Federal Trade Commission Issues Opinion On South Carolina House Bills 3078 and 3508

The long awaited opinion of the United States Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Office of Policy Planning, Bureau of Economics, and Bureau of Competition was issued on November 2, 2015 in a letter to the Honorable Jenny A. Horne, South Carolina House of Representatives. The South Carolina Nurses Association, as the organization that was instrumental in the creation of the Coalition for Access to Healthcare in our state, was delighted to see this action by the FTC.

The Opinion was quite clear about the differences between the two SC House bills. H 3508, the SC Medical Association Bill, was found to impose additional supervision requirements on most categories of advanced practice nurses. In contrast, the FTC found that H.3078, the SCNA supported Bill, would remove certain supervision requirements now imposed on APRNs under South Carolina law, thereby permitting APRNs to diagnose conditions, order tests and therapeutics, and issues written prescription, without necessarily establishing a formal supervisory requirement with a particular physician. One of the conclusions to removing the current supervision requirements is that this removal may offer significant benefits to South Carolina health care consumers and third-party payors, absent well-founded health or safety concerns that would otherwise justify maintaining or enhancing them.

The full opinion letter may be viewed at www.ftc.gov. When you reach the page that has the title “Latest News” click at the top on “More News”. This should take you to a dated list of items. You are looking for an item dated November 2, 2015 about SC.

We realize that this will be viewed as an opinion. The objectivity of the members of the House and Senate regarding what they read from the FTC will be important. This federal agency, the FTC, is charged with the responsibility for establishing what anti-competiveness is. It is to determine unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce. As many elected officials espouse fundamental concepts of competiveness as the core of the American economy, we remain full of hope that House 3078 will pass both the House and Senate in South Carolina. Passage of this legislation will allow South Carolina to emerge from being one of the few states in the nation that impede the practice of APRNs.
Call for Resolutions

Any SCNA member may research, write and submit resolutions for consideration by the 2016 SCNA Annual Meeting. Resolutions should be submitted in form prior to printing to the Reference Committee through SCNA at 1821 Gadsden St., Columbia, SC 29201. Resolutions are due by May 1, 2016. Guidelines for writing and submitting resolutions can be downloaded from http://www.scnurses.org/SCNA/AnnualMeeting

2016 Official Call For Suggested SCNA Bylaw Revisions

Please consider this the official call for any suggested SCNA bylaw revisions for consideration at the 2016 SCNA Annual Meeting to take place this Fall. A full set of current SCNA Bylaws can be obtained via the SCNA web site at http://www.scnurses.org/Bylaws. All proposed revisions must be submitted to SCNA by May 1, 2016. Please forward to:

SCNA Bylaws Committee
1821 Gadsden Street
Columbia, SC 29201
FAX (803)-779-3870

Call for 2016 Nominations

The SCNA Nominating Committee has called for member suggestions for the 2016 election. Nominations are due May 1st. In 2016, members will elect:

Full (SCNA/ANA) & SCNA Only Election

- President-Elect
- Commission Chair-SCNA Chapters
- Director Seat 1
- Director Seat 2
- SCNA Nomination Committee (5 people)

Full (SCNA/ANA) Election

Representatives to the ANA Membership Assembly

Alternates for Representatives to the ANA Membership Assembly

Current Board Members Eligible to run for office other than the one they currently hold:

Stanley Harris – Currently Secretary/Treasurer
Selina Hunt-McKinney – Currently Professional Advocacy and Development Commission Chair

Current Board Members Eligible to run for office that they currently hold:

Tosheka Curtis – Currently Public Policy/Legislation Commission Chair
Alice Wyatt – Currently Director 1
Tami Nielson – Currently Director 2

SCNA Chapters will also hold elections for:

- Chair
- Member At Large (2 people)

SCNA Chapter Ballot will be with the SCNA Ballots for those SCNA members who are also signed up as SCNA Chapter members. Nominations may be submitted at the same time as nominations for SCNA officers. All nominations are due to SCNA by May 1st 2016.

Note that both the nominator and nominee for the SCNA 2015 elections must be SCNA members in good standing. Call SCNA at 803-252-4781 if you would like more information on any of these positions.

Go to www.scnurses.org to fill out a nomination form. The link to the nomination form can be located under “About SCNA” on the “Elections” page https://www.scnurses.org/pages/SCNAElections

CEAC Update

For a complete list of Approved Three Year Providers and Approved Individual Activities please visit our Continuing Nursing Education page on www.scnurses.org. You will also find all the information you need to know about how the SCNA CNE process works.

2016 Board of Directors

President: .................................................. Connie Varra
President-Elect: .................................Sheryl Mitchell
Secretary/Treasurer: ......................... Stanley Harris
Commission Chair: .................................Public Policy/Legislation: ............... T. K. Curtis
Commission Chair-Professional Advocacy and Development: Selina Hunt-McKinney
Commission Chair-SCNA Chapters: ...............VACANT
Director, Seat 1: ...........................................Alice Wyatt
Director, Seat 2: ...........................................Tami Nielson
APRN Chapter Chair: .................................(BOD Ex-Officio): .........................Kahlil Demonbreun
Clinical Nurse Leader: ....................................(BOD Ex-Officio): .........................Mary Alice Hodge
Nurse Educator Chapter Chair: .........................(BOD Ex-Officio): .........................Anita Korbe
Piedmont District Chapter Chair: ...........................(BOD Ex-Officio): .........................Ara Pridemore
Psychiatric-Mental Health Chapter Chair: ..............(BOD Ex-Officio): .........................Maggie Johnson
Women and Children’s Health Chapter Chair: ...............(BOD Ex-Officio): .........................Bennie Daugherty
CEO and Lobbyist: ...............Judith Caruffman Thompson
Assistant to the CEO: .................................Rosie Robinson

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Readers: Send address changes to South Carolina Nurses Association, 1821 Gadsden St., Columbia, SC 29201.

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South Carolina Nurse Copy Submission Guidelines:

All SCNA members are encouraged to submit material for publication that is of interest to nurses. The South Carolina Nurse also welcomes unsolicited manuscripts written by members. Article submission is preferred in MS Word format and may be up to 1000 words. When sending pictures, please be certain to label them clearly since the editors have no way of knowing who persons in the photos might be. Preferred submission is by email to Rosie@scnurses.org. Please do not embed photos in Word files, but use jpg files. All articles submitted are subject to editing by the SC Nurse editorial staff.

South Carolina Nurses Association is a constituent member of the American Nurses Association, 1821 Gadsden St., Columbia, SC 29201.
Happy New Year! Wow! Can you believe, 2016! As I am writing this message to you, I have been in and out of several hospitals over the past 5 months with my husband! He has had an open abdominal aortic aneurysm repair and a second heart attack with stent placement! We received “very excellent care!” I am proud to be a nurse! I am also proud of the care rendered by other nurses and health care providers!

This past year, the ANA focus was on The Year of Ethics! Thank you for the privilege of sharing my thoughts on ethics and ethical practice. The SCNA Convention in October was outstanding! Debbie Hatmaker, ANA Executive Director, reminded us of the history of the Code. She also brought to mind, that when faced with moral distress, we need to develop “moral courage”. We were reminded of what’s new in the Code, and where ANA is now, as well as being informed about the Ethics Pledge (nursingworld.org/EthicsPledge). Please go to the website to sign the pledge. She spoke about a safe work place, nurse fatigue, and healthy nurses. I invite you to the ANA website, www.nursingworld.org to discover much more to come!

Thank you for the privilege of sharing my thoughts on ethics and ethical practice. The SCNA Convention in October was outstanding! Debbie Hatmaker, ANA Executive Director, reminded us of the history of the Code. She also brought to mind, that when faced with moral distress, we need to develop “moral courage”. We were reminded of what’s new in the Code, and where ANA is now, as well as being informed about the Ethics Pledge (nursingworld.org/EthicsPledge). Please go to the website to sign the pledge. She spoke about a safe work place, nurse fatigue, and healthy nurses. I invite you to the ANA website, www.nursingworld.org to discover much rich information to assist you in being an informed nurse!

This year ANA will increase the emphasis on a “healthy work environment”. As defined on the ANA website, “A healthy work environment is one that is safe, empowering, and satisfying…it is not merely the absence of real and perceived threats to health, but a place of ‘physical, mental, and social wellbeing’, supporting optimal health and safety.”

These concepts must be introduced and stressed through the education of future nurses to establish high standards for nursing practice and a healthier, safe practice environment! Again, Happy New Year and may we all have a healthy, prosperous 2016!

Connie Varn

President’s Column

Thank you to all South Carolina nurses for your dedicated service.

NHC Healthcare–Anderson
1501 East Greenville St.
Anderson, SC 29622
www.nhcanderson.com

healthcare and to remove the barriers that currently prevent recognize that APRNs are educated professionals delivering Registered Nurses. The goal as we see it is to have the laws century in regard to the practice of Advanced Practice General Assembly to regular full meetings and work. We took place in October was a great “finale” and beginning for own copy of the newest edition. It truly is your guide and each of you has taken the opportunity to purchase your is ever on-going. I do hope that block for all of nursing practice are aware that the emphasis on the use of the Code as a building are instructive in many ways. We at SCNA celebrated this newest publication of the Code -- a great year for all! 2015 was a busy and most We Cannot See” by Anthony Doerr. I have just finished want to recommend a splendid book to you, “All the Light reason that is worth it for everyone! Protect Your Nursing License and Know Your Rights If you are the subject of a complaint to the Board of Nursing or an allegation of criminal conduct, contact the Leddy Law Firm for a free consultation. Before speaking with the investigators or your licensing board, you should discuss your case with me during a free case evaluation. Call T. Micah Leddy 803-779-9966 (24/7) 2008 Lincoln St., Cola, SC 29201
Can I convert my traditional IRA funds into a Roth IRA?
Yes. Any funds you convert during the tax year, other than amounts that represent nondeductible (after-tax) contributions to your traditional IRA, are treated as taxable income for that year. This means that if the contributions originally made to your traditional IRA were deductible, you may have to pay income tax on the amount converted to the Roth IRA. Also, although the premature distribution tax (for IRA withdrawals prior to age 59½) does not apply when you convert funds to a Roth IRA, it may apply if you later withdraw from the Roth IRA within five years after you convert funds. Finally, you cannot convert required minimum distribution amounts from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. Given the possible tax consequences of this conversion, you may wish to consult experienced tax and financial professionals before you commit to the process.

Note: You can also roll over (“convert”) funds from an employer sponsored-retirement plan to a Roth IRA. The same rules described above generally apply.

Can I take money from my IRA without any penalty?
It depends. If you are 59½ or older, you can take money from your traditional IRA without penalty. In contrast, if you withdraw from your IRA before age 59½, the taxable portion of your distribution may be subject to a 10 percent penalty tax on top of whatever income taxes you owe on the distribution. This penalty, known as the premature distribution tax, is intended to discourage people from exhausting their IRA funds before they retire.

However, there are some exceptions to this rule. Premature IRA withdrawals made by a disabled person may be exempt from the penalty. If an IRA owner dies before age 59½, distributions paid to you as a beneficiary of the account are not subject to the penalty. If you need supplementary income, you can take IRA distributions as a series of “substantially equal payments” over your life expectancy or the joint life expectancy of you and your beneficiary. These distributions will avoid the penalty as long as you don’t modify the payments within certain time frames. Subject to limits and conditions, the penalty tax generally will not apply to IRA distributions taken to pay qualifying medical expenses, health insurance premiums while unemployed, higher education costs, and qualified first-time home-buyer expenses (up to $10,000 lifetime from all your IRAs). It also does not apply to amounts rolled over from one IRA to another (assuming you follow the rules for rollovers), to conversions of traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs, to amounts that the IRS levies from your IRA to cover your tax bill, or to qualified reservist distributions. Other exceptions may also apply.

Qualified distributions from your Roth IRAs are federal income tax--and penalty tax--free. Distributions are qualified if you satisfy a five-year holding period, and you are (a) age 59½, (b) disabled, (c) deceased, or (d) you have qualified first time home-buyer expenses. The taxable portion of nonqualified distributions from your Roth IRAs is subject to the same 10 percent penalty rules that apply to traditional IRAs. (Special rules may apply if you take a nonqualified distribution from your Roth IRA within five years of a conversion.)

About Great South Advisory Group
The Great South Advisory Group is the approved retirement income planning firm to the South Carolina Nurses Association. As a benefit of membership in the SCNA, you can receive your personalized Retirement Income Analysis report for no charge. Simply call to schedule your complimentary appointment at 803.223.7001. Visit their website at www.greatsouthadvisorygroup.com.
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| Reduced SCNA/ANA Membership Dues: $141.50 annually or $12.29 monthly |
| Special SCNA/ANA Membership Dues: $70.75 annually or $6.40 monthly |
| • Full time employed |
| • Part time employed |
| • RNs not employed |
| • RNs in full time study until graduation |
| • Graduates of basic nursing programs for a first year of membership within 6 months following graduation; |
| • RNs 66 years of age or older who are not earning more than social security allows without a loss of social security payments |

SCNA State-Only Membership: $187.00 annually or $16.08 monthly

ANA-Only Membership: $191.00 annually or $16.42 monthly

As a member of SCNA there are several options available to you to enhance your membership experience. SCNA has Chapters that are open to members of SCNA. You are welcome to join any of the chapters listed, think about creating others, or simply enjoy your state membership in SCNA. For more information about SCNA Chapters go to http://www.scnurses.org/?SCNAChapters

There is currently one geographical Chapter:
- Piedmont Chapter (Spartanburg, Cherokee, Union, and York Counties)

There are currently five practice based Chapters:
- APRN Chapter
- Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Chapter
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Chapter
- Women and Children's Health Chapter
- Nurse Educator Chapter

Sign up for chapter membership by going to https://scnurses.site-ym.com/?page=ConsentParticpateChC

2016 Calendar

January 15, 2016
CHAPTER CHAIRS MEETING
12:00pm-1:00pm Conference Call if desired

January 15, 2016
SCNA BOARD MEETING 1:00PM-4:00PM

January 16, 2016
APRN CHAPTER MEETING 10:00AM at SCNA

February 1, 2016
Call for Nominations Mailed to SCNA Board and Chapter Chairs

February 10, 2016
CE APPROVER COMMITTEE SUBMISSION DEADLINE DATE for programs April 1st or later

April 15, 2016
SCNA BOARD MEETING 4:00PM-6:00PM Conference Call

April 15, 2016
CHAPTER CHAIRS MEETING
3:00pm-4:00pm Conference Call if desired

April 15, 2016
List of Nominations Due from SCNA Board and Chapter Chairs to Nominations Committee

April 16, 2016
APRN CHAPTER MEETING 10:00AM at SCN

May 1, 2016
Bylaws Proposals Due

May 1, 2016
Proposed Resolutions Due

May 11, 2016
for programs July 1st or later CE APPROVER COMMITTEE SUBMISSION DEADLINE DATE

May 13, 2016
Elections Final Ticket Due to SCNA Board of Directors

May 18, 2016
Election Consent to Participate / Bio Form / Picture due for the July SC Nurses

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An Authentic Nurse Leader

Wendy Hatchell, MSN, RN

What does being authentic mean? According to Merriman-Webster (2015), the definition is being true to one’s personality, spirit, or character; real or genuine, not false. How does this relate to nursing? Authenticity in nursing is being in the present, being real and genuine in who you are, and possessing and demonstrating character. It is exemplified in how the individual stands in regard to supporting others and in what is the right thing to do for fellow nurses and patients. They practice what they believe. They have and practice with integrity, even when they make a mistake.

This is an attribute. It comes from within the core and heart of the individual. They consistently practice in conjunction with the Nursing Code of Ethics and their internal values. They stand up for their staff, fellow nurses, and for the care of the patient. They seek ‘what is the right thing to do’. They are trustworthy. They maintain integrity and courage, even against the more popular decision. They remain true to their internal values.

An authentic nurse is always seeking to advance the professional role of the nurse, the profession of nursing practice, and the care of the patient. The authentic nurse is an innovator, who not only seeks solutions, they encourage others to strive and achieve within themselves their true potential selves. They assist and create the paths to critical thinking and autonomy for those they serve. They are ‘true and genuine’ in their concern and caring. They empower others. The authentic nurse does this without realizing it.

It is important to seek and find these examples of an authentic nurse in our lives. They set the example and standard for fellow nurses' to emulate. The authentic nurse can be found within all levels and arenas of nursing.

What this individual nurse has learned is:

It is imperative to search for and find those authentic individuals.

We should be authentic in all areas of our lives.

We need to empower, support, and stand up for each other in our nursing practice and profession, organizations, and community.

How important it is to have these individuals in our careers and lives.

Being authentic is one of the greatest gifts that Florence Nightingale gave to us. It holds true to this day. It is one of the foundation cornerstones of our profession. It provides credibility in our profession and practice.

2016 Officers Elected

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the SCFCNA:

Chair – Christy Porter, RN, MSN. Christy is a Faith Community Nurse serving in the Abundant Living Ministry at Baptist Easley.

Chair-elect – Dr. Dawn Henderson, RN, PhD. Dr. Henderson is on faculty at USC Upstate.

Secretary – Anita Boland, RN, MSN. Anita is a Faith Community Nurse at Lexington Presbyterian Church.

Treasurer – BJ. Roof, RN, MN. BJ serves at Mount Tabor Lutheran Church and is also employed at Palmetto Baptist.

Immediate Past President – Erica Belton, RN. Erica is employed at Palmetto Health Baptist and formerly at the Midlands Partnership.

2016 Meeting Schedule

Anyone interested in learning more about the SCFCNA is welcome to come to the quarterly meetings that are held at the SCNA office located at 1821 Gadsden Street, Columbia, 29201. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm each quarter. Along with the business meeting there is a program and opportunities for networking. The 2016 meetings will be held on the following dates:

January 12, 2016; April 12, 2016; July 12, 2016; October 11, 2016

Please visit our website for further information at www.scfcna.com

Faith Community Nurses Foundations Course

The SCFCNA will once again host the Faith Community Nurses Foundations Course. This course provides anyone interested in starting a faith community nursing practice with the information necessary to practice within the role and scope of practice as established by the American Nurses Association and the Health Ministry Association. The three day course will be held in Spartanburg, SC from March 3-6, 2016. Registration information will be provided on our website. Space is limited so it is important to register early. Registration information will be available on the website in January. Continuing education credits will be available.

Congratulations to the following institution:

Medical University of South Carolina Medical Center in Charleston, SC for Magnet Designation

The Care and Concern of SCNA...

is sent to:

Mary Wessinger and her family on the recent death of her mother, Effie Linder Frick.

Congratulations

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And APRN Pharmacology 2016
Hilton Head, South Carolina
Call For Poster Abstracts 2016

- Have you made a practice change that you believe has implications for the future of nursing?
- Have you implemented a practice change that is showing improved patient and/or nurse outcomes?
- Have you conducted research that you believe has implications for the future of nursing?

If you answered yes to any of the questions, share your research by submitting your abstract for SCNA State Convention in 2016.

Submission Deadline
Abstracts must be submitted no later than May 1, 2016. Please submit your abstract to info@scnurses.org. Notice of acceptance will be sent to applicants no later than August 30, 2015.

General Information
A. Abstracts must be submitted electronically. Abstracts must be 300 words or less.
B. Do not place your name on your abstract.
C. Please indicate whether the content of the abstract best fits the category of “research” or “clinical practice.”
D. For research abstracts, the following sections are required: Purpose, Review of Literature, Methodology, Results and Implications for Registered Nurses or Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.
E. For clinical practice abstracts, the following sections are required: Purpose, Review of Literature, Summary (of the innovation or practice), and Implications for Registered Nurses or Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.
F. Bio-sketch(es) must be provided as part of the submission process. Include: name, credentials, position, and title of abstract. Submit the bio-sketch(es) as a separate page from the abstract.
G. If accepted, presenter(s) must register for the conference. At least one author must be available at the poster during poster session times for questions and discussion with participants. Handouts and your contact information are recommended for attendees. Poster session times do not occur during any educational presentation at the conference.

Selection Process
All abstracts submitted prior to deadline and adhering to the guidelines will be considered.

A limited number of abstracts will be accepted. The selection will be made by blind review.

Please do not include your name on the abstract page. Include the title of your abstract on the bio-sketche page. Because the number of abstracts that will be accepted is limited, SCNA members will be given precedence, all other things being equal. A registration discount to attend the conference will be offered for accepted poster abstracts.

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Because You Are A Nurse – SCNA!
The 2015 Convention and Annual Meeting of SCNA was a great success in Greenville, South Carolina. The education sessions began on October 21, 2015 with three Pre-Convention events. This year there were 28 sessions and in addition, the annual update for all of SCNA’s Continuing Education clients was also offered as part of the three day event.

The General Session keynotes presented by Dr. Debbie Hatmaker, Executive Director of ANA and Dianne Jacobs, Consultant at CoMass Group were extremely well received and well attended. (We actually reached standing room only status!)

The attendance for the event was 326 total attendees. This year we added a Call for Posters to our Convention opportunities and were delighted with the response and the high quality of the posters chosen to present.

We had wonderful support from our vendors and the hotel, the Greenville Marriott was a great success as well. We kicked off the convention with a new member / first time attendee breakfast.

The Annual Meeting, which was standing room only, included the beautiful and moving “Time of Remembrance” for members who had died during the past year.

Honored this year were:

Deloris N. Zeigler was born in Lexington County, South Carolina and died December 4, 2014. For many years she was an employee of the Department of Health and Environmental Control in Orangeburg, SC. She served as the director of the Lower Savannah Home Health Service. Deloris was an active member of SCNA and served several terms on the SCNA Board of Directors. She was deeply involved in mission work with her church, the Swansea First Baptist Church and made seven mission trips to Africa.

Eunice Rish Medhurst was born in Pelion, SC on October 5, 2011. After graduating from the Columbia Hospital School of Nursing she went on to study at Johns Hopkins Hospital and the University of South Carolina where she earned her BSN. While at USC she became the first nursing student to attain membership in Phi Beta Kappa. Her master’s degree was earned at Indiana University. A member of SCNA she became the President from 1962-1963 and held offices in nursing organizations and advisory position in community agencies throughout her career. She was the Director of Nursing at Columbia Hospital for 35 years. Upon her retirement she was recruited to design and direct the nursing program at the newly-established Lexington Medical Center and became Vice-President for Operations. After retiring from this position she became a 25 year volunteer for LMC. Mrs. Medhurst was highly honored in her lifetime for the many outstanding services that she provided to her community and state as a nurse. Married for 58 years to her husband, Merle Medhurst, a professor of business at USC, they loved to travel and participate enthusiastically in the Elderhostel program for dozens of trips. A Scholarship fund, the Rish-Medhurst Fund was established at the College of Nursing at USC. Mrs. Medhurst died on December 31, 2014.

Mona Cannon Perrel was born in Clinton and graduated from the Spartanburg General Hospital School of Nursing. She retired after a career of over 50 from the Newberry County Hospital. She died on May 22, 2015.

Karen Sorrow died after a long illness in the middle of May 2015.She taught at Lander College School of Nursing for many years and was an active member of SCNA serving her local district and at the state level.
SCNA would like to thank the following volunteers: Connie Varn, Sherly Mitchell, Mary Wessinger, Bonnie Holaday, Anita Korbe, Ava Pridemore, Tena McKinney, TK Curtis, Kahlil Demonbreun. Kelly Bouthillet, Jean Massey, Alice Wyat, Bruce Williams, Ingrid Pearson, Andrietta Barnett, Robin Traufler, and Heather Hyatt Dolan.

SCNA would like to thank all the sponsors for their generous support:

• American Nurses Association
• American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation
• American Society of Travel Nurses
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Because You Are A Nurse — SCNA!
Advocacy

The SCNA Advocacy Fund is now two years old. This fund assists in covering costs of the advocacy work done by SCNA. Costs increase as opportunities for action increase. There are opportunities for advocacy in all areas of nursing practice. All members of the SCNA Board of Directors have also been asked to contribute in addition to all the volunteer time that they provide for advocacy on behalf of the nursing profession. SCNA Chapter members have also been challenged to participate. The Advocacy Fund augments the SCNA budgeted amounts that are needed for a variety of costs related to advocacy. Contributions may be made by anyone to SCNA. The Fund is not a tax-deductible item for individuals due to the fact that it will be used for advocacy and lobbying. Donations should be made using the information found on the SCNA WEB site www.scnurses.org. Donations may be made by check or by credit card and can be paid monthly.

Join your peers as they work to ensure that nursing will continue to be a forward moving profession!

Thank you to the following Donors who have contributed to the SCNA Advocacy Fund since January 1, 2014

<table>
<thead>
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<th>$1.00 - $50.00</th>
<th>$51.00-$100.00</th>
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<td>Ann Alexander</td>
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<td>Linda Alwine</td>
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DEPARTMENT OF NURSING PROGRAMS CHAIR

The Department of Nursing is seeking a dynamic leader to direct a nursing programs that includes an ACEN accredited associate degree nursing program, SC State approved Practical nursing program and a Certified Nursing Assistant program. Faculty includes 15 full-time instructors and 20-25 adjunct instructors. Responsibilities include curriculum development and alignment, faculty performance management, student services (student advisement, student success and progression), accreditation compliance, ongoing management of the systematic evaluation plan with assessment. The position reports to the Associate Vice President of Health Sciences and is a full-time, twelve month appointment.

SBTCE's MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS/SC Board of Nursing/ACEN MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Master's degree in Nursing or master's degree with a minimum of 18 graduate semester hours in Nursing plus three (3) years of nursing faculty/education experience and evidence of progressively responsible direct program administration and faculty supervision experience. Possess or be eligible for South Carolina RN licensure.


HOW TO APPLY:

Persons interested in this opportunity should apply online at www.jobs.sc.gov. Please complete the State application to include current and previous work history and education. The following items need also to be submitted as part of application packet:

1. Philosophy of Teaching statement 1 page, single spaced
2. Philosophy of Management/Leadership style 1 page, single spaced
3. CV: Academic
4. Nursing license, all certifications
5. Unofficial transcripts of academic work (Official will be collected by those coming for interviews)
6. Applicants coming for interview will be asked to present on a specific topic.

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SCNA Legislative Priorities 2014-2016

The South Carolina Nurses Association has among its purposes:

1) To promote the quality of life and health care for all people
2) To foster the nursing profession as a leading, positive force in the health care delivery system

To achieve these broad purposes, the SCNA will provide leadership in the legislative and public policy arena

To promote the quality of life and health care for all people in South Carolina, SCNA will:

1) Promote access to and delivery of safe, cost effective, quality health services for the public
2) Protect nursing care services to the public with emphasis in the licensed nurses’ roles as qualified providers of healthcare services
3) Support equal rights and opportunities for all peoples unrestricted by consideration of age, color, creed, disability, gender, health status, lifestyle, nationality, race, religion, or sexual orientation
4) Support legislation that promotes and protects environmental health in the home, at the worksite, in the community
5) Initiate and/or support legislation to assure comprehensive health care services to all people, especially vulnerable populations

To foster the nursing profession in its role as a provider, leader, and collaborator in the health care delivery system, SCNA will:

1) Initiate, monitor and respond to all activity which would affect the practice of nursing
2) Assure nursing participation in planning, development, and evaluation of policies related to health care
3) Support and protect the rights of nurses in the workplace
4) Initiate and support the procurement of public and private funding for nursing education and nursing research

Adopted:
November 15, 2002 SCNA House of Delegates
November 11, 2006 SCNA Annual Meeting

Revised and Approved:
October 25, 2008 SCNA Annual Meeting
October 23, 2010 SCNA Annual Meeting
September 22, 2012 SCNA Annual Meeting
October 24, 2014 SCNA Annual Meeting

From the Archives: Everything that is Old is New Again

“Belonging” A Professional Characteristic
From the 1964 Spring Issue of the South Carolina Nurse

Is has often been observed that one mark of the professional person is his pride in “belonging.” An open letter from Mrs. Helen Thomas, appearing in THE MICHIGAN NURSE, puts it this way: “Every nurse thinks of herself as a professional person, yet if she will look at other professional people she will find they belong to their respective organizations.” In a message to 1961 graduates, Nebraska Nurses Association’s president, Edna A. Fagan, quotes Theodore Roosevelt; “I hold that everyone man owes something of his time and substance to upbuilding of the profession or industry from which he gains his livelihood. How about you?”

A message from Vermont president, Phillip E Day, featured in the June Issue of THE VERMONT REGISTERED NURSE, expresses concern that less than 40% of the active professional nurses in the United States belong to their professional organization. “This in itself raises a serious question of real professionalism in at least 60% of our colleagues,” says Mr. Day. Speaking of the nurses who are not members and of those who do join but who do not actively participate in association activities, Mr. Day says that while it is good to list profession gains, it is equally important to list deficiencies. “We are certainly deficient if we attach so little importance to being a nurse. We belittle no one but ourselves when we contribute but little and that grudgingly to the cause of nursing.”

Editors Comment:
Pretty stern stuff!

Legislative Update January 2016

The SC General Assembly will have returned on January 12, 2016. This is for the second year of the two year term. We are very much in an election year mode. The bill that SCNA is most interested in seeing passed is H. 3078 to remove barriers to practice from Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. We have worked hard on this bill and will continue to do so during this year. We shall have much competition to passage of this bill, but, we will not flag in our support.

S371, “Samuel’s Law” was passed out of sub-committee and is now in full committee in the Senate. We shall continue our work to oppose this bill as it is unnecessary in South Carolina. It is a bill that was created following a tragic event. It would place a truly chilling effect on the provision of healthcare by all persons licensed by the Board of Nursing in South Carolina and very well could be expanded to other professionals should it pass.

Stay tuned for more updates, if you are a member of SCNA, be certain to join the Legislative Support Team for weekly information about what is going on at the SC State House. Contact Rosie Robinson to be added to the list: rosie@scnurses.org

Fix your career and health care. Join us in the mission that has transformed the world.

Yes, you have the degree and the passion for nursing. But are you ready to make a difference in the future of health care? To find out more information about nursing programs, contact your local nursing school. Also, visit our website at www.scnurses.org.

Editor’s Comment:

One Still Hopes Drive
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Georgia RN required, 1+ years of experience - Full-time

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phone: 706-774-2944 • fax: 706-774-8977

Because You Are A Nurse – SCNA!
South Carolina Nurses Foundation Update

On November 14, 2015 the foundation held a Nurses Walk in Columbia and Charleston. This activity adds to our scholarship funds through sponsorships and the sales of sweat shirts and t-shirts. More details will be available about the walk in the next edition of the SC Nurse.

The South Carolina Nurses Foundation would like to extend its appreciation to the following sponsors and donors to the Nurses Walk:

Medical University of South Carolina Health System
Medical University of South Carolina College of Nursing
Kershaw Health
Bayada Home Care and Pediatrics
The Methodist Oaks, Orangeburg, SC
Alpha Xi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, International
Gamma Omicron Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, International
South Carolina Nurses Association
 McGregor and Company
Janney Investment Services
Delta Eta Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority
Lander University School of Nursing
Salty Nut
Pat Macaruso
Bernice Daugherty
Tamme Gillespie
Maggie Johnson
Sheryl Mitchell
Shirley Timmons
Holisa Wharton
Deke Business Bookkeeping
Judith and Alan Alexander
Sarah Allen
MaryAnne Attanasio
Antia Bishop
Lonnaia Carrier
Jennifer Datus
Lana Davis
Bianca Espinosa
Iona Fox Graham
Laura Hayre
Anna Hewitt
Heather Jarvis
Hunter Lee
Hanna Jones Olsen
Joan Sato
Tiffani Shatuck
Laura Watkins
Ashley Williams
Stacey Woods
Shannon Zeilinger

The fall was a busy time for the foundation. In October members of the board of Trustees attended the SC Nurses Convention in Greenville in order to promote awareness of the Foundation and to raise money for our scholarship funds. The Foundation raised over $1300 with the majority of those dollars coming from the raffle of a quilt donated by the Northeast Presbyterian Quilters of Columbia, SC. Board of Trustees member Renatta Loquist is a member of that quilting group. The quilt was won by Lorette Mitchem an APRN from Greenville, SC. Board of Trustees member Renatta Loquist is a member of that quilting group. The quilt was won by Lorette Mitchem an APRN from Greenville, SC.

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economic and financial data. Possible remedies are strategies that can be applied at the level of the individual or the system. The purpose of the Palmetto Gold program is to annually salute 100 registered nurses who exemplify excellence in nursing practice and commitment to the profession. A secondary purpose is to provide scholarships to registered nurses who exemplify excellence in nursing practice and commitment to the profession. A secondary purpose is to provide scholarships to registered nurses who exemplify excellence in nursing practice and commitment to the profession.

This funding incredible recognition and scholarship program is provided by the generous support of individuals and organizations. Not proceeds generated from the gala evening are used to provide nursing scholarships for students attending South Carolina registered nurse education programs and to build the Palmetto Gold Scholarship Fund. Palmetto Gold advertising and sponsorship opportunities are available for purchase for any business or individual interested. The Steering Committee is grateful to the many educators and benefactors that have contributed to the success of this program for the past 14 years. The impact of the program has been far-reaching as over $319,000 in scholarships have been awarded to student nurses.

There are several opportunities to support the Palmetto Gold Nurse Recognition and Scholarship Program. Our benefactors are vital to the success and continuation of our program. What a wonderful way to honor a nurse who has made a difference in your life, to support the profession or to give back as a past Palmetto Gold recipients to ensure continuation of this program. Any individual or corporate entity may become a benefactor by contributing financially or purchasing one or more corporate tables. Each table seats eight and provides eight admissions to the Gala. Funding this incredible recognition and scholarship program is an exciting way to recognize Palmetto Gold recipients from your organization or nursing in general. If interested in supporting advertising or sponsorship for the 2016 Gala, please contact June Darby at darby.june@pm.com. More information about supporting the Recognition and Scholarship Program, please e-mail the Foundation at scnursesfoundation@gmail.com. The deadline for advertising in our program or for recognizing your sponsorship in the program is March 25, 2015.

There are several opportunities to support the Palmetto Gold Nurse Recognition and Scholarship Program. Our benefactors are vital to the success and continuation of our program. What a wonderful way to honor a nurse who has made a difference in your life, to support the profession or to give back as a past Palmetto Gold recipients to ensure continuation of this program. Any individual or corporate entity may become a benefactor by contributing financially or purchasing one or more corporate tables. Each table seats eight and provides eight admissions to the Gala. Funding this incredible recognition and scholarship program is an exciting way to recognize Palmetto Gold recipients from your organization or nursing in general. If interested in supporting advertising or sponsorship for the 2016 Gala, please contact June Darby at darby.june@pm.com. More information about supporting the Recognition and Scholarship Program, please e-mail the Foundation at scnursesfoundation@gmail.com.

The deadline for advertising in our program or for recognizing your sponsorship in the program is March 25, 2015.

Please make plans to attend the 2016 Gala on April 16, 2016 for an exciting evening to celebrate nursing excellence. For more information about this prestigious program, please check our website www.scpalmettogold.org.
Silver Spring, MD – To achieve quality care, better patient outcomes and financial stability, optimal nurse staffing should be viewed by health care employers as a necessity rather than an option—particularly as health care reforms and new regulations take hold.

That is a key message reflected in a new white paper commissioned by the American Nurses Association (ANA) and developed by Antonelli Health LLC in collaboration with nurses and policy experts. Nurses at all levels and in all settings can use the white paper, “Optimal Nurse Staffing to Improve Quality of Care and Patient Outcomes,” as a resource to advocate for and implement sound, evidence-based staffing plans.

“Nurses on the front lines are in the best position to determine the staffing needed for safe and equitable, quality care, but they consistently tell us they must fight for optimal nurse staffing. This white paper is our way of providing evidence to support the need for changes in nurse staffing across all health care settings,” said Pamela C. Cipriano, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, president of the American Nurses Association.

The white paper highlights studies that demonstrate how appropriate nurse staffing helps to achieve both clinical and economic improvements, from reducing medication and other errors to shortening patients’ hospital length of stay.

“The evidence from hundreds of studies—and the white paper—make it clear that there is a relationship between staffing and patient outcomes,” said Matthew McHugh, PhD, JD, MPH, RN, FAAN, an associate professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing who helped develop the paper. “If there are not enough nurses at the bedside, bad things are likely to happen.”

The white paper also examines the various forces that have impacted discussions about nurse staffing and health care, from Affordable Care Act provisions and Institute of Medicine reports to changing patient demographics.

This paper specifically notes that existing staffing systems are often antiquated and lack flexibility to adjust to factors such as patient complexity, a rise in admissions, discharges and transfers, and the physical layout of the unit. It further addresses efforts by ANA and other organizations to advocate for federal regulation and legislation promoting flexible staffing plans, and highlights ANA activities to support transparency and public reporting of staffing data.

For example, the Registered Nurse Safe Staffing Act (H.R. 2083/ S.1132), endorsed by ANA, would require Medicare-participating hospitals to establish registered nurse (RN) staffing plans using a committee, comprised of a majority of direct-care nurses, to ensure patient safety, reduce readmissions and improve nurse retention. “We in nurse leadership have to be able to defend our budgets for optimal staffing,” said Bob Dent, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, CENP, FAHCHE, senior vice president and chief operating officer at Midland Memorial Hospital in Texas. “We need to be able to tell our boards of trustees and other administrators: ‘If we want to be able to deliver quality care to our community, then here is the staffing we need and here is the evidence [that supports that decision].”

The paper is the first in a series aimed at addressing the value of nursing care and services. Individuals can learn more and access the white paper executive summary here. Members of the media can obtain the full white paper by sending a request to Ms. Jemarion Jones at jemarion.jones@ana.org.

New American Nurses Association Resource Helps RNs Make the Case for Optimal Nurse Staffing

ANA and Association of Nurses in AIDS Care Call for Repeal of HIV Criminalization Laws

Silver Spring, MD – As global communities mark Dec. 1 as World AIDS Day, the American Nurses Association (ANA) and the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) are calling for the elimination of outdated HIV criminalization laws in a new position statement.

“It’s clearly time to repeal laws that unfairly punish people living with HIV,” said ANA President Pamela C. Cipriano, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN. “HIV is a treatable medical condition and laws need to reflect advances in our understanding of the disease, its treatment and transmission risk.”

The ANAC position statement, endorsed by ANA, describes HIV criminalization as the use of criminal law to arrest and penalize HIV-positive people for perceived or potential HIV exposure or transmission through consensual sexual contact and where nondisclosure of their HIV-positive status is alleged. More than 30 states in the U.S. have legislation that criminalizes HIV exposure without transmission; a significant number of these laws include exposures that are now known to pose no risk of transmission such as kissing.

Most of these laws were adopted decades ago, in an era of limited understanding of HIV and in an environment of fear and discrimination.

“This is why the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care has called for the reform and/ or repeal of unjust and harmful HIV criminalization statutes. Nurses know from our ethical code that singling out HIV status or any other diagnosis or disability as criteria for criminal charges is unjust and contrary to evidence-based public health approaches,” said ANAC Executive Director Kimberly Cochran.

The ANAC position statement also outlines how criminalization can hinder HIV prevention, care and treatment. For example, outdated laws that sanction HIV discrimination cause and support stigma. People with HIV may internalize the judgment and misperception of HIV as highly infectious and fear being tested, disclosing their status, or even accessing health care due to internalized stigma.

There is a growing consensus about the need to reform HIV-specific laws. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Department of Justice and the National HIV AIDS Strategy have all called for a review and modernization of HIV-specific criminal statutes to

www.scnurses.org

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Clinical Nursing Instructors
Clinical Instructors needed for the Nursing Assistant, the Associate Degree and Practical Nursing Programs

Qualifications: Nursing Assistant Instructors must have an Associate’s Degree in Nursing or higher with 1 year long term care experience. Practical and Associate Degree Instructors must have a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing; Master’s degree preferred. Two years recent clinical experience required in Med/Surg, OB, or Pediatrics. Must have current South Carolina Registered Nurse license. Contact Kimberly Cochran at cochrank@miamishtech.edu for more information.

Interested persons should submit resume and unofficial transcripts stating Social Security Number to:

Midlands Technical College
Nursing, Kimberly Cochran
PO Box 2408, Columbia, SC 29202

Coastal Carolina Hospital, a fully accredited facility, has been providing quality care for our community for over five years. Services include our Emergency Care, Imaging, Rehabilitation, Surgical Services, OB and more.

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AA/EO/ADA
The mission of the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina is the protection of public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring that all registered nurses practice within their scope of practice.

This mission is accomplished by assuring safe initial practice as well as continuing competency in the practice of nursing and by promoting nursing excellence in the areas of education, research, and community practice of nursing.

The Board licenses qualified individuals as licensed practical nurses, registered nurses or advanced practice registered nurses. Complaints against nurses are investigated and disciplinary action taken when necessary. Schools of nursing are surveyed and approved to ensure quality education for future nurses.

RENEWAL TIME IS COMING!

License renewal for APRNs, RNs and LPNs for the period May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2018 begins January 28, 2016. Courtesy renewal notices will be sent by mail to assist you in renewing your license. This notification is not a renewal form. Do not return this notice with a check or money order.

The law does not require the Board to send out renewal notices and many of our courtesy notices are returned by the postal service each renewal season. If you do not receive your courtesy renewal notice, you may go to https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/OnlineRenewals/ and follow these steps:

1. Enter your user ID and password.
2. OR select “Alternative Login – I do not know my User ID/Password” and complete the required security questions.
3. Click renew license and select your license renewal option:
   a. Renew online – enter the information requested.
   b. Have your credit card ready. (Accepted payment method include Visa, MasterCard, electronic check or debit card if it has the Visa or MasterCard logo.)
   c. Licensure Fees:
      - RN and LPN – $75
      - APRN ($145)
      - APRN with prescriptive authority -- $150
      - Disciplined licenses: RN and LPN – $150
      - APRN -- $170
      - APRN with prescriptive authority -- $190

Please be sure to print a payment receipt for your records and keep it on file. During the payment process, please be sure to select “print receipt”. Also, if you provide an email address, a receipt will be emailed to you when payment is authorized. Remember, all renewals must be submitted by midnight, April 30, 2016 to prevent your license from lapsing. It is illegal to practice as a nurse without a renewed license.

You will not receive a paper license after you renew. You can verify your licensure information at https://verify.llr.sc.gov/LicLookup?LookUpMain.aspx. Please allow three business days after renewing to verify the transaction.

Advantages of Renewing Online (https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/OnlineRenewals/)

- Faster - it takes only a few minutes to complete your renewal on-line.
- Convenient - You can complete your renewal application 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at any location with internet access.
- No Lost Payments - You can use your Visa or MasterCard online at any time to renew your license.
- Disciplined licenses: You can use your Visa or MasterCard online at any time to renew your license. To verify the status of your disciplined license, please go to https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/OnlineRenewals/lookup/printmain.aspx.
- Quick Turn Around -Your license is renewed within 24 hours of your credit card / electronic check clearing.
- License Renewal Confirmation - You or your employer may confirm your new expiration date on Licensee Lookup on the Board’s website. Please allow three business days after renewing to verify the transaction.

RENEWAL FAQs

Q: I haven’t received my renewal notice; what do I do?

A: As a courtesy, renewal notices are sent out in January to the last address on Board of Nursing records.

The law does not require the Board to send out renewal notices and many courtesy notices are returned by the postal service each renewal cycle. You may renew online using your same User ID and Password as you did during the last renewal. If you do not remember or do not have your User ID/Password, you may still renew. Please go to https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/OnlineRenewals/ and click on “Alternative Login I do not know my User ID/Password” and complete the required security questions.

“Note: Section 40-33-38(C) of the South Carolina Nurse Practice Act requires that all licensees notify the Board in writing within 10 days of any address change."

Q: How can my employer verify that I have renewed my nursing license?

A: If you need paper evidence of your nursing license and expiration date, you may obtain this information one of the following ways:

1) Go to Licensee Lookup located at https://verify.llr.sc.gov/LicLookup/Nurse/Nurse.aspx?div=17. Under Board of Nursing select the same link and enter the bare minimum information (i.e. your last/first name or license number only). You will receive a security code and you may use this code to print your license. You may print this page.

If you do not have the name or license number in all blocks and it is not entered 100% the way it is in the Board’s system, you will receive an error message (appearing as if the nurse doesn’t hold a license in our state).

2) You may now have the capability through LLR’s website to download and print a wallet card after license has been issued, reinstated, or renewed. The cards can be printed from your printer. You will need Adobe Reader installed on your PC to view and print the card. For best results, use card stock instead of copy paper to print a more durable card. To print a wallet card from LLR’s website go to SecurePortal/Login.aspx. Click on “Print License Card” and follow instructions.

Q: How can I check a license?

A: To check a nursing license, you may utilize one or all of the following options:

1. SC Licensee Lookup – Go to https://verify.llr.sc.gov/LicLookup/Nurse/Nurse.aspx?div=17. As you enter information, it is recommended that you enter a portion of at least six letters. You will be provided with the nurse’s name, city and state, license number as well as license type, date issued/expires, license status, and whether the license is a Wallace card after license has been issued, reinstated, or renewed. You will not receive a paper license after you renew. You can verify your licensure information at https://verify.llr.sc.gov/LicLookup?LookUpMain.aspx. Please allow three business days after renewing to verify the transaction.

By entering the name of a nurse, you may view the nurse’s name, date of birth, gender, telephone number, address, city and state, license number as well as license type, date issued/expires, license status, and whether the license is a Wallace card after license has been issued, reinstated, or renewed. You will not receive a paper license after you renew. You can verify your licensure information at https://verify.llr.sc.gov/LicLookup?LookUpMain.aspx. Please allow three business days after renewing to verify the transaction.

By entering the license number as your search criteria, you may view the nurse’s name, license number, license type, address, city and state, expiration date, and discipline status.

Q: What are my options for renewing my nursing license?

A: There are four options available under the Nurse Practice Act to document your renewed competency for renewal; however, not all of these options may be available for each nurse or available in every employment or practice setting. Prior to choosing an option, it is wise to verify that the option is available for you, such as your employer signing your renewal form and noting that you completed the renewal process and that your payment has been accepted.

1. Completion of 30 contact hours from a continuing education provider recognized by the Board. The list of recognized providers can be found on the Competency Requirements Criteria on our website.
Because You Are A Nurse – SCNA!

Q: Are Continuing Education hours now mandated by the Board of Nursing?
A: No, the Board of Nursing does not mandate continuing education hours. It is only one of the four options for continued competency now offered by the Board. The licensed nurse needs to select only one of these options. However, you may wish to check Section I of the Competency Requirement Criteria regarding classes that you are taking towards an advanced degree in nursing.

Q: What is a national nursing provider of continuing education?
A: A list of accepted providers can be found under Continued Competency Criteria on the Board’s website at www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/.

Q: Can I count taking one course in school as a nursing program under option (c) of Section 40-33-40?
A: No. The key word in this option is “completion.” You must complete all the coursework for the program before it can count toward your continued competency requirement. However, you may check section I regarding classes that you are taking towards an advanced degree in nursing.

Q: What is the difference between CEU and Contact Hours?
A: Continuing education hours, nursing credit hours and contact hours are all methods of measuring education hours. It is similar to quarts versus liters. Below is the breakdown provided to the Board by the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC). Remember that continuing education hours must be approved by an organization on the Board’s Competency Requirement Criteria to be used for renewal. Continuing education is just one of the four options available to you.

1 contact hour = 60 minutes
1 CME = 60 minutes or 1.0 contact hours
1 contact hour = 0.1 CEU
1 CEU = 10 contact hours
(Reference ANCC)

Q: What are my options to document competency to renew my APRN license?
A: An APRN is required to hold a current APRN specialty certification by a Board-approved credentialing organization for his/her area of APRN nursing practice to renew his/her APRN license. Certification or re-certification must be current during the renewal period. A list of Board-approved credentialing organizations is available at www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Nursing/PDF/Board%20Approved%20Advanced%20Practice%20Certification%20Organizations.pdf

Q: Where do I get the Board approved employer verification form?
A: The Employer Certification form is located on the website. Nurses need to be sure that their employer cares, by their policies, complete and sign the form required by the Board to document practice hours. If they cannot, nurses may choose one of the other options.

Q: Do I have to send in all my paperwork with my renewal?
A: No. Do not send any continued competency paperwork with your renewal. You just mark one of the four options on your renewal application. The Board conducts random audit of nurses in South Carolina. If your name is selected, you will receive a letter asking you to send the documentation in to verify competency. By law, you will have five days to provide the documents. A licensee must maintain all documented evidence of compliance for at least four years.

Q: Will my debit card work for online renewal payment?
A: If your debit card has the Visa/MasterCard logo on it, it will work with the Board’s

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Requirement Criteria:
2) Maintenance of certification or re-certification by a national certifying body recognized by the Board; OR
3) Completion of an academic program of study in nursing or a related field recognized by the Board; OR
4) Verification of competency and number of hours practiced as evidenced by employer certification on a form approved by the Board. Further information can be found in the Competency Requirement Criteria. There are no set number of hours you must practice nursing to use this option. However, you must practice enough hours that your employer can verify your competency. The employer certification form is available on the Board’s website. Please verify that your employer can / will sign this form before choosing this option as your demonstration of continued competency. If your employer is unable to sign this form, you must choose one of the other options shown above.

Q: Can I count taking one course in school as a nursing program under option (c) of Section 40-33-40?
A: No. The key word in this option is “completion.” You must complete all the coursework for the program before it can count toward your continued competency requirement. However, you may check section I regarding classes that you are taking towards an advanced degree in nursing.

Q: What is a national nursing provider of continuing education?
A: A list of accepted providers can be found under Continued Competency Criteria on the Board’s website at www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/.

Q: Can I count taking one course in school as a nursing program under option (c) of Section 40-33-40?
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Q: What is the difference between CEU and Contact Hours?
A: Continuing education hours, nursing credit hours and contact hours are all methods of measuring education hours. It is similar to quarts versus liters. Below is the breakdown provided to the Board by the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC). Remember that continuing education hours must be approved by an organization on the Board’s Competency Requirement Criteria to be used for renewal. Continuing education is just one of the four options available to you.

1 contact hour = 60 minutes
1 CME = 60 minutes or 1.0 contact hours
1 contact hour = 0.1 CEU
1 CEU = 10 contact hours
(Reference ANCC)

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Q: Will my debit card work for online renewal payment?
A: If your debit card has the Visa/MasterCard logo on it, it will work with the Board’s
system. Be assured that we have state-of-the-art security on our system for renewals. Your credit card/debit card number cannot be seen by our office, only your bank.

Q. I am nervous about using my credit card to renew my license online. How safe is it?
A. Our Agency utilizes state-of-the-art security systems to protect nurses’ information.

Q. I do not have a credit card. Is there another way for me to pay online?
A. Yes. You will be given the option to pay by credit card or by electronic check.

THINKING ABOUT GOING INACTIVE?
Be sure to consider the following when thinking about placing your nursing license on inactive status.

1. You must complete the Request for Inactive Status form found on the Board’s website under Applications/Forms and submit it along with your $15 fee before your license lapses.
2. You can change your mind at any time, but you will need to meet the requirements of Section 40-33-40 (B)(2) and (3) of the Nurse Practice Act to reactivate your license. The requirements to reactivate are based on the amount of time your license is inactive.
3. If you do not practice for five years or more, the requirement for reactivating your license is retaking the licensure examination or taking a refresher course.
4. Placing your license on inactive status includes your Multi-state (Compact) status.

Remember, to keep your nursing license in an active status, you need to complete one of the following continued competency requirements during the licensure period:

1. Completion of 30 contact hours from a continuing education provider recognized by the Board. The list of recognized providers can be found on the Competency Requirement Criteria.
2. Maintenance of certification or re-certification by a national certifying body recognized by the Board.
3. Completion of an academic program of study in nursing or a related field recognized by the Board.
4. Verification of competency and number of hours practiced as evidenced by employer certification on a form approved by the Board. Further information can be found in the Competency Requirement Criteria. There are no set number of hours you must practice nursing to use this option. However, you must practice enough hours that your employer can verify your competency. The employer certification form is available on the Board’s website. Please verify that your employer can/will sign this form before choosing this option as your demonstration of continued competency. If your employer is unable to sign this form, you must choose one of the other options shown above.

REPORTING MISCONDUCT AND VIOLATIONS OF THE NURSE PRACTICE ACT
It has come to the attention of the SC Board of Nursing that there is reluctance on the part of some employers to report violations of the Nurse Practice Act by their employees.

Section 40-33-111(A) of the Nurse Practice Act states that:
(A) An employer, including an agency, or supervisor of nurses, shall report any instances of the misconduct or the incapacities described in Section 40-33-110 to the State Board of Nursing not more than fifteen business days, excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, from the discovery of the misconduct or incapacity. A nurse supervisor who fails to timely report the misconduct or incapacity may be subject to disciplinary action and civil sanctions as provided for in Section 40-33-120. An employer who is not licensed by the board and who fails to timely report the misconduct or incapacity shall pay a civil penalty of one thousand dollars per violation upon notice of the board.

The Board believes it is important to note that there are possible sanctions for employers who fail to report misconduct or incapacities in a timely manner to the Board. It is important for the safety of the citizens of South Carolina that nurses and employers of nurses adhere to the SC Nurse Practice Act.

ATTENTION APRNs
You must notify the Board of your APRN certification, re-certification or certification renewal.

- Are you licensed as an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN)?
- Have you renewed your certification?
- Did you know that the Board does not automatically receive notification you have renewed your certification?
- Did you know that it is the licensee’s responsibility to provide the Board with a copy of his or her current certification/recertification?

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Because You Are a Nurse – SCNA!
If you have recently become certified, recertified or renewed your certification, please mail a copy of your current certification to LLR-Board of Nursing, Advanced Practice Licensure, PO Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211. You may also scan your document and e-mail to NurseBoard@llr.sc.gov or send your document by fax to 803-896-4515.

BOARD VACANCIES

There is currently one vacancy on the South Carolina State Board of Nursing. Board members serve terms of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualify. Board members must be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Vacancies must be filled for the unexpired portion of a term by appointment of the Governor.

Pursuant to Section 40-33-10(A) of the Nurse Practice Act, when appointing members to the Board of Nursing, the Governor will give consideration to include a diverse representation of principal areas of nursing, but not limited to hospital, acute care, advanced practice, community health, and nursing education. Registered nurse and licensed practical nurse members must be licensed in South Carolina, be employed in nursing, have at least three years of practice in their respective professions immediately preceding their appointment, and reside in the district they represent. Lay members represent the public at large as consumers of nursing services and may not be licensed or employed as a health care provider. No Board member may serve as an officer or employee of a professional health-related state association.

There is one vacancy for a Licensed Practical Nurse representative from the state at large. An individual, group or association may nominate qualified persons and submit written requests to the Governor’s Office for consideration and appointment to the State Board of Nursing. If you or someone you know is interested in the positions on the Board of Nursing, a letter of request, along with a resume or curriculum vitae, should be submitted to Boards and Commissions, Office of the Governor, Post Office Box 11829, Columbia, SC 29211-1829.

CHANGING YOUR NAME ON YOUR NURSING LICENSE

If you have had a legal name change, submit your written request, along with a copy of the legal document(s) (copy of marriage certificate, divorce decree, court order, etc.), to LLR- Board of Nursing, Post Office Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211 or you can send the request and documents by fax to 803-896-4515 to the attention of Board of Nursing. Please indicate in your request whether you will use your middle name or maiden name for your middle initial or if you wish to hyphenate your name. For example, if Jane Ann Doe marries John Smith, will she use Jane Ann Smith? Or Jane Doe Smith? Or Jane Ann Doe Smith? Or Jane Doe-Smith? Your name change request must be submitted to Boards and Commissions, Office of the Governor, Post Office Box 11829, Columbia, SC 29211-1829.

HAY YOU MOVED?

Section 40-33-38(C) of the South Carolina Code of Laws (Nurse Practice Act) requires that all licensees notify the Board in writing within 15 days of any address change. So you do not miss important time-sensitive information from the Board, such as your courtesy renewal notice, audit notice or important licensure information, be sure to notify the Board immediately whenever you change your address. Failure to notify the Board of an address change may result in a license suspension. You may change your address online utilizing the address change form under Online Services found on the Board’s website.

Note: Changing your address with the South Carolina Nurses Association (SCNA) does not change your address on your licensing records with the South Carolina State Board of Nursing.

BOARD MEMBERS

Carol A. Moody, RN, MAS, NEA-BC, Congressional District 4 - President
Samuel H. McNutt, RN, CRNA, MHSA, Congressional District 5 - Vice President
Amanda E. Baker, RN, MSN, MNA, CRNA, Congressional District 2 - Secretary
Jaqueline L. Baer, APRN, Congressional District 1
W. Kay Swisher, RNC, MSN, Congressional District 3
Sonya K. Ehrhardt, RN, Congressional District 6
Karen R. Hazzard MSN, RN, NEA-BC, Congressional District 7
Neil B. Lipsitz, Public Member
James E. Mallory, EdD, Public Member
Jan R. Burdette, LPN, At-Large
Vacant, (1) Licensed Practical Nurse At-Large
Vacancies: [See Section 40-33-10(A) of the Nurse Practice Act for prerequisites and requirements]

SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF NURSING CONTACT INFORMATION:

Main Telephone Line (803) 896-4550
Fax Line (803) 896-4515
General Email NurseBoard@llr.sc.gov
Website www.scnurses.org

The Board of Nursing is located at Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Suite 202, Columbia, SC 29210. Directions to the office can be found on the website – llr.sc.gov - at the bottom of the page. The Board’s mailing address is LLR – Office of Board Services – SC Board of Nursing, Post Office Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211-2367.

Normal agency business hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Offices are closed for holidays designated by the state.

BOARD OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION

Nancy G. Murphy, Administrator

OFFICE OF INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Main Telephone Line (803) 896-4470

VISIT THE BOARD WEBSITE OFTEN

The Board recommends all nurses licensed by or working in South Carolina visit its website llr.sc.gov/pol/nursing) at least monthly for up-to-date information on nursing licensure in South Carolina. The Board of Nursing Website contains the Nurse Practice Act (Chapter 33- Laws Governing Nursing in South Carolina), Regulations (Chapter 91), Compact Information, Advisory Opinions, Position Statements, Licensure Applications, Continued Competency Requirements/ Criteria, Application Status, Licensee Lookup, Disciplinary Actions, and other helpful information. The Nurse Practice Act, Regulations, Advisory Opinions and Position Statements are located under Laws/Policies. The Competency Requirement and Competency Requirement Criteria, which includes continuing education contact hours, are located under Licensure. You will also find Board Meeting Calendar, Agendas, Minutes and Board Member names and the area they represent.

The Board hopes you will find this information useful in your nursing practice.

Board of Nursing Meeting Calendar for 2016

Board and Committee meeting agendas are posted on the Board’s website at least 24 hours prior to meeting.

Board of Nursing Meeting

January 28 – 29, 2016
March 24 – 25, 2016
May 19 – 20, 2016
July 28 – 29, 2016
September 29 – 30, 2016
November 17 – 18, 2016

Advanced Practice Committee

February 5, 2016
May 6, 2016
August 5, 2016
November 4, 2016

Advisory Committee on Nursing

February 14, 2016
April 19, 2016
June 21, 2016
August 30, 2016
October 18, 2016
December 6, 2016

Nursing Practice & Standards Committee

January 14, 2016
April 14, 2016
July 14, 2016
October 15, 2016

Designated 2016 State Holidays

New Year’s Day January 1, 2016
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 18, 2016
President’s Day February 15, 2016
Confederate Memorial Day May 10, 2016
National Memorial Day May 30, 2016
Independence Day July 4, 2016
Labor Day September 5, 2016
Veterans Day November 11, 2016
Thanksgiving Day November 24, 2016
Day after Thanksgiving November 25, 2016
Christmas Eve December 24, 2016
Christmas Day December 25, 2016
Day after Christmas (Expected Observance) December 27, 2016

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Heartland of Greenville West
600 Sulphur Springs Road
Greenville, SC 29617
Phone: 864-246-2721

Heartland of Hanahan
1800 Eagle Landing Road
Hanahan, SC 29410
Phone: 843-553-0656

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709 Rice Avenue
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