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Terminology

- **Multistate License (MSL) or Compact License:** one license issued in the home state valid for practice in all NLC states.
- **Single State License (SSL):** valid only in state of issuance.
- **Home State:** the primary state of residence (PSOR)
- **Remote States:** NLC states other than the home state
- **PTP:** Privilege to Practice. The authority for a multistate license holder to practice in other NLC states.



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Primary State of Residence is Key!



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Primary Concepts of a Multistate License



A nurse (RN or LPN/VN) can only hold one multistate license issued by the home state.


A multistate license is NOT a national license, it is a state-based license.

A nurse has multistate licensure privilege to practice in other compact states (remote states)



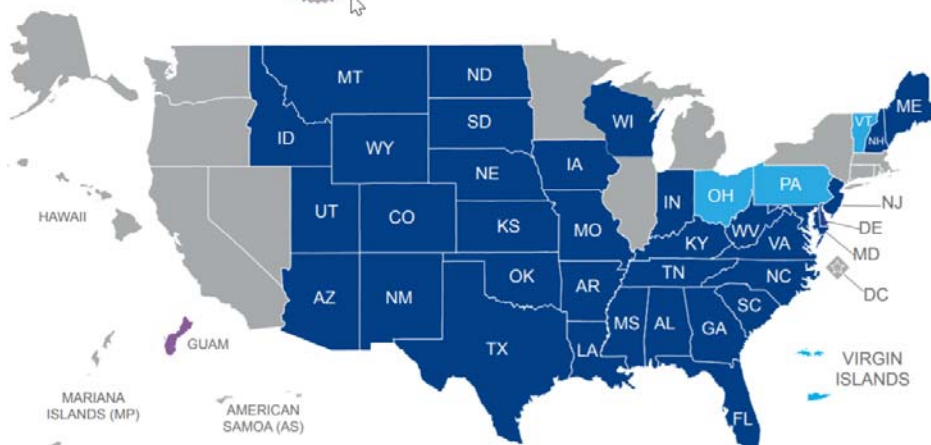
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Which States are Part of the NLC?




NLC States

39 states have enacted the NLC




■ NLC States
■ Partial Implementation
■ Currently No Action
■ Enacted NLC, Awaiting Implementation

For details see: www.ncsbn.org/NLC_Map.pdf



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The NLC is Similar to the DLC...




The NLC was originally developed based on the Driver's License Compact (DLC).

- ❖ It shares the same concept of one multistate license issued in the Primary State of Residence (PSOR) and accepted in all member states.
- ❖ You can drive across state lines with one license because other states are members of the driver's license compact. They accept the license of your PSOR.


LICENSURE MODEL OF MUTUAL RECOGNITION...

A Driver's License Compact vs. a Nurse License Compact




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Federal, Veterans Administration, Military and Indian Health Services Nurses



- Based on federal supremacy, nurses in this category are exempt from licensure in the state of practice when they hold an active nurse license in any state.
- This exemption does not apply when a nurse is practicing in a civilian facility in a non-federal role.
- In this case, the nurse will need to hold appropriate licensure in the state of practice.
- This pertains to a single state license. If a nurse in this category wishes to hold a multistate license, the nurse must have legal residency in an NLC state.



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Military Spouses who are Nurses

- Maintaining or changing a primary state of legal residency is at the discretion of the nurse.
- Should a nurse maintain legal residency in a NLC state and hold a multistate license and the military family is stationed in other NLC states, the nurse may practice under the home state multistate license in the other NLC states without obtaining additional licensure in those states.
- Note: The service person and the spouse may elect to have different home states.



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Pitfalls While in a Remote State

- The military spouse nurse holds a MSL in her home state. She is stationed in a remote compact state for three years.
- Pitfall 1:
 - She gets a new driver's license in the remote state because her home state driver's license is about to expire
- Pitfall 2:
 - She registers to vote in the remote state
- Pitfall 3:
 - The nurse decides to become a permanent resident of the remote state



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Scenario 1

- Jane is a military spouse nurse and married to Bob who is in the Navy.
- They both claim Texas as their home state (home of record) for military purposes.
- Jane holds a Texas multistate license.
- Bob gets ordered to a base in South Carolina and the family moves there for the next three years.
- In South Carolina, Jane gets a job at the local civilian hospital. (They are in South Carolina temporarily and do not plan to become residents)



How does this work for Jane?

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Scenario 2

- Military spouse nurse Tonya has a Nebraska MSL.
- The military has ordered her husband to Iowa (a compact state). The family is stationed there for the next three years only.
- Her husband's home of record is Nevada, a non-compact state.
- What should Tonya do?



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Scenario 3

- Sara is an active-duty nurse in the Air Force and stationed in Alaska, a noncompact state.
- She is ordered to get needed trauma training at a major civilian hospital in Washington State (a non-compact state).
- Sara holds an Alaska license.
- She would like to apply for a multistate license.
- What should she do?
- What can't she do?



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My State Joined the NLC, How do I Obtain a Multistate License?



If you are a legal resident of a NLC state that joined the NLC after 1/19/2018 (GA, FL, OK, WY, WV, KS, AL, LA, NJ) and hold a single state license in that state...

- Go to the board of nursing website
- Complete the upgrade or conversion application



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NURSYS.COM

Where can the nurse practice as an RN and/or PN?

A visual representation of all the states where the selected nurse has authorization to practice

[View Now >](#)

NAME ON LICENSE	TYPE	LICENSE STATE	LICENSE	ACTIVE	LICENSE STATUS	LICENSE ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE	LICENSE EXPIRATION DATE	COMPACT STATUS
SANDRA	RN	IDAHO		YES	UNENCUMBERED	08/10/1971	08/31/2021	MULTISTATE

1. Go to then click
2. Search by your Name, License Number or NCSBN ID.
3. Click "View Report"
4. On Nursys QuickConfirm Report page, click "Where can the nurse practice as an RN and/or PN?"

NLC

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SUBSCRIBE

NLC Tip of the Week (Every Wednesday)

<https://www.ncsbn.org/13615.htm>

Nurse Licensure Compact
INCREASING ACCESS TO CARE

TIP

of the week

TRUE OR FALSE:

The state where a nurse owns his/her property is the nurse's primary state of residence (PSOR).

Scroll Down to See the Answer

Learn More About the NLC

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Thank You!



Questions?

Email:

nursecompact@ncsbn.org

Toolkit:

<https://www.ncsbn.org/nlc-toolkit.htm>

Web:

www.nlc.gov