

## Michigan Board of Nursing

The Michigan Board of Nursing was originally created with the enactment of the Nurse Practice Act, Public Act 319 of 1909, and authority was transferred to the Nursing Practice Act of 1967 by Public Act 149 of 1967. On September 30, 1978, authority was again transferred to the Public Health Code, Public Act 368 of 1978, as amended. The Michigan Public Health Code defines the practice of nursing in Michigan and empowers the Board to establish qualifications for nurse licensure; to establish standards for education and approve nurse education programs; develop and implement criteria for assurance of continued competency; and take disciplinary action against licensees when the health, safety, and welfare of the public has been adversely affected. **Michigan does not have an official Scope of Practice for nurses. The general definition of the practice of nursing is found in the Michigan Public Health Code.**

The Public Health Code establishes the Board of Nursing to consist of 23 members: 9 registered nurses (RNs), 1 nurse midwife, 1 nurse anesthetist, 1 nurse practitioner, 3 licensed practical nurses (LPNs), and 8 public member **(Public members may not be nurses or anyone associated with the provision of health services).**

The enactment of the Public Health Code permitted LPN board members to act upon all matters except those that relate to standards for the education and training of RNs. Decisions on such matters are concurred on solely by a majority of the RN and public board members. The Board currently oversees the practice of approximately 114,123 RNs, 4,648 Nurse Specialists, 27,319 LPNs and 1 Trained Attendant.

## Michigan Board of Nursing Members

To contact the Board of Nursing, call Nita Hixson at (517) 335-0918  
Bureau of Health Professions - 611 W. Ottawa - P.O. Box 30670 - Lansing, MI 48909-8170

Anahid Kulwicki, R.N., M.S.N., Ph.D. Troy Term Expires: 6-30-07	Margherita P. Clark, R.N., M.S. N., Vice-Chairperson St. Johns Term Expires: 06-30-07
John H. Hale, III Detroit Term Expires: 6-30-07	Nina A. Bugbee, R.N. Flushing Term Expires: 06-30-09
Mary M. MacEachern, L.P.N. Cadillac Term Expires: 06-30-09	Liza M. Gamell, R.N. Lansing Term Expires: 06-30-07
Sandra M. Larson Northville Term Expires: 6-30-07	Linda S. Taft, R.N., Chairperson Clinton Twp. Term Expires: 06-30-07
Bruce H. Andersen, Sr. Interlochen Term Expires: 06-30-06	Deborah L. Heath, R.N. Adrian Term Expires: 06-30-07
Brenda J. Lewis, L.P.N. Muskegon Term Expires: 6-30-07	Earl G. Auty, C.R.N.A., M.S. Grosse Pointe Park Term Expires: 06-30-09

Myrah L. Kirkwood Oxford Term Expires: 06-30-06	Kathleen A.V. Lavery, C.N.M. Jackson Term Expires: 06-30-09
Christopher E. Hermann, M.S.N. A.P.R.B., B.C., NP-C Dearborn Heights Term Expires: 06-30-09	Amy M. Perry, R.N., M.S.N. Ann Arbor Term Expires: 06-30-09
Laurice M. Bray, L.P.N. Livonia Term Expires: 06-30-08	Kathryn E. Lawter Columbiaville Term Expires: 06-30-06
Lori Doyle Okemos Term Expires: 06-30-06	Michelle Woods Jackson Term Expires: 06-30-06
Michelle M. Johnson, R.N., M.S.N. Marquette Term Expires: 06-30-08	Donica m. Stubbs, R.N. Inkster Term Expires: 06-30-08

### Michigan Board of Nursing's Meeting Schedule

The Michigan Board of Nursing and Disciplinary Subcommittee will meet in regular session for 2007 as listed below:

#### DAY DATE TIME ROOM

Wednesday **DSC** 1/10/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Thursday 1/11/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 3  
Thursday **DSC** 2/15/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Wednesday **DSC** 3/07/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Thursday 3/08/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 3  
Wednesday **DSC** 4/04/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Wednesday **DSC** 5/02/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Thursday 5/03/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 3  
Wednesday **DSC** 6/06/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Thursday 6/07/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 3  
Thursday **DSC** 7/12/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Thursday **DSC** 8/16/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Wednesday **DSC** 9/05/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Thursday 9/06/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 3  
Wednesday **DSC** 10/03/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Wednesday **DSC** 11/07/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2  
Thursday 11/08/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 3  
Wednesday **DSC** 12/05/07 9:00 A.M. Ottawa Bldg., Room 2

#### LOCATION

611 W. Ottawa  
Upper Level Parking  
Lansing, MI

All Bureau meetings and hearings are conducted in compliance with the 1990 Americans With Disabilities Act. Meetings and hearings are held in building that accommodates mobility-impaired individuals and accessible parking is available. A disabled individual requiring additional accommodations, for effective participation in a Bureau activity, should call Nita Hixson at (517) 335-0918 to make the necessary arrangements. To ensure availability of the accommodation, please call at least one week in advance.

Dated September 22, 2006

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **Q: How do I contact the Board of Nursing?**

A: Contact the Board of Nursing at (517) 335-0918 or by mail  
Michigan Board of Nursing  
Bureau of Health Professions  
611 W. Ottawa - P.O. Box 30670  
Lansing, MI 48909-8170

#### **Q: What are the Board of Nursing's responsibilities?**

A: The Board of Nursing establishes qualifications for nurse licensure; establishes standards for education and approves nursing education programs; develops and implements criteria for assurance of continued competency of nurses; and take disciplinary action against licensees.

#### **Q: I have a felony on my record. Can I still become a nurse?**

A: The Department reviews each application on a case-by-case basis. We review when the offense occurred, what the nature of the offense is and what has happened since the offense (schooling, etc). You are asked to provide a detailed explanation of the situation. All of these factors are reviewed. If we feel comfortable with the information provided, we will proceed with processing the application. If we continue to have concerns, we can request more information or court records. If the case is very clear, recent and you are still completing the disciplinary sanctions, we can deny licensure. If the conviction is serious enough, regardless of when it occurred, and we are concerned about the possible consequences to vulnerable children or adults, we can ask that a Notice of Intent to Deny be issued. The Notice of Intent to Deny is an administrative process that will provide you with an opportunity to request a hearing and demonstrate why a license should be issued to you. An administrative law judge hears your case and makes a recommendation to the Board. The Board then reviews the facts of the case; the judge's recommendations and the Board then makes a decision. They can grant a full license, deny the license or grant the license with limitations. If the case involves substance abuse, we can request an evaluation of your situation by our Health Professional Recovery Program. Upon completion of an evaluation, they can recommend that you enter into a Monitoring Agreement with them or indicate that you are not a threat to the public and that a license can be issued. They can also recommend that we not issue a license. It is the Department's decision on how to proceed.

**Note:** Although the Public Health Code licensing provisions give us discretion on how to handle these conviction reviews, there are situations where the employer does not have the ability to hire you even if you do hold a valid license. Legislation regarding the provision of direct care services to patients or residents in licensed nurse homes, county medical care facilities and homes for the aged prohibits the hiring of an individual who has been convicted of any felony within the last 15 years or a misdemeanor involving abuse, neglect, assault, battery or criminal sexual conduct or involving fraud or theft against a vulnerable adult.

This prohibition also applies to students in these facilities. (P.A. 368 of 1978, as amended Section 333.20173)

Other health care agencies and facilities may also have personnel policies that prohibit the hiring of individuals who have been convicted even though a license to practice has been issued. If they have these policies, they frequently apply to students in the facilities as well.

If you are looking at attending a nursing program, check with the school about limitations on your access to clinical training sites in light of any criminal convictions that may be in your background.

**Q: I would like to send a letter to the Board of Nursing. Where should it be sent?**

A: Michigan Board of Nursing  
Bureau of Health Professions  
611 W. Ottawa - P.O. Box 30670  
Lansing, MI 48909-8170

**Q: Where can I find the Public Health Code?**

A: Links are found on the [www.michigan.gov/healthlicense](http://www.michigan.gov/healthlicense) website  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/mileg.asp?page=getObject&objName=mcl-Act-368-of-1978&queryid=9521433&highlight=>

**Q. How does someone get appointed to the Board of Nursing?**

A: The Public Health Code establishes the Board of Nursing to consist of 23 members: 9 registered nurses (RNs), 1 nurse midwife, 1 nurse anesthetist, 1 nurse practitioner, 3 licensed practical nurses (LPNs), and 8 public member. There are specific qualifications for the 9 Registered Nurses. The 9 RN's are actually broken down as follows:

- 3 in nursing education that possess a master's degree from an accredited college with a major in nursing: 1 in less than baccalaureate program, 1 in baccalaureate or higher program, and 1 in licensed practical nurse program
- 3 in nursing practice or nursing administration that possess a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited college
- 3 in nursing practice or nursing administration who graduated from a nonbaccalaureate-nursing program

Someone interested in being on the Board of Nursing, fitting one of the categories for membership, will need to fill out the Appointment application, found on Governor Jennifer M. Granholm's website at

<http://www.michigan.gov/gov/0,1607,7-168-21984---,00.html>

**Q: Why isn't the Board more active in solving the nursing shortage?**

A: The Board has very prescribed powers, they are only charged with establishing qualifications for nurse licensure; establishing standards for education and approving nursing education programs; developing and implementing criteria for assurance of continued competency of nurses; and taking disciplinary action against licensees.