

To: All Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses

Subject: Continued Competency Requirements for Nurses

From: Board of Nursing

Date: June, 2013

The Board of Nursing has adopted regulations related to continued competency requirements for renewal of RN and LPN licenses. All other regulated professions at the Department of Health Professions currently have continued competency requirements in place. These regulations have now been approved for publication.

What does this mean?

- Continued Competency Regulations go into effect for all RN's and LPN's on August 1, 2013. These regulations will affect licensure renewals beginning August 1, 2015. You may view the **proposed** regulations 18 VAC 90-20-10 et seq. by going to www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing. **Final** regulations will be on the website after July 31, 2013.
- The regulations inform you about the nine different types of learning / practice activities that are approved.
- The regulations define recognized providers and approved entities.
- The regulations address persons who hold dual licenses e.g. a person who holds an RN and LPN license or an NP and RN license.
- The regulations outline how to document compliance.

What is my responsibility as a licensee?

- Beginning **August 1, 2013**, maintain records of all activities that meet the continued competency activities for renewal of licensure that **are** contained in the regulations even though you do not have to attest until August 2015. For many nurses, these requirements may be met by those required by your employer.

What will be different about the licensure renewal process?

- Beginning with **August 2015** renewals, you will be required to **attest** that you met the continued competency requirements during the preceding two years.
- You will **not** be requested to submit any documents to the Board at the time of your renewal, but you are required to maintain documentation of continued competency activities **for two years following each renewal**.