



**Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)
Licensing Subcommittee Minutes
February 20, 2015
111 Israel Rd SE, Room 115
Tumwater, WA**

Committee Members: Lois Hoell, MS, MBA, RN, Chair
Jeannie Eylar, MSN, RN
Stephen Henderson, JD, MA
Sally Watkins, RN, Franciscan Health System

Staff: Teresa Corrado, LPN, Licensing Manager
Thomas Bolender, Continuing Competency Auditor
Sara Kirschenman, Staff Attorney

Absent: Rebecca Cebula
Shari Kincy

Public member: Karen Greenwald

I. 9:30 AM Opening - Lois Hoell, MS, MBA, RN, Sub-committee Chair

- Roll call
- Completed

- Called to order at 9:34 AM
- Change to agenda. Add agenda item regarding Preceptor and how it counts toward continuing education hours, item to be placed after agenda item X.

II. Approve December Minutes

- The December 2014 minutes were approved by the committee
- Ms. Hoell addressed the concerns the committee has had regarding meeting notices and getting minutes and what the time frame is. She and Teresa have set up a time line as to when these items will be completed.

III. Licensing Update

- Statistics for 2013/2014 / Teresa
 - Teresa gave an update. She informed the committee there has been an increase in the number of licenses issued by endorsement. She also informed them overall licensure has increased over the last two years.
 - Teresa informed the committee there has been decreases in LPN licensure due to Community colleges that have LPN to ADN programs discontinuing their LPN program. They then offer the students the option of getting a LPN license but do not require it. Many students are opting to not get their LPN.
 - Teresa informed the members that the credentialing unit is currently working on getting the nursing school programs into the ILRS database.

IV. Audit Letter Forms

- Review proposed forms / Teresa
 - Teresa went over the changes to that were made to the North Carolina forms to fit them to Washington State. They will be sent to the nurses that were chosen for audits and they will be filled out by them.
 - These forms will go out with the renewal forms along with the continuing competency rules.
 - The committee liked the forms. They feel that they will clarify the information that comes into Tom.
 - Ms. Eylar suggested and the committee agreed to remove the check boxes that describe the kind of education.

V. Audit Progress

- Update on audit numbers / Tom
 - Tom deferred to agenda item VI.
- Update on pending 177-15 agreement audits / Tom
 - Tom went over the year end numbers
 - The total for reactivation application there were 439.
 - The total for renewal or inactive and retired active there were 172.
 - Next month Tom will report on the number of people that are entering into a 177-15 agreement after they have failed their original audit. There have been 11 failed audits for the month of February.
 - Teresa informed the committee that there is a difference is the WAC's for the 177-15 audit and the continuing education audit. The 177-15 WAC states that if they fail to provide us with proof of the 177-15 we cannot place the license into inactive status; the only thing that can be done is they will not be able to renew their license.
 - Teresa has placed the new verbiage stating that the failure to provide proof of the 177-15 audit will result in the license being placed into inactive status.

VI. Nursing Numbers

- Increase in Retired Active and Inactive statuses / Tom
 - There was no discussion

VII. Deficiency Letters

- Report on number of audit letters sent in December and January / Tom
 - Tom informed the committee that there were not very many letters being sent out.
 - The committee will go over this again at the next meeting.
- Report on number of renewal deficiency letters sent in December and January / Tom
 - There wasn't anything new to report
 - The committee will go over this at the next meeting.

VIII. Frequently Asked Questions

- Update questions on website / Teresa
 - Ms. Hoell requested that the committee send in their comments and then there will be a meeting to compile the comments.
 - Tom will send the link to the questions to the committee members that did not receive them.

IX. Suicide Prevention Education

- Update proposed new legislation / Teresa
 - The bill from last legislative session was very vague.
 - There is new legislation, HB1424 or SHB1424. Teresa went over the changes to the verbiage.
 - Ms. Hoell asked that Teresa keep the committee informed of any changes to the bill.

X. Proposed Rule Changes

- Report on progress after the January Commission meeting / Teresa
 - The rules were taken to the January Commission meeting and they were approved
 - Teresa did draft the change to the 177-15 audit rule.
 - Ms. Hoell would like this to be discussed with the Commission at the March meeting.
- Preceptorship as continuing education
 - There is a difference in the definition between precepting and being precepted.
 - Precepting is practice and being precepted is continuing education.
 - The committee agreed that precepting is practice.
 - Ms. Watkins feels that most nurses won't be aware of the difference and that this could be seen as a mixed message.
 - Ms. Hoell suggested that the committee take a look at other professions to see what their definitions are for this.
 - The committee feels that the professional should be able to tell the difference and should report it as the correct hours and that they shouldn't be allowed to count them as both.
 - Teresa suggested that if the nurse is claiming the hours as education we could request an explanation of what they learned.
 - The committee agreed.

XI. Closing

Meeting was closed at 10:34

The next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2015