

Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2015

BOARD OF NURSING

July 2015



**DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**

This Annual Performance Report is presented in accordance with Alaska Statute 08.01.070(1) and Alaska Statute 37.07.080(b). Its purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the past and present needs of the licensing program.

**ALASKA BOARD OF NURSING
FY 2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

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**ALASKA BOARD OF NURSING
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IDENTIFICATION OF BOARD**

<u>Board Member*</u>	<u>Date Appointed/Reappointed</u>	<u>Term Expires/Expired</u>
Beth Farnstrom, RN Chair	March 1, 2007/March 1, 2011	March 1, 2015
Erin Pringle, MS, RN Secretary	August 26, 2010/March 1, 2014	March 1, 2017 *Resigned 6/1/15
Denise Valentine, RN, ANP Chair ANP member	January 28, 2008/March 1, 2012	March 1, 2016
Thomas Hendrix, PhD, RN Nurse Educator	March 1, 2009/March 1, 2013	March 1, 2017
Sharyl Toscano, PhD, RN	March 1, 2015	March 1, 2019
Julie Gillette Public Member	March 1, 2011/March 1, 2015	March 1, 2019
Carrie Miller, LPN	January 27, 2014	March 1, 2016
Mary (Jennie) Grimwood Public Member	March 1, 2014	March 1, 2018

*One RN vacancy

ALASKA BOARD OF NURSING
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IDENTIFICATION OF STAFF

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Executive Administrator

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Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
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Jen Jensen, Licensing Examiner

Phone: (907) 269-8402

Jamie Heinz, Licensing Examiner, Nurse Aide Registry; July 1, 2014 - September 12, 2014

Danielle Giardi Curry, Licensing Examiner, Nurse Aide Registry; May 18, 2015 - present

Phone: (907) 269-8169

Danielle Giardi, Office Assistant I; July 1, 2014 – May 15, 2015

Vacant; May 16, 2015 – June 30, 2015

Phone: (907) 269-8161

ALASKA BOARD OF NURSING
FY 2015 ANNUAL REPORT
NARRATIVE STATEMENT

The Annual Report reflects the Alaska Board of Nursing's continued attention and support for acceptable standards in nursing practice and nursing education in Alaska. The members of the Board take their responsibility to protect the public seriously and look forward to another year of service to the Alaskan consumers of nursing care.

The Board of Nursing had two notable accomplishments during FY 2015:

The first was the introduction and passage by the Senate of SB 53. Senator Cathy Giessel sponsored the bill. SB 53 will be considered by the House of Representatives during the next legislative session. This bill will institute an umbrella term for all advanced practice registered nurse roles. This change conforms to the national effort to standardize the terminology of advanced practice nurses. No change in their scope of practice is requested.

Secondly, after regulation change, the first few clinical nurse specialists were authorized as advanced nurse practitioners. In the future, if SB 53 is passed, all four roles of advanced practice nursing will be recognized in statute. This change will allow consumers to more readily identify ANPs and know their scope of practice.

The Board of Nursing conducted four (4) three-day meetings and one teleconference meeting during FY 2015:

- July 9-11, 2014 in Anchorage,
- September 11, 2014 (Teleconference)
- October 22-24, 2014 in Fairbanks,
- January 28-30, 2015 in Anchorage, and
- April 1-3, 2015 in Juneau.

After approval, the minutes are posted on the Board of Nursing website www.nursing.alaska.gov.

A range of issues were addressed by the Board of Nursing at its meetings which are detailed in the evaluation of FY 2015 Goals and Objectives (below).

The Board has delegated the review of applications for nursing licensure and nursing assistant certification to the Executive Administrator. If questions arise regarding whether an applicant is qualified because of their background, the investigators assigned to the Board of Nursing are consulted. Depending on that review, the application is either approved or presented at a Board meeting for advice, approval or denial.

Education: The Board takes the review of the provisionally approved programs very seriously in order to protect the citizens of Alaska and to assure the quality of the program for the entering students.

In FY 2014, the two provisionally approved Associate Degree Nursing programs in Anchorage started their curriculums. AVTEC, Alaska's Institute of Technology, that has a provisionally approved Associate Degree RN program, graduated cohorts during FY14 and FY 15. The first two cohorts had an inadequate pass rate. AVTEC faculty members and administrators were notified so that an assessment and changes could be made. AVTEC AAS program experienced not only the low NCLEX pass rates of its graduates, but the required progress the program was able to make toward national nursing accreditation was inadequate for continued provisional approval. Therefore, AVTEC's AAS program lost its provisional approval in April 2015.

Charter College, a for-profit institution, started their first cohort in FY 2014 and graduated the students in FY 2015. In the July 2015 Board of Nursing meeting, the pass rate for 10 Charter College nursing students was announced as 100%.

Charter College has also achieved Candidate Status by the ACEN, national nursing accrediting body. The program's provisional status is approved to continue.

Investigations: The Board continues to review policies and procedures for investigation of complaints and issues brought before the Board. A primary concern of the Board of Nursing is consistency in discipline. New disciplinary guidelines were approved during FY 13 and revised in October 14 (FY2015) to assist in this endeavor. The guidelines have been fully implemented. The investigators have been very helpful in providing information to the Board and answering the Board's questions concerning investigations and the investigative process. In addition, an Assistant Attorney General with the Department of Law attends meetings when requested to advise the Board on legal matters.

Keeping the public informed: All Board of Nursing meetings are public-noticed and a copy of the agenda is posted on the Board's website. In addition, the agenda is forwarded to individuals or institutions who have registered on the Board's listserv. Approximately 800 registrants are currently sent the agenda and other information via the listserv. Topics of interest to advanced nurse practitioners are forwarded to Alaska Nurse Practitioner Association for posting on their listserv.

In addition to the listserv, a concerted effort was made to keep the Board of Nursing website up to date. The updates to the website during FY 2015:

- The online link for CNAs was prominently displayed. Information about LPN and RN/ANP renewal that occurred in FY 2015 was also prominently displayed. More than 80% of the LPNs, RNs, and ANPs that renewed did so on-line.
- The names of nurses and CNAs disciplined by the board are updated after every Board meeting. The information is on the publically accessible Disciplinary Database on the website. The Board determined that the names of these individuals will remain on the database indefinitely. The Discipline database was reformatted in FY 2015.
- The Advisory Opinion database is updated and reposted after every Board meeting so that the public is privy to the opinions the Board has made concerning scope of practice questions, and education program approval. This database was reformatted in FY 2015 to make it easier for the licensees and employers.

In addition to the above actions to keep the public informed in FY 2015, the Board Chairs, Beth Farnstrom and Denise Valentine, and the Executive Administrator submit articles for publication in two (2) newsletters: the Alaska Nurse, the quarterly newsletter of the Alaska Nurses' Association and Alaska Nursing Today, the newsletter of the Alaska Professional Nursing Association. Representatives of these two organizations plus the Alaska Nurse Practitioner Association also attend the quarterly meetings of the Board of Nursing.

Regulations: The Board continues to review and modify the nursing regulations (12 AAC 44) to update them to reflect current nursing practice and to implement the mission of the Board of Nursing. The Board of Nursing's mission is to actively protect and protect the health of the citizens of Alaska through the safe and effective practice of nursing as defined by law. One regulation project was implemented in FY 2015 and another has Board approval, but has not finished the regulation process.

ALASKA BOARD OF NURSING
FY 2015 ANNUAL REPORT
BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2016

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Rank in order of the board’s priority. Provide the best estimates based on past actuals and seasonal trends in travel, such as summer hotel rooms or increased fuel costs. Calculate on full costs and note any third-party fiscal offsets. Expand the tables below as needed.

Board Meetings

Date	Location	# of Board Members	# of Staff	Total Estimated Cost (total of airline, hotel, mileage, M&IE, parking, rental car, taxi, etc.)
7/8-10/2015	Anchorage, AK Atwood Bldg, Suite 1270	6	3	\$5,000
10/21-23/2015	Anchorage, AK Atwood Bldg, Suite 1270	7	2	\$5,000
1/18-20/2016	Anchorage, AK Atwood Bldg, Suite 1270	7	2	\$5,000
4/??/2016	Juneau, AK SOB, 9 th floor Conf Room A	7	1	\$8,500

Travel Required to Perform Evaluations

Date	Location	# of Board Members	# of Staff	Total Estimated Cost (total of airline, hotel, mileage, M&IE, parking, rental car, taxi, etc.)
Various	Various		1	\$10,000
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board: Trips by the Nurse Consultant I to evaluate the CNA programs around the state. Each program is evaluated every two years. This estimate is for 10 evaluation visits.				
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board:				

Out-Of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

Rank in order of the board’s priority. “Reimbursement” refers to payment to the division to cover travel costs. “Direct” refers to an offer by a company to secure travel arrangements on behalf of the board member.

Rank	Date	Location	# of Board Members	# of Staff	Total Estimated Cost		Total Potential Third-Party Offset
					(total of airline, hotel, mileage, M&IE, parking, rental car, taxi, etc.)	Conference Fee	X Reimbursement X Direct
1	8/19-21/2015	Chicago, IL	2	0	\$5,000	waived	\$5,000
	Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board: Annual Meeting and Delegate Assembly of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). This is a meeting of representatives of every state and territory of the US (except Puerto Rico) where regulatory issues; practice, education and discipline issues are discussed. Alaska has two votes which is consistent with other jurisdictions. Many stakeholders such as American Nurses Association, AACN (an accrediting body), and educational institutions, etc. are present. Associate members come from Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Ireland, etc. because the issues are global in nature. NCSBN owns and administers the national licensure examination. The outcomes of all committee work are reviewed, new programs, research studies, etc. are determined.						
2	3/14-16/2016	Baltimore, MD	2	1	\$8,500 (conference fee is waived) One member would be funded by the Resource Fund of NCSBN		X Reimbursement X Direct
	Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board: 2015 NCSBN Mid-Year meeting is a meeting of representatives of every state and territory of the US (except Puerto Rico) where regulatory issues; practice, education and discipline issues are discussed. In addition, leadership skills for the Board Chair and Executive Officer are offered. There is opportunity for sharing of solutions to common problems.						

	6/21-22 /2016	TBD		1	Depends on location \$5,000	X Reimbursement X Direct
3	<p>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board:</p> <p>NCSBN Executive Officer Summit: all of the Executive Officers of Boards of Nursing from every jurisdiction (states, territories of the US, plus several foreign countries and providences) meet to exchange information, share strategies that might help solve a problem in other jurisdictions, in this case Alaska, and network. There is only one Executive Officer per state/territory/or foreign jurisdictions. Being able to meet together is a means of decreasing the sense of isolation and remoteness. Important topics such as the impact of the Affordable Care Act and the movement to national licensure, and telehealth/telemedicine will be discussed. Other subjects mirror my responsibilities for the Alaska Board of Nursing such as licensure issues, disciplinary issues, practice scenarios, and changes in education requirements for nurses.</p>					
	4/ ??? /2016	TBD		1	\$1,250 Depends on location	X Reimbursement X Direct
4	<p>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board: NCSBN APRN Roundtable- the ANP member of the Board attends this meeting to keep up to date on issues specific to ANP practice. Specific current concerns include ANPs practicing in AK without AK license/authorization, APRN nurse licensure compact, and independent practice changes.</p> <p>Travel funds can be requested through the NCSBN Resource Fund.</p>					
	6/2015	TBD		2	\$5,000	X Reimbursement X Direct
5	<p>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the board:</p> <p>2014 NCSBN Discipline Case Management Conference provides a forum to learn effective investigative tools, strategies and procedures for regulatory proceedings. One or two investigator that work on nursing cases usually attends to increase their skills and orient them to specific nursing issues.</p>					

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BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2016 CONTINUED

NON-TRAVEL BUDGET REQUESTS

Dues/Memberships/Resources/Online Training/Teleconferences/Examination Contracts

Provide details of the budgetary request. Break down into specific events, where applicable.

Product or service:	Provider:	Cost per event:
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the board:		
Product or service:	Provider:	Cost per event:
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the board:		
Product or service:	Provider:	Cost per event:
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the board:		

Other Items with a Fiscal Impact:

Product or service:	Provider:	Cost per event:
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the board:		
Product or service:	Provider:	Cost per event:
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the board:		

Summary of FY16 Fiscal Requests

Board Meetings	\$23,500
Travel for Exams	\$10,000
Out-Of-State and Additional In-State Travel	\$24,750
Dues/Memberships/Resources/Online Training/Teleconferences	
Total Potential Third-Party Offset	\$24,750
Other	
Total Requested:	\$33,500

Additional information:

ALASKA BOARD OF NURSING
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ANTICIPATED PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR FY 2016

Focus Area (Check all that apply)

- Economic Development
 Government Within Our Means
XX National Regulatory/Industry Changes
XX Enhance Public Protection

1. Subject and Proposed Language (include intent and statutory reference)

Senate Bill 53 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) has passed the Senate and was referred to the House of Representatives in April 2015.

2. Explain the benefits the proposed legislation would provide.

See below from Senate Bill 53 Sponsor Statement by Senator Cathy Giessel:

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)

Senate Bill 53 updates Alaska's 34-year old statutory title from "Advanced Nurse Practitioner" (ANP) and "Nurse Anesthetist" (NA) to now be called "Advanced Practice Registered Nurse" (APRN).

- Making this change will bring us into alignment with a national movement called the APRN Consensus Model that standardizes titles for Advanced Practice Nurses.
- ANP and NA are outdated titles. As more states adopt the consensus model, those titles will become even more outdated.
- The Advanced Nurse Practitioner title does not reflect the title or education of Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) or Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) so its use can be confusing outside of Alaska.
- The APRN title is now used by many insurance companies, Medicare and also the Veterans Administration. Its use should eliminate denials of reimbursements based on confusion about the service provider.
- The use of the APRN title will increase clarity of practice roles across state lines.

Nothing in this bill changes certification or licensing requirements currently in place, nor changes in fee structures to the board. This merely incorporates the ANP and the NA titles, including the CNS and CNM, under the new designation Advanced Practice Registered Nurse.

- 3. Explain the consequences, if any, of not implementing the proposed statutory change.** The State will continue to use outdated terminology for the ANPs and CRNA. The focus of the title change is to allow consistency across states and territories. There is a national focus on implementing the APRN Consensus Model in licensing, accreditation, certification and education.
- 4. Describe any potential negative impacts of this legislation and how they would be minimized.** The only negative impact is reproducing statute and regulations to conform to the new terminology.

5. **Who do you anticipate will support the bill and why? Include municipalities, groups, etc.** Alaska Nurse Practitioner Association, Alaska Nurses' Association, APRN Alliance, Clinical Nurse Specialist Association. The board is hopeful that the AARP and ASHNHA would be supportive.

6. **Who do anticipate will oppose the bill and why?** There is always concern that the Alaska Medical Association and/or the American Medical Association (AMA) will try to restrict the practice of advanced nurse practitioners (APRNs if the statute is passed). ANPs in Alaska have a 30 year history of successful independent practice and independent prescriptive authority including controlled substances. However, those statistics do not deter some physicians and physician organizations from attempting to assert changes into legislation to limit the practice of ANPs.

It is documented that Alaska will need many more family practice health care providers in the future and ANPs (APRNs if the statute is passed) are qualified to fill this role.

7. **What other state departments will be affected by this legislation? Have you discussed the impact with the affected departments, and if so who and do they support this bill?** There are several, see the bill for a complete list. The board's Executive Administrator informed the departments when the statute was introduced. Representatives from two departments responded and both were supportive.

8. **Identify and describe any previous state or federal legislation or similar efforts in other states which affect or relate to this proposal.** The APRN Consensus Model has the support of over 50 national nursing organizations since 2008. Implementation of the Consensus Model will help standardize advanced nurse practitioner practice across the United States. Many states have changed their statute to endorse the APRN Consensus model. Additional states do so every year.

9. **Has this bill topic been previously introduced in the legislature? If so, what was the final outcome and why?** Introduced in January 2015 and has passed the Senate. Currently referred to the House Labor and Commerce Committee.

10. **In the event questions should be raised during review of this request, please indicate below which board member should be contacted:** Chair Denise Valentine, ANP.

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ANTICIPATED REGULATIONS FOR FY 2016

The Board has approved the regulations project below. Additional proposed regulation changes have also been identified.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Board of Nursing proposes to update various regulations relating to criteria for evaluation of nurse practitioner programs, licensure requirements, retired nurse license status, reinstatement, initial authorization, prescriptive authority, preceptorships, renewal, scope of practice, continuing competency requirements, certification requirements, lapsed certification, nurse aide training program approval, unprofessional conduct, administration of a non-herbal nutritional supplement, delegation of the administration of medication or injectable medication, nursing duties that may not be delegated, executive secretary, and eliminating the term “similar position that performs nurse aide duties.”

The Board of Nursing (Board) proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 12, Chapter 44, of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with evaluation of nurse practitioner programs, application by examination, examinations, license by endorsement, retired nurse license status, reinstatement of lapsed license or retired license, initial authorization requirements for advanced nurse practitioners (ANPs) and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), renewal requirements for ANPs and CRNAs, scope of practice, continuing competency requirements, certified nurse aide (CNA) certification requirements, CNA renewal requirements, lapsed certification, CNA training program approval, unprofessional conduct, administration of a non-herbal nutritional supplement, delegation of the administration of medication, delegation of the administration of injectable medication, nursing duties that may not be delegated, executive administrator, and definitions, including the following:

1. **12 AAC 44.135, Evaluation of nurse practitioner programs**, is proposed to adopt by reference the revised Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs.
2. **12 AAC 44.290, Application for examination**, is proposed to alter the requirements for licensure by examination.
3. **12 AAC 44.300, Examinations**, is proposed to alter the requirements for nursing applicants applying for a license by examination.
4. **12 AAC 44.305, License by endorsement**, is proposed to alter the requirements for nursing license by endorsement.
5. **12 AAC 44.311, Retired nurse license status**, is a proposed new section that establishes for the conversion of an active nursing license to a retired nurse license status.
6. **12 AAC 44.317, Reinstatement of a lapsed license**, is proposed to alter the section title to read “Reinstatement of a lapsed or retired license”, and to change the provisions relating to reinstatement of a lapsed or retired status license.
7. **12 AAC 44.400, Requirements for initial authorization**, is proposed to alter the requirements for initial authorization to practice as an ANP.
8. **12 AAC 44.440, Prescriptive authority**, is proposed to alter the continuing education requirements for renewal of an ANP prescriptive authority.
9. **12 AAC 44.460, Preceptorships**, is proposed to eliminate the preceptorship application fee.
10. **12 AAC 44.470, Renewal of advanced nurse practitioner authorization**, is proposed to alter the requirements for renewal of an ANP authorization.

11. **12 AAC 44.500, Requirements for initial authorization**, is proposed to alter the requirements for initial authorization to practice as a CRNA.
12. **12 AAC 44.510, Scope of practice**, is proposed to adopt by reference the revised Scope of Nurse Anesthesia Practice.
13. **12 AAC 44.540, Renewal of certified registered nurse anesthetist authorization**, is proposed to alter the requirements for renewal of a CRNA authorization.
14. **12 AAC 44.610, Continuing education requirements**, is proposed to alter the continuing education requirements.
15. **12 AAC 44.620, Professional activities requirement**, is proposed to alter the continuing competency requirements for renewal of a nursing license.
16. **12 AAC 44.630, Nursing employment requirement**, is proposed to alter the provisions related to documentation of nursing employment toward fulfillment of the continuing competency requirements.
17. **12 AAC 44.800, Certification by examination**, is proposed to alter the requirements for nurse aide certification by examination.
18. **12 AAC 44.805, Certification by endorsement**, is proposed to alter the requirements for nurse aide certification by endorsement.
19. **12 AAC 44.810, Application for certification**, is proposed to alter requirements for certification as a nurse aide.
20. **12 AAC 44.815, Issuance and renewal of certification**, is proposed to alter the provisions relating to nurse aide certification renewal requirements.
21. **12 AAC 44.820, Lapsed certification**, is proposed to alter the reinstatement requirements for nurse aide certification.
22. **12 AAC 44.830, Application for training program approval**, is proposed to alter the provisions relating to applicant seeking to establish a CNA training program approval.
23. **12 AAC 44.870, Unprofessional conduct**, is proposed to alter what constitutes unprofessional conduct by a certified nurse aide.
24. **12 AAC 44.945, Administration of a non-herbal nutritional supplement**, is proposed to alter the provisions related to administration of non-herbal nutritional supplement.
25. **12 AAC 44.965, Delegation of the administration of medication**, is proposed to alter the provisions related to delegation of the administration of medication.
26. **12 AAC 44.966, Delegation of the administration of injectable medication**, is proposed to alter the provisions relating to delegation of the administration of injectable medication.
27. **12 AAC 44.970, Nursing duties that may not be delegated**, is proposed to alter the provisions related to the nursing duties that may not be delegated.
28. **12 AAC 44.980, Executive Secretary**, is proposed to alter the section title to read “Executive Administrator”, and to eliminate the title “Executive Secretary”.
29. **12 AAC 44.990, Definitions**, is proposed to eliminate the term “similar position that performs nurse aide duties”.

ALASKA BOARD OF NURSING
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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY 2016

The board has adopted a strategic plan for FY 2016, below:

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Alaska Board of Nursing is to actively promote and protect the health of the citizens of Alaska through the safe and effective practice of nursing as defined by law.

VISION

- Evidence-based, best practices in regulation.
- Vigilant dedication to maintain and strengthen public safeguards.
- Eliminate or prevent unintended regulatory barriers to nursing practice in Alaska.
- Proactive anticipation of changes in the scope of nursing practice and the workforce.
- Ethical pursuit of excellence in regulation.

VALUES

The Alaska Board of Nursing endorses the following values for application within all Board activities and decisions, including those delegated to staff and themselves.

- Integrity: Doing the right thing for the right reason through informed, open and ethical debate.
- Accountability: Taking ownership and responsibility for board processes and outcomes.
- Quality: Pursuing excellence and continuous improvement in all aspects of board work.
- Vision: Using the power of imagination and creative thought to foresee potential future nursing practice innovations.
- Collaboration: Forging solutions through appropriate partnerships, examining all sides of issues.
- Leadership: Providing positive direction for safe nursing practice in Alaska.

FY 2016 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Protection of the public

- Nursing regulation exists to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public as they receive nursing services.
- Involvement of nurses in collaboration with the public in nursing regulation.
- Nursing education programs must meet statutory and regulatory requirements

Competence of all nurses and nurse aide regulated by the Alaska Board of Nursing

- Nursing regulations define licensure and certification requirements for all levels of nursing practice.
- Competence is validated at initial Alaska licensure/certification/authorization and biannually.

Due process and ethical decision-making

- Nursing regulation ensures due process rights for all nurses and nurse aides regulated by the Board of Nursing.
- All nurses and nurse aides regulated by the Alaska Board of Nursing are accountable for conduct based on legal, ethical and professional standards.

Shared accountability and collaboration

- The Board of Nursing collaborates with individuals and agencies in the interest of public protection, patient safety, and the education of nurses.
- The Board of Nursing is committed to transparency in its deliberations and functions.

Evidence-based regulation

- The Board of Nursing commits to being educated regarding current evidence-based standards of practice.
- Nursing regulation integrates current evidence-based standards of practice, advances in technology, and demographic and social research in its mission to protect the public.

Responses to the marketplace and healthcare environment

- Nursing regulation requires timely and thoughtful responsiveness to the evolving marketplace and healthcare environment.
- Implements updating of nursing regulations allows clarity of scope of practice and congruence with evidence-based nursing standards and the state’s changing needs for nursing care.

Response to globalization of nursing

- Nursing regulation requires fair and ethical practices and policies to address the social, political and fiscal challenges of globalization.
- The Board of Nursing is committed to maintaining evidence-based standards of practice when considering the challenges of globalization.

LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION GOAL: To license, certify qualified persons for the practice of nursing.

Licensure Objectives:

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmarks	Responsibility Assigned	Timeframe
L.1. On-going responsibilities related to licensure by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam • Endorsement • Reinstatement • Renewal • Courtesy • Retired 	1. Issuance of licenses/certifications/authorizations to applicants who meet established criteria 2. CNSs included in ANP regulations	1. Assure Certified Nurse Aide education programs are in compliance with federal law 2. Update regulations related to all types of licensure/certification	1. Executive 2. Executive, Board	1. Ongoing work of contract employee/Board employee 2. Ongoing
L.2. Assessment of the continued competence of licensed nurses and certified nurse aides	1. Appropriate requirements for demonstrated continued competence as a condition of licensure/certification by endorsement, reinstatement and renewal.	1. Literature review of best practices, standards set by preponderance of other state boards. 2. National Council of State Boards of Nursing best practices recommendations will be consulted. 3. Review recommendations 4. Promulgate regulations that are legally defensible	Board Executive	Ongoing

<p>L.3. Licensure/ Certification/ authorization standards that allow for responsiveness to changes in the healthcare environment</p>	<p>1. Assess alignment with Uniform Licensure Requirements (ULR) drafted by National Council of State Boards of Nursing.</p> <p>2. Key issues affecting nurse licensure are addressed by the Board as evidenced in meeting minutes, reports, and reflected in statute and regulation</p> <p>3. Continuous assessment of education and licensure issues</p>	<p>1. Conduct line-by-line comparison with ULR; implement appropriate changes.</p> <p>2. a. Generative discussion of issues at every Board meeting to review trends</p> <p>b. Review statutes and regulations for relevance, effectiveness, currency</p> <p>c Pursue APRN Consensus Model in proposed statute change</p> <p>3. Update regulations to reflect current education and practice issues, i.e. online education programs, competency based education programs.</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive</p> <p>2. Board, Executive</p> <p>D. Valentine N. Sanders L. Sarcone C. Logan</p> <p>3. Board, Executive</p>	<p>1. ULR review –FY 16 –</p> <p>2a. Ongoing</p> <p>2.b. Ongoing</p> <p>2c. FY 15 & 16</p> <p>3. Ongoing surveillance of issues and update of education regulations</p>
<p>L.4. Licensee-focused processes for licensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely issuance of license • Accessible applications • Transparent process 	<p>1. On-line renewal process for Certified Nurse Aides.</p> <p>2. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists renewals online</p> <p>3. Paperless certifications for CNAs</p> <p>4. Online access to status of applications</p> <p>5. Online access to name</p>	<p>1. Consider and if needed implement regulation changes that would permit on-line renewals for Certified Nurse Aide</p> <p>2. Implement regulations changes if needed that would permit on-line renewals for CRNAs</p> <p>3. Implement regulation changes that would create a paperless license system for CNAs; implement information outreach to licensees</p> <p>4. Implement online status of applications</p> <p>5. Addresses will not be visible online</p>	<p>1. Executive</p> <p>2. Board, Executive</p> <p>3. Board, Executive</p> <p>4. Board, Executive</p> <p>5. Board, Executive. Director Chambers</p>	<p>1. To be completed by FY 2016 CNA renewals</p> <p>2.Regulation changes to be proposed FY 16</p> <p>3. FY 16</p> <p>4. FY 16 with new data management system.</p> <p>5. FY 16</p>

PRACTICE GOAL: To determine, communicate and enforce nursing practice and professional standards as established in statute and regulations.

Practice Objectives:

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmarks	Responsibility Assigned	Timeframe
P.1. Promote the use of appropriate consent agreements in lieu of contested hearings.	1. Review progress of nurses with encumbered licenses at each regularly scheduled quarterly Board meeting using reporting by exception. 2. Promote timely review and resolution of all nurses' and nurse aides' cases being investigated and litigated.	1. Monitoring reports reviewed at each meeting 2. a. Investigations are closed ASAP. 2. b. Request and monitor investigation tracking data from Division of Investigations. Database tracks assignment of investigator to cases	1. Executive, Board 2. Executive, Board Investigations	1. Ongoing 2. a. Quarterly assessment 2.b. Ongoing
P.2. Investigative staff is knowledgeable regarding nursing practice.	1. Ensure adequate investigative staff to expeditiously manage nursing disciplinary cases. 2. Investigative staff is informed re: trends in nursing practice. 3. Investigative staff is advised regarding the interpretation and general practice of nursing according to the Nurse Practice Act (Statute and Regulations)	1. Dialogue with Division Director to encourage adequate investigative staff 2. Encourage Director to require investigator continuing education; employ a nurse investigator. Nurse investigator sent to NCSBN conference. 3. Appropriate Consent Agreements presented to the Board	1. Board, Executive 2. Executive, Board Chair 3. Executive, Investigators	1. Ongoing dialogue with Division Director requesting additional investigators 2. Investigations Chief is encouraging education 3. Ongoing

<p>P.3. Ensure a safe nursing workforce.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Routinely collect and submit Nurse Information System (NURSYS) data in accordance with the contract with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. 2. Participate in & send TERCAP (Taxonomy of Error Root Cause and Practice-Responsibility) cases to NCSBN 3. Comprehensive data entry into NURSYS 4. RNs, ANPs, LPNs requesting an increase to their scope of practice and institutions offering courses to multiple licensees apply to the Board for approval. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Data continues to be uploaded 2. Investigator collects data on cases fitting the research protocol. Submit data to NCSBN 3. Consider NCSBN grant application for funding 4. Applications for expansion of scope of practice meet statutory definition of licensee's level of licensure. Use a decision tree model for expansion of scope of practice 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Executive 2.Investigator 3.Executive, Director 4. Board 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing – license data to Nursys updated nightly 2.Ongoing 3. FY 16 4. Annually review written reports. Proposals for increased scope of practice reviewed and approved when presented.
<p>P.4. Ensure consistent, uniform disciplinary actions</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to utilize and maintain Discipline Historical Database so that Board decisions will be consistent over time, as required by AS 08.01.075(f). 2 Provide information re: discipline to the public 3. Publish discipline fine parameters on website 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Review all CAs for consistent discipline 2.Discipline actions posted on the website 3.a. Investigators review and update b. Disciplinary matrix reviewed and adopted 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Board 2.Executive 3.Executive, Board 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing database management by Board member 2. Ongoing; names and disciplinary information are updated after each meeting. 3. Review biannually. b. Continually review

	4. Investigate alternative to discipline options for drug and alcohol cases	4. Identify pros and cons to: Board sponsored or Nurses' Association sponsored. Continued BON monitored discipline, Other options such as self-referral, BON referral, etc.	4 Executive, Board	4 FY 16
P.5. Assure that complaints, investigations and Board actions are executed in a fair, timely manner, assuring public protection while protecting the property rights of licensees.	<p>1. Quarterly review of investigation time frames, priority of cases</p> <p>2. Respond to employers complaints in timely manner</p> <p>3. Effectively protect the public</p>	<p>1. Request data at each Board meeting with investigative staff</p> <p>2. Review CORE data from employers</p> <p>3. Review CORE data from Licensees</p>	<p>1. Executive Board</p> <p>2. Executive, Board</p> <p>3. Executive, Board</p>	<p>1. Ongoing</p> <p>2. Ongoing,</p> <p>3. Ongoing, data</p>

<p>P.6. Scope of practice standards are articulated and current, issued by Advisory Opinions per AS 08.68.100(9)</p>	<p>1. Analyze practice standards, respond to questions from the public and licensees, and issue advisory opinions related to practice.</p> <p>2. Licensees and employers understand scope of practice standards</p> <p>3. Licensees and employers report timely responses to practice questions from the Board of Nursing.</p> <p>4. Licensees and employers report knowledgeable Board of Nursing staff.</p> <p>5. Board of Nursing is responsive to changes in practice.</p>	<p>1. Respond with evidence-based advisory opinions, posted in a timely manner on the Advisory Opinion database on the website. Executive Administrator will bring practice questions to the Board.</p> <p>2. Make presentation and disseminate updated and timely information regarding issues of importance to nursing practice.</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive</p> <p>2. Board, Executive</p> <p>3. Board, Executive</p> <p>4. Executive</p> <p>5. Board, Executive</p>	<p>1-5. Ongoing in FY 16</p>
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EDUCATION GOAL: To approve, communicate, and enforce standards for the education of nurses and nurse aides for practice at all levels.

Education Objectives:

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmarks	Responsibility Assigned	Timeframe
<p>E.1. Nursing education programs meet adopted standards and criteria</p>	<p>1. Nursing education programs meet standards for national accreditation and Board review</p> <p>2. Certified Nurse Aide education programs meet national standards</p>	<p>1. Review annual reports in January from nursing education programs for continued approval, including NP graduate programs.</p> <p>2. Appropriate review of Certified Nurse Aide programs</p>	<p>1. Board</p> <p>2. Program contractor/Exec. Admin. / Board</p>	<p>1. Ongoing, annually in January</p> <p>2. Ongoing as program reviews and reports are completed by contractor/Exec Regulations updated to comply with Federal</p>

	<p>3. Board decisions related to approval of new or continuing nursing education programs are based on application of defined criteria</p> <p>4. Refresher courses will meet board established criteria</p>	<p>3. Board monitors new programs.</p> <p>4. No refresher course is accepted without prior approval from the board</p>	<p>3. Board</p> <p>4. Board</p>	<p>regulations FY 2016</p> <p>3. Ongoing; Education program regulations Reviewed annually and FY 16</p> <p>4. Refresher courses reviewed for approval when submitted</p>
E.2. Education programs prepare graduates for safe practice at the entry level	<p>1. Graduates of approved nursing programs demonstrate beginning-level competence as evidenced by NCLEX pass rates and advanced practice national certification.</p> <p>2. Graduates of approved Certified Nurse Aide programs demonstrate beginning-level competence as evidenced by the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program (NNAAP) pass rates.</p>	<p>1. Enforce pass rate standards for first-time test takers (12 AAC 44.055); Pass rates are evaluated on an annual basis in January; Education programs are informed if standards are not being met.</p> <p>2. Enforce pass rate standards for first-time test takers (12 AAC 44.858); Education programs are informed if standards are not being met.</p>	<p>1. Executive, Board</p> <p>2. Executive, Board</p>	<p>1. Annual pass rates are reviewed annually in January. Ongoing Enforcement – letters of concern sent per regulations. Plans for improvement submitted by programs.</p> <p>2. Annual pass rates reviewed annually in January. Enforcement – letters of concern or warning sent per regulations. Plans for improvement submitted by programs & approved by Board.</p>

<p>E.3. Standards for nursing education allow for responsiveness to changes in the practice environment</p>	<p>1. Key issues, such as simulation and distance education, are addressed by the Board as evidenced in meeting minutes, reports and as reflected in statute and regulations</p> <p>2. Regulations are updated to reflect standards for educational programs that meet the mission of the Board.</p> <p>3. Review proposals by individuals or non-educational institutions for expanding nurses' scope of practice</p>	<p>1.a. Search of literature, attend education consultant calls</p> <p>b. NCSBN completing research study focused on effectiveness of simulation in nursing education programs</p> <p>c. NCSBN working on recommended regulations for pre-licensure distance education and simulation.</p> <p>c. Attend NCSBN offerings related to topics</p> <p>2. Board revises regulations to meet mission. Public comments considered.</p> <p>3. Institute annual review</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive</p> <p>2. Board, Executive</p> <p>3. Board, Executive</p>	<p>1. Ongoing FY 16</p> <p>2. Regulation projects ongoing</p> <p>3. Ongoing – FY 16; Annual reports in January as part of approval</p>
<p>E.4. Participate in development of a long-range plan for nursing education and workforce needs</p>	<p>1. Analyze competencies & workforce needs</p> <p>2. Collaborate with employers and education programs</p>	<p>1. Survey data review collected from licensing renewals</p> <p>2. a. Distribute survey data results to employers and education programs</p> <p>b. Attend workforce meetings to inform Board about issues</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive</p> <p>2. Executive, Board</p> <p>2.b. Executive, Board chair</p>	<p>1. Ongoing with renewals.</p> <p>2 a. When analysis complete</p> <p>2.b. Attend ASHNHA workforce forums</p> <p>2.c. Attend forums by the AK Health Workforce Coalition.</p>

GOVERNANCE GOAL: To assure the governance framework and culture supports the accomplishment of the Board’s Mission, Vision and Goals.

Governance Objectives

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmarks	Responsibility Assigned	Timeframe
G.1. Board performance is consistent with the Board’s adopted model of policy governance	1. Board meeting evaluation indicates effective communication and work.	1. Meeting evaluation done orally and written after each Board meeting	1. Board Chair	1. After each board meeting
	2. Board self-assessment indicates that the Board incorporates principles of policy governance in accomplishment of Mission and Goals	2. Annual board self-assessment at last meeting of the fiscal year	2. Board Chair	2. Spring each year
	3. Executive Administrator assessment reflects effective Board governance	3. Annual Executive Administrator assessment at last meeting of the fiscal year	3. Board Chair	3. Spring each year
	4. Board members conduct themselves in an ethical manner	4. Ethics reporting complies with AS 39.52; annual ethics education is completed	4. Board Chair	4. Each board meeting
.2. Board performance is consistent with the Vision, Mission, Values and Goals	1. Strategic Plan is formulated and kept up-to-date	1. Maintain Strategic Plan; revise yearly	1. Board Chair, Executive	1. Annually at spring meeting
	2. Board assessment indicates accomplishment of Mission, progress toward Vision, adherence to values and use of strategic thinking	2. Annual report to the Legislature reflects progress towards these markers	2. Board Chair/Executive	2. Ongoing, completed by June 30th each year
	3. Board decisions, when challenged, are upheld	3. ALJ and Court cases uphold Board decisions	3. Board	3. Ongoing FY 16

G.3. Competent Board members	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Board self-assessment indicates Board and Board member competence 2. Leadership training is ongoing 3. Board training is implemented as expected part of board service 4. Succession planning is implemented, as needed 5. Newly appointed Board members are oriented to the role and expectations. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual self-assessment 2. Plan annual board retreat for training 3. Ongoing board member training at each meeting 4. Vice Chair position will be included with Chair and Secretary 5. Orientation prior to the first Board meeting after appointment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board chair 2. Board chair, Executive 3. Board chair 4. Board chair 5. Executive, Board Chair 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spring meeting 2. Ongoing 3. Ongoing 4. Ongoing 5. Ongoing
G.4. Collaboration with stakeholders both in and outside of nursing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board collaborates with stakeholders 2. Board collaborate with licensees 3. Board collaborates with employers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance at nursing organization meetings: ANPA, APRN Alliance, Alaska Nursing Action Coalition 2. Public testimony held with each Board meeting; advisory groups are convened on specific topics with licensee members 3. Communicates re: workforce issues with stakeholders: ASHNHA, Workforce Coalition 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Executive, Board 2. Executive, Board 3. Executive, Board 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing 2. Ongoing 3. Ongoing;

G.5. Board responsiveness to state and national healthcare policy decisions	<p>1. Active Board involvement in a variety of healthcare policy arenas</p> <p>2. Active Board participation in National Council of State Boards of Nursing</p>	<p>1. Board is informed on current issues, included in each Board meeting</p> <p>2.a. Implement innovation in regulation in conjunction with other states e.g. ULR compliance, APRN Model Act/Rules compliance</p> <p>2.b. Board members and Executive participate in appropriate committees and teleconferences with NCSBN</p>	<p>1. Board Chair, Executive</p> <p>2. Board Chair, Executive</p>	<p>1. Ongoing – Reports of NCSBN conferences and teleconference at every Board meeting</p> <p>2.a. Ongoing</p> <p>2.b. Ongoing Valentine – APRN; – policy; Hendrix – education; Executive - all</p>
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INFORMATION EXCHANGE GOAL: To facilitate information exchange between the Board and its colleagues, constituent groups, the public, and other agencies in order to fulfill the Board’s Mission, Vision and Goals.

Information Exchange Objectives:

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmarks	Responsibility Assigned	Timeframe
I.1. Public awareness of Board Mission and role	<p>1. Mission and role of the Board are presented to a diverse audience in a variety of formats</p> <p>2. Licensees’ understand the difference between the Board of Nursing and nurse professional organizations</p>	<p>a. Website updated</p> <p>b. Listserv used regularly</p> <p>c. Executive or Board Chair speaks to public and licensees</p> <p>d. Mission posted at every Board meeting</p> <p>2. a. CORE data</p> <p>b. discussed with graduating nursing students</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive</p> <p>2. Board, Executive</p>	<p>1. Ongoing</p> <p>2. Ongoing</p>
I.2. Effective communication with the public, including licensees, employers, policy makers and consumers	<p>1. Consider feedback related to communication with the Board when received:</p> <p>a. Inquiries to Board office</p> <p>b. Presentations by Board staff</p> <p>c. Website</p>	<p>1. a. Inquiry to board office</p> <p>b. Presentation by Board staff</p> <p>c. Website</p> <p>d. CORE data</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive</p>	<p>1. FY 16 - ongoing</p>

	<p>2. Listserv used effectively</p> <p>3. Quarterly articles in the Alaska Nurse & Alaska Nursing Today</p> <p>4. Licensees and Employers understand obligation of reporting suspected violation of Nurse Practice Act</p>	<p>2. Listserv subscribers increased</p> <p>a. alerts posted regularly</p> <p>b. proposed regulation changes sent out on Listserv, as well as to individuals requesting a copy</p> <p>3. Articles submitted by Executive &/or Board Chair to Alaska Nurse & Alaska Nursing today</p> <p>4a. Add statute requiring facility reporting to Board of Nursing</p> <p>4b. Discuss during presentations to stakeholder groups</p>	<p>2. Executive, Board Chair</p> <p>3. Executive, Board Chair</p> <p>4. Board</p>	<p>2. Ongoing FY 16</p> <p>a. announcement of each Board meeting</p> <p>b. as appropriate</p> <p>3. Ongoing</p> <p>4. a. statute change FY 16</p> <p>4b. FY 16</p>
I.3. Accurate, comprehensive, accessible nurse licensure data	<p>1. Information necessary for licensure verification and reporting in a timely manner</p> <p>2. Nursing workforce research on website</p>	<p>1.a. primary verification licensure data on website</p> <p>1.b. Move to online license verification – NURSYS utilized</p> <p>2.a. Post 2012 & 14 RN renewal data to website</p> <p>2.b. Post 2012 & 14 PN renewal data to website</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive</p> <p>2. a, Executive</p> <p>2.b. Executive</p>	<p>1.a. ongoing</p> <p>1.b. ongoing FY16</p> <p>2. When analysis available</p>
I.4. Information provided to appropriate state and national entities for purposes of public protection	<p>1. Required information is accurately and timely reported to NURSYS, and through NURSYS to NPDB</p>	<p>1.a. Accurate and timely data uploads – nightly</p> <p>1.b. Disciplinary cases posted on NURSYS</p> <p>1.c. Disciplinary cases posted on website</p>	<p>1. Executive</p>	<p>1.a. Ongoing</p> <p>1.b. After each board meeting</p>
I.5. Collaborate with other healthcare stakeholders	<p>1. Available to attend ASHNA, & AARP to discuss shared concerns</p>	<p>1. Board participates at least once per year in Alaska Workforce Coalition, ASHNHA and through the Alaska Nursing Action Coalition with AARP</p>	<p>1. Executive, Board Chair</p>	<p>1. Ongoing FY 16</p>

ORGANIZATIONAL GOAL: To assure the organizational infrastructure supports the Mission, Vision and Goals.

Organizational Objectives:

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmarks	Responsibility Assigned	Timeframe
O.1. Adequate Board resources to meet expenses, hire qualified staff and update technology	<p>1. The board functions as self-supporting entity, with fair licensure fees</p> <p>2. Board meetings are paperless</p>	<p>1. a. Monitor budget reports</p> <p>b. Participate in licensure fee review</p> <p>c. Suggest additional board infrastructure items</p> <p>d. Additional funding for Certified Nurse Aide education program reviewer contract, due to extensive site visit needs. Update state regulations to comply with Federal regulations.</p> <p>2. a. Meet in locations with wireless internet, Board members utilize secure website</p> <p>b. Use of overhead projector at meetings to accomplish agenda work</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive, Administrator</p> <p>2. Executive, Board Chair</p>	<p>1.a. Ongoing</p> <p>b. prior to renewal</p> <p>c. Ongoing; Meet with Director every Board meeting.</p> <p>d. Ongoing In FY 16- Discussed with Director at each Board meeting.</p> <p>2. a. Ongoing FY16 request (infrastructure)</p> <p>b. Ongoing</p>
O.2. Staff activities facilitate the Board's accomplishment of Mission and strategic goals	1. Positive annual Board self-assessment related to support by staff	<p>1.a. Meeting materials provided to Board 2 weeks prior to meetings</p> <p>1.b. All needed materials for Board decisions are available - affirmed by board meeting evaluation</p>	<p>1.a. Executive</p> <p>1.b. Executive</p>	<p>1.a. Ongoing FY 16</p> <p>1.b. Ongoing FY 16</p>
O.3. Expectations of the public, licensees, Legislature and Governor about the Board are adequately met	<p>1. Positive feedback from public and licensees</p> <p>2. Legislature extends Board of Nursing sunset review – Board approved until 2019</p>	<p>1. Public and licensees participate in public comment and forums</p> <p>2. Sunset review is positive and authorization of the board is at least 8 years</p>	<p>1. Board, Executive</p> <p>2. Board, Executive</p>	<p>1. Ongoing</p> <p>2. Ongoing FY 16</p>

O.4. Competent staff	1. Executive Administrator meets annual performance expectations for key job responsibilities, customer service and office function	1. Annual review of Executive Administrator, after board self-evaluation	1. Board	1. Annually in Spring
O.5. Office of the Board of Nursing supports the day-to-day operation of the organization	1. The office of the Board of Nursing, including physical location, space and furnishings, equipment and staff, support the day-to-day operation of the Board. 2. Privacy of conversations is maintained due to sensitive nature of topics and potential for HIPAA violations.	1. Continue to monitor office location and accommodations, and financial asset concerns for the best operation and public access. 2. Executive Administrator will maintain an office with a door	1. Board, Executive, Director 2. Board	1. Ongoing FY 16 Discussed with Director when appropriate at Board meeting. 2. Discussion with Director

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- L1 Statute passed establishing a retired nurse status – FY 14
- L1 Proposed regulation formulated for retired nurse status – FY 15
- L1 CNSs included in advanced nurse practitioner regulations
- L2 Regulations for CRNAs mirror ANP continued competence standards in FY 14
- L3 Multistate Licensure Compact (Compact) considered. Determination that the Alaska Board of Nursing is not ready to implement the Compact - FY 15
- L3 SB 53 ANP title change to APRN and licensure instead of authorization for APRNs introduced in legislature. SB 53 passed in the Senate. Referred to the House.

- P2 Two investigators attended the NCSBN Discipline Case Management Conference – FY 15
- P2 Discipline sanctions – FY 14 revised FY 15
- P3 Discipline decision matrix reviewed and reaffirmed – FY 15

- P4 Re-adopted Disciplinary matrix – FY 14 – put on website
- P6 Advisory related to the practice of telehealth for ANPs approved and posted- FY 15
- P6 Advisory opinion related to safe to practice adopted and posted – FY 15.
- P6 LPN Scope of Practice discussed – FY 15
- E1 New education standards in regulations – FY13
- E1 Education standards up held for provisionally approved nursing education programs (AVTEC & Charter College)
- E1 Approved DNP program at UAA.
- E2 Approved increasing scope of practice courses for RN administration of Nitrous Oxide administration in Peds, L&D at FMH, colonoscopies by ANPs at ANMC,
- G3 Vice chair position established-FY12

List the board's **FY16 goals and objectives**. Include any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, as well as any resources needed:

The goals and objectives have been updated (above) for FY 16. The Board of Nursing members have reviewed the updated the strategic plan and have approved it. Please note in the right hand column of the above document the new FY date.

- **LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION GOAL:** To license or certify qualified persons for the practice of nursing.
- **PRACTICE GOAL:** To determine, communicate and enforce nursing practice and professional standards as established in statute and regulations.
- **EDUCATION GOAL:** To approve, communicate, and enforce standards for the education of nurses and nurse aides for practice at all levels.
- **GOVERNANCE GOAL:** To assure the governance framework and culture supports the accomplishment of the Board's Mission, Vision and Goals.
- **INFORMATION EXCHANGE GOAL:** To facilitate information exchange between the Board and its colleagues, constituent groups, the public, and other agencies in order to fulfill the Board's mission, vision and goals.
- **ORGANIZATIONAL GOAL:** To assure the organizational infrastructure supports the mission, vision and goals.

In order to join the state in a time of austerity, list the top three areas where the board believes this licensing program could reasonably reduce its costs or services.

The Alaska Board of Nursing operates using the fees paid by licensees and certificate holders. Every renewal cycle a fee analysis is completed to determine whether licensing and renewal fees need to be adjusted in order to allow the Board to operate.

The Board of Nursing operates with very few staff members. Cutting the number of staff members **is NOT recommended**. Staff members are already pushed to their limits to certify CNAs and license nurses and ANPs in a reasonable timeframe.

Areas where the Alaska Board of Nursing might save money:

1. The Board could save money by holding all of its meetings in Anchorage instead of travelling to Juneau and Fairbanks. In FY 16, 3 of 4 meetings are already scheduled for Anchorage. Three members of the Board live outside of the Anchorage area; costs for those members to attend the Board meetings will continue to be high.
2. Continue to allow third party reimbursement or direct reservations for Board members and/or staff to attend National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) meetings. This allows attendance at the important NCSBN meetings at no cost to the State of Alaska.
3. The Board could reduce costs by going paperless. An initial investment for notebook computers for the Board members to use at the meetings would be offset by saving Board staff time copying the Board books, save paper and wear and tear in copying and save postage for distribution of the books.

ALASKA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
FY 2015 ANNUAL REPORT
SUNSET AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

Date of last Legislative Audit: September, 30, 2010

Board sunset date: June 30, 2019

Audit Recommendation #1: BON should take steps to ensure all appropriate entities are notified when an ANP's authority to write prescriptions has been revoked or suspended.

Action taken: When an ANP's authority to write prescriptions has been revoked or suspended by the BON, the Executive Administrator or Board staff will:

- notify the DEA on the first work day after the BON meeting concludes.
- submit the ANP's name to the Board of Pharmacy on the first day after the BON meeting concludes. The Board of Pharmacy will be responsible for notifying the pharmacies.
- notify the employer (if appropriate) of an ANP on the first work day after the BON meeting concludes
- update the Disciplinary Data base found on the BON website within two weeks after the BON meeting has concluded.

Next Steps: There has been no instance where an ANP's (or CRNA's) prescriptive authority has been revoked or suspended since the approval of the Legislative Audit. The licensing examiners are aware of the procedure to notify the DEA and Board of Pharmacy and are ready to comply.

Date completed: April 2011

Audit Recommendation #2: The BON Chairperson should take steps to ensure that the required Nurse Aide training program reviews are being conducted.

Action taken:

This issue was addressed with Directors Urion, Davis, Smith, Habeger, and Chambers. The five (5) CBPL Directors since March 2007. As noted in the Sunset Audit, the position of Nurse Consultant 1 was vacant since 2002. The Board of Nursing continues to feel that the position is essential to fulfill the federal requirements for nurse aide programs and the RSA from the Department of Health and Social Services.

Prior to July 2015, a RFP was executed and a contract employee, Cathy Winfree, RN, was selected to perform the Nurse Aide Program evaluations required in regulation. Ms. Winfree is unable to evaluate the programs of the University of Alaska which left those Nurse Aide programs without evaluation.

During FY 15, permission to hire was obtained by Director Chambers. Three candidates are being interviewed in July 2015.

Next Steps: Hire a well-qualified RN to fill the Nurse Consultant I position.

Date completed: Ongoing but hiring may take place in August 2015.

Audit Recommendation #3: The Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing’s Chief Investigator should take steps to ensure timely investigation of complaints and cases.

Action taken: The Chief Investigator is responsible for this recommendation. The number of cases from the Board of Nursing has not slowed as the BON continues to license or certify more and more applicants. There was an influx of reinstatement applications after the renewal cycles for LPNs and RNs in FY 15. In addition, the number of applicants in general has dramatically increased thus impacting investigations.

The Board of Nursing has as an objective that all complaints regarding licensee’s practice are investigated in a timely manner. Two investigators are assigned to the BON to work on the backlog of complaints and cases.

- The average length of time most cases are open is 3 months to one year if they do not involve the following: litigation, the attorney general being involved, and expert review. Of course, more complex cases involving legal counsel and such do not fit these time frames.
- Cases are prioritized. The system is a 1-4 system with 1 being the highest priority which would be cases of great potential for public harm and 4 being cases with low potential such as falsified applications.

Next Steps: Prioritize cases where there is the possibility of patient harm. Continue to make the BON cases a priority by assigning available resources to the complaints and cases

Date completed: On-going

Audit Recommendation #4: The Director of Boards and Commissions, Office of the Governor, should fill the LPN position with an LPN currently involved in institutional nursing services.

Action taken: Recruiting and retaining an LPN member of the Board of Nursing has been an on-going challenge. There were two (3) LPNs appointed to the Board who, for a variety of reasons, resigned immediately or within a few meetings of appointment. The LPN position on the Board of Nursing was again vacant because the LPN licensed as an RN. A new appointment of a LPN was made in January 2014; she has been active in her role and the meetings. She, too, is studying to become an RN.

Next Steps: The statute was changed to remove the requirement for the LPN member to be involved in “institutional nursing services”. The LPN has to be currently engaged in LPN practice and have practiced for at least 2 years immediately preceding appointment.

Date completed: January 2014.

State of Alaska Nurse Aide Training Programs

About the Training Programs

The following is the most current list of State of Alaska approved Nurse Aide training programs. For specific information about the programs, locations, availability, dates, times and fees, please contact the program representatives directly. (907 is the area code for Alaska)

Alaska Job Corps

**** 17 ½-24 year olds****

Melissa Lowther RN P: 861-8800
800 E Lynn Martin Dr F: 861-8985
Palmer, AK 99654
Lowther.Melissa@jobcorps.org

Alaska Technical Center

Cindy Lincoln RN P: 442-3733 X32
P O Box 51 F: 442-2764
Kotzebue, AK 99752
clincoln@nwarctic.org

AVTEC Alaska Institute of Technology

Chris Watts, coord P: 334-2230
1251 Muldoon Rd # 103
Anchorage, AK 99508
chris.watts@avtec.edu

Anchorage School District

**** 2 LOCATIONS, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY ****

Emelyn Hudson, coord P: 742-4136
Hudson_Emelyn@asdk12.org
c/o Adrienne Voss RN
Voss_adrienne@asdk12.org
King Career Center
2650 E. Northern Lts. Blvd
Anchorage, AK 99508
Emelyn Hudson
c/o Panna Jarussi RN
Jarussi_panna@asdk12.org
Service High School
5577 Abbott Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99507

Bethel CNA Program

Mary Weiss RN P: 543-0528
Kuskokwim Campus, UAF
PO Box 368
Bethel, AK 99559
mtweiss@alaska.edu

Caregiver Training Academy

Cheryl Milline RN P: 258-0535
203 West 15th Avenue #104
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Chugiak-Eagle River Health Education CNA Program

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Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

**** HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY ****

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Heritage Place

Not accepting remedial students

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Kachemak Bay Campus-Kenai Peninsula College

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Kenai Peninsula College/Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

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Kodiak College

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Mat-Su Career & Tech High School

**** HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY ****

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Petersburg Medical Center

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PWSCC-Valdez

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PWSCC-Cordova

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UAS Ketchikan

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UAS Sitka

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Wrangell Medical Center

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