Expanding Access to Care & Nurse Mobility Across the U.S.

About
The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) increases access to care, protects patient safety and reduces costs while supporting state-of-the-art health care delivery. The NLC allows 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 20 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 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/Pandemic 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**: Nurses do not have to obtain additional nursing licenses, making practicing across state borders affordable and convenient.
- **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.

Learn more about applying for a compact license
[ncsbn.org/nlc](ncsbn.org/nlc)

Help bring the NLC to your state
[NurseCompact.com](NurseCompact.com)
Pending NLC States

**Guam:** Pending implementation in 2022, tentatively. Nurses holding a multistate license in other NLC states may practice in Guam. Guam residents cannot obtain a multistate license until implementation is complete.

**Pennsylvania:** NLC enacted July 1, 2021. Implementation date is TBD. Criminal background checks must also be implemented. PA residents cannot obtain a multistate license until implementation is completed. Nurses in other NLC states with a multistate license may not practice in PA until implementation is complete.

**Virgin Islands:** NLC enacted Dec. 6, 2021. Implementation date is TBD. Criminal background checks must also be implemented. VI residents cannot obtain a multistate license until implementation is completed. Nurses in other NLC states with a multistate license may not practice in VI until implementation is complete.