

Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development

Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing

Board of Nursing
Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2024



Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

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This report is required under Alaska Statute 08.01.070(10).

**Board of Nursing
FY 2024 Annual Report**

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**Board of Nursing
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Board Membership (as of the Date This Report was Approved)

Date of Final Board Approval: 5/14/2024

Danette Schloeder, Chair, Registered Nurse (RN)
Lena M. Lafferty, Registered Nurse (RN)
April Erickson, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)
Vianne Smith, RN/Baccalaureate Education
Michael Collins, Public Member

Vacant, LPN Seat
Vacant, Public Member Seat

**Board of Nursing
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Accomplishments

The Board's notable accomplishments during fiscal year 2024 include:

Regulation Projects/Changes:

Alternative to Probation program included within regulation

- Standard Operating Procedure developed and implemented

Telehealth Regulation updated

Regulation Project in process:

LPN Scope of Practice

CNA Education Alignment

English Language proficiency

Supported Legislation:

Continued support of Nurse Licensure Compact – HB 149

Support of HB 314 and SB 225- Occupational Licensing Fees

Supporting APRN's with a letter of concern for SB 91

Supporting CNM's with a letter of concern for HB 175

CNA Programs approved and site visits conducted

New CNA programs provided with provisional status.

Reviewed Yearly annual reports and renewed approval for the following Nursing schools:

-Alaska Pacific University

-University of Alaska Anchorage

-Charter College

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Activities

The Annual Report reflects the Alaska Board of Nursing's ("Board") support for acceptable standards in nursing practice and nursing education in Alaska. The members of the Board take their responsibility to protect the public very seriously. The number of nursing applications received each year continues to rise. This increase coupled with continual board staffing shortages and turnover presented many challenges this past year. However, the Board looks forward to another year of service to the Alaskan consumers of nursing care and are happy to report a full staff as of May 2024.

The Board of Nursing has over 24,000 total active licensees in six distinct categories: Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), Registered Nurses (RNs), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Certified Nurse Aides (CNAs), Retired Registered Nurses, and preceptorship approval for Advanced Practice Nursing students. The Board grants various types of annual approval to three schools of nursing in Alaska and ensures that nursing education standards are maintained to ensure safe healthcare for the citizens of Alaska. The Board's notable activities during Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 include:

Board Meetings:

August 2023

September 2023, Strategic Planning Summit

November 2023

January 31 & February 1st, 2024

May 14 & 15, 2024

Developing a Strategic Plan document

Supported 2023 NLC Survey of Licensed Nurses in Alaska

Danette Schloeder attended the IHI forum in December of 2023 as a NCBN Board member

Danette Schloeder appointed as Area 1 Board of Directors member, NCSBN

Board Chair and EA attended NCSBN Annual meeting August 2023 as voting delegates.

Vianne Smith, Spoke at the CNA Conference , December 2023

Patty Wolf attended the Scientific Symposium, January 2024

Danette Schloeder, Vianne Smith, and Patty Wolf attended the NCSBN Mid Year Meeting, March 2024.

IT representative will attend the NCSBN IT conference.

Investigations representative will attend the NCSBN Discipline Conference in May 2024.

Participating in preliminary work for an Alaskan Nursing Workforce Center of Excellence.

School of Nursing presentations regarding licensure process and regulations to upcoming graduates.

Patty Wolf, provided a BON update at the AHHA Conference

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Activities

Investigative Report Data July 1, 2023- June 10, 2024

Investigations opened 131 new cases and closed 334 cases. The board has issued 69 license actions.

The following were the top 5 violation types of the cases that closed in FY24:

180 cases - Continuing Education

31 cases - Unprofessional Conduct

24 cases - Unlicensed Practice

24 cases - Falsified Application matters

17 cases - Substance Abuse

Probation report:

17 probation cases closed

9 probation cases opened

34 probation cases open and ongoing

Audit Report

CNA

2022-2024: 28 referred

	<u>Prior to 7/1/2023</u>	<u>7/1/2023-present</u>
Cleared:	12	0
Letter of Advisement:	1	0
Consent Agreement:	3	4
Voluntary Surrender:	4	0
Default revocation:	3	1

LPN

2022-2024: 10 referred

Cleared:		2
Consent Agreement:		7
Voluntary Surrender:		1

APRN

	<u>Prior to 7/1/2023</u>	<u>7/1/2023-present</u>
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2022-2024: 19 referred

Cleared:	8	10
Letter of Advisement:		1

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Activities

RN	<u>Prior to 7/1/2023</u>	<u>7/1/2023-present</u>
2022-2024: 171 referred (5 open investigations remain)		
Cleared:	6	133
Letter of Advisement:		1
Consent Agreement:		13
Voluntary Surrender:		9
Default revocation:		4

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Needs

Needs:

Vacant Public Seat to be filled to assist with the boards business.

Reconsider the board structure for numbers and types of licensed individuals.

The Board has requested and desires to hold board meetings in different geographical locations such as Juneau or Fairbanks.