2 years.

COLETTE HURLEY

Case: 2023-02542 License: 041.378056

Indefinite Suspension for a minimum of 2 years.

BARBARA J. JOHNSON-FARMER

Case: 2024-11580 License: 041.578598

Reprimand and indefinite suspension for a minimum of 2 years.

MELINDA PANZER

Case: 2022-06957 License: 041.262391

Indefinite suspension for a minimum of 2 years.

ERIC WHALEN

Case: 2023-00536 License: 041.363525

Indefinite probation for a minimum of 3 years, with no controlled substances or narcotics access, no ability to hold a supervisory role, no travel nursing, and no agency nursing.

Application Review

CARIST LLC

Approve application for nurse continuing education sponsor.

AGING LIFECARE ASSOCIATION MIDWEST CHAPTER

Approve application for nurse continuing education sponsor.

Motion made/seconded to approve the recommendations made by the Board of Nursing during the closed session meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion made/seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 a.m. Motion passed by voice vote.