

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Nurse Practice Act is amended by changing  
5 Sections 50-10, 55-10, 60-10, and 65-10 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 65/50-10) (was 225 ILCS 65/5-10)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

8 Sec. 50-10. Definitions. Each of the following terms, when  
9 used in this Act, shall have the meaning ascribed to it in this  
10 Section, except where the context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Academic year" means the customary annual schedule of  
12 courses at a college, university, or approved school,  
13 customarily regarded as the school year as distinguished from  
14 the calendar year.

15 "Address of record" means the designated address recorded  
16 by the Department in the applicant's or licensee's application  
17 file or license file as maintained by the Department's  
18 licensure maintenance unit.

19 "Advanced practice registered nurse" or "APRN" means a  
20 person who has met the qualifications for a (i) certified  
21 nurse midwife (CNM); (ii) certified nurse practitioner (CNP);  
22 (iii) certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA); or (iv)  
23 clinical nurse specialist (CNS) and has been licensed by the

1 Department. All advanced practice registered nurses licensed  
2 and practicing in the State of Illinois shall use the title  
3 APRN and may use specialty credentials CNM, CNP, CRNA, or CNS  
4 after their name. All advanced practice registered nurses may  
5 only practice in accordance with national certification and  
6 this Act.

7 "Advisory Board" means the Illinois Nursing Workforce  
8 Center Advisory Board.

9 "Approved program of professional nursing education" and  
10 "approved program of practical nursing education" are programs  
11 of professional or practical nursing, respectively, approved  
12 by the Department under the provisions of this Act.

13 "Board" means the Board of Nursing appointed by the  
14 Secretary.

15 "Center" means the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center.

16 "Collaboration" means a process involving 2 or more health  
17 care professionals working together, each contributing one's  
18 respective area of expertise to provide more comprehensive  
19 patient care.

20 "Competence" means an expected and measurable level of  
21 performance that integrates knowledge, skills, abilities, and  
22 judgment based on established scientific knowledge and  
23 expectations for nursing practice.

24 "Comprehensive nursing assessment" means the gathering of  
25 information about the patient's physiological, psychological,  
26 sociological, and spiritual status on an ongoing basis by a

1 registered professional nurse and is the first step in  
2 implementing and guiding the nursing plan of care.

3 "Consultation" means the process whereby an advanced  
4 practice registered nurse seeks the advice or opinion of  
5 another health care professional.

6 "Credentialed" means the process of assessing and  
7 validating the qualifications of a health care professional.

8 "Dentist" means a person licensed to practice dentistry  
9 under the Illinois Dental Practice Act.

10 "Department" means the Department of Financial and  
11 Professional Regulation.

12 "Email address of record" means the designated email  
13 address recorded by the Department in the applicant's  
14 application file or the licensee's license file, as maintained  
15 by the Department's licensure maintenance unit.

16 "Focused nursing assessment" means an appraisal of an  
17 individual's status and current situation, contributing to the  
18 comprehensive nursing assessment performed by the registered  
19 professional nurse or advanced practice registered nurse or  
20 the assessment by the physician assistant, physician, dentist,  
21 podiatric physician, or other licensed health care  
22 professional, as determined by the Department, supporting  
23 ongoing data collection, and deciding who needs to be informed  
24 of the information and when to inform.

25 "Full practice authority" means the authority of an  
26 advanced practice registered nurse licensed in Illinois and

1 certified as a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist,  
2 or nurse midwife to practice without a written collaborative  
3 agreement and:

4 (1) to be fully accountable to patients for the  
5 quality of advanced nursing care rendered;

6 (2) to be fully accountable for recognizing limits of  
7 knowledge and experience and for planning for the  
8 management of situations beyond the advanced practice  
9 registered nurse's expertise; the full practice authority  
10 for advanced practice registered nurses includes accepting  
11 referrals from, consulting with, collaborating with, or  
12 referring to other health care professionals as warranted  
13 by the needs of the patient; and

14 (3) to possess the authority to prescribe medications,  
15 including Schedule II through V controlled substances, as  
16 provided in Section 65-43.

17 "Full practice authority-pending advanced practice  
18 registered nurse" means an advanced practice registered nurse  
19 licensed in Illinois and certified as a nurse practitioner,  
20 clinical nurse specialist, or nurse midwife who has provided a  
21 notarized attestation of completion of at least 250 hours of  
22 continuing education or training in the advanced practice  
23 registered nurse's area of certification and at least 4,000  
24 hours of clinical experience after first attaining national  
25 certification and who has submitted an application to the  
26 Department to be granted full practice authority.

1 "Hospital affiliate" means a corporation, partnership,  
2 joint venture, limited liability company, or similar  
3 organization, other than a hospital, that is devoted primarily  
4 to the provision, management, or support of health care  
5 services and that directly or indirectly controls, is  
6 controlled by, or is under common control of the hospital. For  
7 the purposes of this definition, "control" means having at  
8 least an equal or a majority ownership or membership interest.  
9 A hospital affiliate shall be 100% owned or controlled by any  
10 combination of hospitals, their parent corporations, or  
11 physicians licensed to practice medicine in all its branches  
12 in Illinois. "Hospital affiliate" does not include a health  
13 maintenance organization regulated under the Health  
14 Maintenance Organization Act.

15 "Impaired nurse" means a nurse licensed under this Act who  
16 is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety because  
17 of a physical or mental disability as evidenced by a written  
18 determination or written consent based on clinical evidence,  
19 including loss of motor skills, abuse of drugs or alcohol, or a  
20 psychiatric disorder, of sufficient degree to diminish his or  
21 her ability to deliver competent patient care.

22 "License-pending advanced practice registered nurse" means  
23 a registered professional nurse who has completed all  
24 requirements for licensure as an advanced practice registered  
25 nurse except the certification examination and has applied to  
26 take the next available certification exam and received a

1 temporary permit from the Department.

2 "License-pending registered nurse" means a person who has  
3 passed the Department-approved registered nurse licensure exam  
4 and has applied for a license from the Department. A  
5 license-pending registered nurse shall use the title "RN lic  
6 pend" on all documentation related to nursing practice.

7 "Nursing intervention" means any treatment based on  
8 clinical nursing judgment or knowledge that a nurse performs.  
9 An individual or entity shall not mandate that a registered  
10 professional nurse delegate nursing interventions if the  
11 registered professional nurse determines it is inappropriate  
12 to do so. A nurse shall not be subject to disciplinary or any  
13 other adverse action for refusing to delegate a nursing  
14 intervention based on patient safety.

15 "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine  
16 in all its branches under the Medical Practice Act of 1987.

17 "Podiatric physician" means a person licensed to practice  
18 podiatry under the Podiatric Medical Practice Act of 1987.

19 "Practical nurse" or "licensed practical nurse" means a  
20 person who is licensed as a practical nurse under this Act and  
21 practices practical nursing as defined in this Act. Only a  
22 practical nurse licensed under this Act is entitled to use the  
23 title "licensed practical nurse" and the abbreviation  
24 "L.P.N.".

25 "Practical nursing" means the performance of nursing  
26 interventions requiring the nursing knowledge, judgment, and

1 skill acquired by means of completion of an approved practical  
2 nursing education program. Practical nursing includes  
3 assisting in the nursing process under the guidance of a  
4 registered professional nurse or an advanced practice  
5 registered nurse. The practical nurse may work under the  
6 direction of a licensed physician, dentist, podiatric  
7 physician, or other health care professional determined by the  
8 Department.

9 "Privileged" means the authorization granted by the  
10 governing body of a healthcare facility, agency, or  
11 organization to provide specific patient care services within  
12 well-defined limits, based on qualifications reviewed in the  
13 credentialing process.

14 "Registered Nurse" or "Registered Professional Nurse"  
15 means a person who is licensed as a professional nurse under  
16 this Act and practices nursing as defined in this Act. Only a  
17 registered nurse licensed under this Act is entitled to use  
18 the titles "registered nurse" and "registered professional  
19 nurse" and the abbreviation, "R.N.".

20 "Registered professional nursing practice" means a  
21 scientific process founded on a professional body of knowledge  
22 that includes, but is not limited to, the protection,  
23 promotion, and optimization of health and abilities,  
24 prevention of illness and injury, development and  
25 implementation of the nursing plan of care, facilitation of  
26 nursing interventions to alleviate suffering, care

1 coordination, and advocacy in the care of individuals,  
2 families, groups, communities, and populations. "Registered  
3 professional nursing practice" does not include the act of  
4 medical diagnosis or prescription of medical therapeutic or  
5 corrective measures.

6 "Professional assistance program for nurses" means a  
7 professional assistance program that meets criteria  
8 established by the Board of Nursing and approved by the  
9 Secretary, which provides a non-disciplinary treatment  
10 approach for nurses licensed under this Act whose ability to  
11 practice is compromised by alcohol or chemical substance  
12 addiction.

13 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and  
14 Professional Regulation.

15 "Unencumbered license" means a license issued in good  
16 standing.

17 "Written collaborative agreement" means a written  
18 agreement between an advanced practice registered nurse and a  
19 collaborating physician, dentist, or podiatric physician  
20 pursuant to Section 65-35.

21 (Source: P.A. 103-154, eff. 6-30-23.)

22 (225 ILCS 65/55-10) (was 225 ILCS 65/10-30)

23 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

24 Sec. 55-10. LPN licensure by examination.

25 (a) Each applicant who successfully meets the requirements



1 of this Section is eligible for licensure as a licensed  
2 practical nurse.

3 (b) An applicant for licensure by examination to practice  
4 as a practical nurse is eligible for licensure when the  
5 following requirements are met:

6 (1) the applicant has submitted a completed written  
7 application on forms provided by the Department and fees  
8 as established by the Department;

9 (2) the applicant has graduated from a practical  
10 nursing education program approved by the Department or  
11 has been granted a certificate of completion of  
12 pre-licensure requirements from another United States  
13 jurisdiction;

14 (3) the applicant has successfully completed a  
15 licensure examination approved by the Department;

16 (4) (blank);

17 (5) the applicant has submitted to the criminal  
18 history records check required under Section 50-35 of this  
19 Act;

20 (6) the applicant has submitted either to the  
21 Department or its designated testing service, a fee  
22 covering the cost of providing the examination. Failure to  
23 appear for the examination on the scheduled date at the  
24 time and place specified after the applicant's application  
25 for examination has been received and acknowledged by the  
26 Department or the designated testing service shall result

1 in the forfeiture of the examination fee; and

2 (7) the applicant has met all other requirements  
3 established by rule.

4 (b-5) If an applicant for licensure by examination  
5 neglects, fails, or refuses to take an examination or fails to  
6 pass an examination for a license under this Act within 3 years  
7 of the date of initial application, the application shall be  
8 denied. When an applicant's application is denied due to the  
9 failure to pass the examination within the 3-year period, that  
10 applicant must undertake an additional course of education as  
11 defined by rule prior to submitting a new application for  
12 licensure. Any new application must be accompanied by the  
13 required fee, evidence of meeting the requirements in force at  
14 the time of the new application, and evidence of completion of  
15 the additional course of education prescribed by rule.

16 An applicant may take and successfully complete a  
17 Department-approved examination in another jurisdiction.  
18 However, an applicant who has never been licensed previously  
19 in any jurisdiction that utilizes a Department-approved  
20 examination and who has taken and failed to pass the  
21 examination within 3 years after filing the application must  
22 submit proof of successful completion of a  
23 Department-authorized nursing education program or  
24 recompletion of an approved licensed practical nursing program  
25 prior to re-application.

26 (c) An applicant for licensure by examination shall have

1 one year from the date of notification of successful  
2 completion of the examination to apply to the Department for a  
3 license. If an applicant fails to apply within one year, the  
4 applicant shall be required to retake and pass the examination  
5 unless licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States.

6 (d) A licensed practical nurse applicant who passes the  
7 Department-approved licensure examination and has applied to  
8 the Department for licensure may obtain employment as a  
9 license-pending practical nurse and practice as delegated by a  
10 registered professional nurse or an advanced practice  
11 registered nurse or physician. An individual may be employed  
12 as a license-pending practical nurse if all of the following  
13 criteria are met:

14 (1) He or she has completed and passed the  
15 Department-approved licensure exam and presents to the  
16 employer the official written notification indicating  
17 successful passage of the licensure examination.

18 (2) He or she has completed and submitted to the  
19 Department an application for licensure under this Section  
20 as a practical nurse.

21 (3) He or she has submitted the required licensure  
22 fee.

23 (4) He or she has met all other requirements  
24 established by rule, including having submitted to a  
25 criminal history records check.

26 (e) The privilege to practice as a license-pending

1 practical nurse shall terminate with the occurrence of any of  
2 the following:

3 (1) Six ~~Three~~ months have passed since the official  
4 date of passing the licensure exam as inscribed on the  
5 formal written notification indicating passage of the  
6 exam. This 6-month ~~3-month~~ period may be extended as  
7 determined by rule.

8 (2) Receipt of the practical nurse license from the  
9 Department.

10 (3) Notification from the Department that the  
11 application for licensure has been denied.

12 (4) A request by the Department that the individual  
13 terminate practicing as a license-pending practical nurse  
14 until an official decision is made by the Department to  
15 grant or deny a practical nurse license.

16 (f) (Blank).

17 (g) All applicants for practical nurse licensure by  
18 examination who are graduates of nursing educational programs  
19 in a country other than the United States or its territories  
20 shall have their nursing education credentials evaluated by a  
21 Department-approved nursing credentialing evaluation service.  
22 No such applicant may be issued a license under this Act unless  
23 the applicant's program is deemed by the nursing credentialing  
24 evaluation service to be equivalent to a professional nursing  
25 education program approved by the Department. An applicant who  
26 has graduated from a nursing educational program outside of

1 the United States or its territories and whose first language  
2 is not English shall submit evidence of English proficiency,  
3 as defined by rule.

4 (h) (Blank).

5 (i) (Blank).

6 (j) (Blank).

7 (k) (Blank).

8 (l) (Blank).

9 (m) All applicants for practical nurse licensure have 3  
10 years from the date of application to complete the application  
11 process. If the process has not been completed within 3 years  
12 from the date of application, the application shall be denied,  
13 the fee forfeited, and the applicant must reapply and meet the  
14 requirements in effect at the time of reapplication.

15 (Source: P.A. 100-513, eff. 1-1-18.)

16 (225 ILCS 65/60-10)

17 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

18 Sec. 60-10. RN licensure by examination.

19 (a) Each applicant who successfully meets the requirements  
20 of this Section is eligible for licensure as a registered  
21 professional nurse.

22 (b) An applicant for licensure by examination to practice  
23 as a registered professional nurse is eligible for licensure  
24 when the following requirements are met:

25 (1) the applicant has submitted a completed written

1 application, on forms provided by the Department, and  
2 fees, as established by the Department;

3 (2) the applicant has graduated from a professional  
4 nursing education program approved by the Department or  
5 has been granted a certificate of completion of  
6 pre-licensure requirements from another United States  
7 jurisdiction;

8 (3) the applicant has successfully completed a  
9 licensure examination approved by the Department;

10 (4) (blank);

11 (5) the applicant has submitted to the criminal  
12 history records check required under Section 50-35 of this  
13 Act;

14 (6) the applicant has submitted, either to the  
15 Department or its designated testing service, a fee  
16 covering the cost of providing the examination; failure to  
17 appear for the examination on the scheduled date at the  
18 time and place specified after the applicant's application  
19 for examination has been received and acknowledged by the  
20 Department or the designated testing service shall result  
21 in the forfeiture of the examination fee; and

22 (7) the applicant has met all other requirements  
23 established by the Department by rule.

24 An applicant for licensure by examination may take the  
25 Department-approved examination in another jurisdiction.

26 (b-3) An applicant who graduates from a professional

1 nursing program in this State on or after the effective date of  
2 this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly and does not  
3 take the licensure examination within 180 days after his or  
4 her degree is conferred by the institution of higher education  
5 or fails the licensure examination for a second time shall be  
6 required to demonstrate proof of completion of a National  
7 Council Licensure Examination preparatory class or a  
8 comparable test preparatory program before taking a subsequent  
9 licensure examination or the graduate may return to the  
10 institution of higher education from which he or she graduated  
11 which shall provide remedial educational resources to the  
12 graduate at no cost to the graduate. Such an applicant must  
13 contact the institution of higher education from which he or  
14 she graduated prior to retesting.

15 (b-4) All professional nursing programs in probationary  
16 status on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the  
17 103rd General Assembly and subject to a program revision plan  
18 shall be deemed in good standing for a period of 3 years  
19 beginning on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the  
20 103rd General Assembly. Prior to September 1, 2026, no  
21 professional nursing program shall be placed on probationary  
22 status for failing to reach a passage rate of less than 75%.

23 (b-5) If an applicant for licensure by examination  
24 neglects, fails, or refuses to take an examination or fails to  
25 pass an examination for a license within 3 years of the date of  
26 initial application, the application shall be denied. When an

1 applicant's application is denied due to the failure to pass  
2 the examination within the 3-year period, that applicant must  
3 undertake an additional course of education as defined by rule  
4 prior to submitting a new application for licensure. Any new  
5 application must be accompanied by the required fee, evidence  
6 of meeting the requirements in force at the time of the new  
7 application, and evidence of completion of the additional  
8 course of education prescribed by rule.

9 (c) An applicant for licensure by examination shall have  
10 one year after the date of notification of the successful  
11 completion of the examination to apply to the Department for a  
12 license. If an applicant fails to apply within one year, the  
13 applicant shall be required to retake and pass the examination  
14 unless licensed in another jurisdiction of the United States.

15 (d) An applicant for licensure by examination who passes  
16 the Department-approved licensure examination for professional  
17 nursing may obtain employment as a license-pending registered  
18 nurse and practice under the direction of a registered  
19 professional nurse or an advanced practice registered nurse  
20 until such time as he or she receives his or her license to  
21 practice or until the license is denied. In no instance shall  
22 any such applicant practice or be employed in any management  
23 capacity. An individual may be employed as a license-pending  
24 registered nurse if all of the following criteria are met:

- 25 (1) He or she has completed and passed the  
26 Department-approved licensure exam and presents to the



1 employer the official written notification indicating  
2 successful passage of the licensure examination.

3 (2) He or she has completed and submitted to the  
4 Department an application for licensure under this Section  
5 as a registered professional nurse.

6 (3) He or she has submitted the required licensure  
7 fee.

8 (4) He or she has met all other requirements  
9 established by rule, including having submitted to a  
10 criminal history records check.

11 (e) The privilege to practice as a license-pending  
12 registered nurse shall terminate with the occurrence of any of  
13 the following:

14 (1) Six ~~Three~~ months have passed since the official  
15 date of passing the licensure exam as inscribed on the  
16 formal written notification indicating passage of the  
17 exam. The 6-month license-pending ~~3-month license pending~~  
18 period may be extended if more time is needed by the  
19 Department to process the licensure application.

20 (2) Receipt of the registered professional nurse  
21 license from the Department.

22 (3) Notification from the Department that the  
23 application for licensure has been refused.

24 (4) A request by the Department that the individual  
25 terminate practicing as a license-pending registered nurse  
26 until an official decision is made by the Department to

1 grant or deny a registered professional nurse license.

2 (f) (Blank).

3 (g) (Blank).

4 (h) (Blank).

5 (i) (Blank).

6 (j) (Blank).

7 (k) All applicants for registered professional nurse  
8 licensure have 3 years after the date of application to  
9 complete the application process. If the process has not been  
10 completed within 3 years after the date of application, the  
11 application shall be denied, the fee forfeited, and the  
12 applicant must reapply and meet the requirements in effect at  
13 the time of reapplication.

14 (l) All applicants for registered nurse licensure by  
15 examination who are graduates of practical nursing educational  
16 programs in a country other than the United States and its  
17 territories shall have their nursing education credentials  
18 evaluated by a Department-approved nursing credentialing  
19 evaluation service. No such applicant may be issued a license  
20 under this Act unless the applicant's program is deemed by the  
21 nursing credentialing evaluation service to be equivalent to a  
22 professional nursing education program approved by the  
23 Department. An applicant who has graduated from a nursing  
24 educational program outside of the United States or its  
25 territories and whose first language is not English shall  
26 submit evidence of English proficiency, as defined by rule.

1 (m) (Blank).

2 (Source: P.A. 103-533, eff. 1-1-24.)

3 (225 ILCS 65/65-10) (was 225 ILCS 65/15-13)

4 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

5 Sec. 65-10. APRN license-pending ~~license pending~~ status.

6 (a) A graduate of an advanced practice registered nursing  
7 program may practice in the State of Illinois in the role of  
8 certified clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse midwife,  
9 certified nurse practitioner, or certified registered nurse  
10 anesthetist for not longer than 6 months provided he or she  
11 submits all of the following:

12 (1) An application for licensure as an advanced  
13 practice registered nurse in Illinois and all fees  
14 established by rule.

15 (2) Proof of an application to take the national  
16 certification examination in the specialty.

17 (3) Proof of completion of a graduate advanced  
18 practice education program that allows the applicant to be  
19 eligible for national certification in a clinical advanced  
20 practice registered nursing specialty and that allows the  
21 applicant to be eligible for licensure in Illinois in the  
22 area of his or her specialty.

23 (4) Proof that he or she is licensed in Illinois as a  
24 registered professional nurse.

25 (b) License-pending ~~License pending~~ status shall preclude

1 delegation of prescriptive authority.

2 (c) A graduate practicing in accordance with this Section  
3 must use the title "license-pending ~~license pending~~ certified  
4 clinical nurse specialist", "license-pending ~~license pending~~  
5 certified nurse midwife", "license-pending ~~license pending~~  
6 certified nurse practitioner", or "license-pending ~~license~~  
7 ~~pending~~ certified registered nurse anesthetist", whichever is  
8 applicable.

9 (d) A licensed advanced practice registered nurse  
10 certified as a nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or  
11 nurse practitioner who files with the Department a notarized  
12 attestation of completion of at least 250 hours of continuing  
13 education or training in the advanced practice registered  
14 nurse's area of certification and at least 4,000 hours of  
15 clinical experience after first attaining national  
16 certification and thus having met the requirements to be  
17 granted full practice authority shall be granted the authority  
18 to practice as a full practice authority-pending advanced  
19 practice registered nurse under the supervision of a full  
20 practice advanced practice registered nurse or a physician for  
21 a period of 6 months.

22 (Source: P.A. 100-513, eff. 1-1-18.)