

Public Notice

Education

State Board of Education

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking

State Board of Examiners and Certification

Substitute Credential for Positions Not Requiring Instructional Certificates

School Nurse

N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7.5 and 14.3

Petitioner: Rosemary Catton, R.N., Executive Director, New Jersey State School Nurses Association.

Take notice that on May 5, 2025, the State Board of Education (State Board) received a petition for rulemaking from the above petitioner, requesting the State Board amend N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7.5 and 14.3 to allow holders of a multistate registered professional nurse license issued by a state board of nursing that participates in the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) to qualify for a substitute school nurse/non-instructional credential or an educational services certificate with a school nurse endorsement.

N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.1(b) and 6A:6-4.1(b) require a petition for rulemaking to state the substance or nature of the rulemaking that is requested, the reasons for the request and the petitioner's interest in the request, and references to the authority of the agency to take the requested action.

The petitioner seeks to amend N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7.5(a) and 14.3(b)1, which require candidates to hold a New Jersey registered professional nurse license issued by the New Jersey State Board of Nursing, to expand eligibility to holders of a multistate registered professional nurse license issued by a state board of nursing that participates in the NLC. The specific requested amendments are as follows (additions indicated as boldface **thus**):

6A:9B-7.5 Substitute credential for positions not requiring instructional certificates

- (a) The Board of Examiners may issue a substitute school nurse/non-instructional credential to the holder of a valid New Jersey registered professional nurse license **or a multistate registered professional nurse license issued by a state board of nursing that participates in the Nurse Licensure Compact.**

1. (No change.)

- (b) (No change.)

6A:9B-14.3 School nurse

- (a) (No change.)

- (b) To be eligible for the standard educational services certificate with a school nurse endorsement, a candidate shall hold or complete the following professional licenses, degrees, certifications, and training:

1. A current New Jersey registered professional nurse license issued by the New Jersey State Board of Nursing **or a multistate registered professional nurse license issued by a state board of nursing that participates in the Nurse Licensure Compact.**

2. – 4. (No change.)

- (c) – (e) (No change.)

The request indicates that the NLC allows nurses with a license in one state to practice in other participating states without needing a separate license in each state. New Jersey joined the NLC on November 15, 2021.

The petitioner states that nurses who hold a multistate registered professional nurse license are interested in practicing in New Jersey as certified school nurses or substitute school nurses. The petitioner also states that holders of a hold a multistate registered professional nurse license can practice in all settings in New Jersey except schools because the Department of

Education (Department) does not recognize the NLC as meeting their eligibility guidelines for registered professional nurse licensure in New Jersey. The petitioner further states that the lack of recognition contributes to the critical lack of professional school nurses and deprives nurses holding a multistate license of practicing their profession in a meaningful way.

The petitioner's request provided the New Jersey Board of Nursing's webpage about the NLC and multistate licensure -- <https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/nur/Pages/Nurse-Licensure.aspx> -- as the reference to the agency's authority to take the requested action. The Department requested clarification regarding the reference to the agency's authority, but the petitioner has not yet provided it.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2, the Department shall subsequently mail to the petitioner, and file with the Office of Administrative Law, a notice of action on the petition.