

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

(505) 841-8340



**Board of Nursing**

6301 Indian School NE, Suite 710  
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Open Letter To all Nurses with a New Mexico License

Dear New Mexico Licensee:

Effective January 1, 2004, New Mexico implemented the Nurse Licensure Compact. This compact serves as an agreement among states to mutually recognize each others' licensees. These states who have adopted the Compact are referred to as party states.

In order to enjoy the multistate licensing privilege, the Compact requires that the RN/LPN be licensed in the party state in which he/she permanently resides. This license is known as a home state license. The RN/LPN must meet the following criteria to obtain and retain the home state license:

Have current NM:

1. drivers license or
2. voters registration or
3. residence as noted on current federal tax return or
4. utility bill (s) in licensees name

Nurses in the military or working for the federal government shall continue to be licensed in accordance with the rules of the military branch or federal government agency where employed with the following clarification:

1. If the nurse has a Compact state license, the nurse will have a multi-state privilege to practice in other compact states
2. If the nurse has a non-Compact state license, the rules regarding mutual recognition licensure do not apply.

Should the nurse choose to work outside of the military or federal government, the nurse must comply with the licensure requirements of the state. If the state has implemented the Nurse Licensure compact the nurse must comply with all aspects of the Compact.

**Please see Declaration of Primary State of Residency form. Please complete the form and submit to the board office upon requesting NM licensure. If you do not declare residency, a "single state NM license" will be issued. If you declare New Mexico as your state of residency, an indication on the board data bank that you have multi state privilege will be added for verification purposes.**

With the home state license, the RN/LPN may practice in any other party state without obtaining any additional licenses. A nurse practicing in another party state pursuant to the multistate privilege must comply with the state practice laws of the state in which the patient is located at the time care is given.