



# NSBDN

Nevada State Board of  
**NURSING**

A N N U A L  
R E P O R T  
2 0 0 8 - 2 0 0 9





## **Mission**

The mission of the Nevada State Board of Nursing is to protect the public's health, safety and welfare through the effective regulation of nursing.

# Introduction



## What is the Nevada State Board of Nursing?

It is a seven-member board appointed by the governor consisting of four registered nurses, one practical nurse, one certified nursing assistant and one consumer member. The Board is advised by and appoints members to standing advisory committees. The Board appoints an executive director (a registered nurse), who is responsible for a staff of 19, which regulates a nursing population of more than 37,000.

## What does the Nevada State Board of Nursing do?

The state legislature established the Board 86 years ago to regulate the practice of nursing. The scope of the Board's original responsibilities has grown dramatically since 1923, when it licensed 104 registered nurses. In 2008-09, it was responsible for licensing, certifying and disciplining more than 37,000 individuals, including registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, advanced practice nurses, certified nursing assistants, and certified registered nurse anesthetists. The Board's current functions include:

### Administration

- Establish minimum practice standards
- Develop and adopt regulations
- Appoint advisory committees to get direct nursing input
- Publish, distribute and provide education on the Nurse Practice Act
- Collaborate with consumers, individuals, groups and organizations
- Provide education to increase public awareness and understanding of the Board's role and purpose

### Licensure, Certification and Education

- Approve schools of nursing and nursing assistant training programs
- Adopt exams for licensing/certification
- Issue certificates to nursing assistants
- License registered and practical nurses
- Certify advanced practitioners of nursing, certified registered nurse anesthetists, and emergency medical service/registered nurses

- Approve education/training programs for ongoing competency

### Discipline and Investigations

- Investigate complaints against nurses and nursing assistants
- Conduct disciplinary proceedings
- Administer remediation and rehabilitation programs, including:
  - Monitoring nurses and nursing assistants who are on disciplinary probation
  - Administering alternative program for nurses recovering from chemical dependency

## What you'll find in this annual report

This report was designed to give answers to questions asked most frequently of the Board. It briefly describes our purpose and history. As an annual report, it covers the fiscal year 2008-2009, highlighting Board accomplishments and providing a statistical picture of nursing in Nevada.



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# Board Member Biographies

## President

### Doreen Begley, MS, RN

RN Member

**Re-Appointed** - October 2008, expires October 2012

**Employment** - Director, Orvis Nursing Clinic, University of Nevada, Reno

**Education** - MS in Health Services Administration, 2000, University of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois; BHS, 1994, College of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois; Diploma, 1970, Los Angeles County General Hospital School of Nursing.

**Other board experience** - National Emergency Nurses Association, Northern Nevada Immunization Coalition, National Nursing Center Consortium, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Access to Healthcare Network

**Affiliations** - Nevada Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau, Nu Iota Chapter

**Professional experience** - 39 years of nursing experience; emergency nursing positions in California, Hawaii, and Nevada; nurse executive, Nevada Hospital Association, Nursing Institute of Nevada; 2009 Nursing Leadership Award from Northern Nevada Nurses of Achievement; 2009 Healthcare Hero for non-profit organization by Nevada Business Journal.

**Length of Nevada residency** - 25 years

## Vice President

### Betty Carlgren, LPN

LPN Member

**Appointed** - October 2005, expires October 2009

**Employment** - Department of Corrections, State of Nevada

**Education** - Practical Nursing Diploma, Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, Texas, 1972

**Professional Experience** - 37 years of experience in

nursing; school nursing, long-term-geriatric care, care of the developmentally disabled/mentally retarded, Red Cross staff nurse; Lyon County School District, LPN; Valley View Care Home, Residential Facility Administrator; Department of Defense, Consumer Advocate; Social Services Specialist; U.S. Air Force, Communications Specialist

**Length of Nevada Residency** - 33 years

## Secretary

### Carrie McMurray, CNA Member

CNA Member

**Appointed** - October 2007, expires October 2011

**Employment** - CNA, Spring Valley Hospital, surgical unit

**Education** - CNA Certificate, 2005, College of Southern Nevada

**Professional experience** - 18 years of experience as a nursing assistant; 2007 and 2008 March of Dimes Nominee for Nurse Choice of the Year

**Length of Nevada residency** - 15 years

## Kelly Espinoza, MSN, RN

RN Member

**Appointed** - October 2008, expires October 2012

**Employment** - Vice President Patient Care Services, Chief Nursing Officer, Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center

**Education** - MSN, 1995, University of Nevada, Reno; BSN, with honors, 1984, University of Nevada, Reno

**Other board experience** - State of Nevada Trust Fund for Public Health, governor appointee

**Affiliations** - Sigma Theta Tau, Patient Safety Improvement Corp (PSIC), Nevada Hospital Association, National Association of Healthcare Quality, Nevada Association of Healthcare Quality, California Association of Healthcare Quality, California Healthcare Association

## Board Member Biographies (continued)



and Reporting Taskforce (CHART)

**Professional experience** - 25 nursing experience including positions in Nevada, California, Arizona and Oregon. Clinical experience in Emergency nursing, Critical Care nursing, Health and Wellness, Risk Management, Quality and Regulatory. Leadership positions held since 1996.

**Length of Nevada residency** - 42 years

### **Belen Gabato, MS, BSN, RN**

RN Member

**Appointed** - November 2007, expires October 2011

**Employment** - Quality Management Specialist, University Medical Center, Pacificare, Las Vegas

**Education** - MS in Health Services Administration, 2000, Academic Distinction

**Affiliations** - Founding president of the Philippine Nurses Association of Nevada (1992-97 and 2006-08); Nevada Nurses Association's Legislative Committee; Vice-Chair, Region IX, National Filipino-American Associations 2007-2008; American Nurses Association; Executive Director, Philippine Medical Association of Nevada; US Commission on Civil Rights, Nevada Advisory Chapter; Chair, PBSN, Scholarship Committee; Asian-American Group Community Service Award

**Professional experience** - 40 years of nursing including medical-surgical and team nursing head nurse and clinical instructor; pediatric nursing; recipient, March of Dimes Nurse of the Year, Case Management and Performance Improvement; manager, internal medicine practice; licensed in 4 states

**Length of Nevada residency** - 19 years

### **Sandra Halley**

Consumer Member

**Appointed** - January 2008, expires October 2009

**Employment** - Retired School Teacher; Community

Volunteer

### **Other Board Experience/Professional Experience**

- Our Lady of the Snows School Board; Junior League of Reno; Nevada Museum of Art Board of Trustees; Reno Philharmonic Board of Trustees; University of Nevada, Reno, College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board; University of Nevada, Reno, Scholarship Selection Committee; National Judicial College, Public Relations Committee; State of Nevada Board of Museums and History; Two years as a school teacher

**Length of Nevada residency** - 64 years

### **Patricia "Tish" Smyer, DNSc, RN**

RN Member

**Appointed** - November 2008, expires October 2012

**Employment** - Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Associate Professor, School of Nursing, Graduate Faculty, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Education** - DNSc, Nursing Science, University of California, Los Angeles, 1994; MSN, Mental Health Nursing, University of California, Los Angeles, 1990; BS, University of Arkansas Medical Center, 1977.

**Other board experience** - Nevada Advisory Committee to Prevent Infection in Health Care Facilities

**Affiliations** - American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Member, Organizational Leadership Network, American Nurses Association, Nevada Nurses Association, American Organization of Nurse Executives, American Psychiatric Nurses Association

**Professional experience** - Practice experience in psych/mental health, faculty member since 1994

**Length of Nevada residency** - 3 years



# History and Highlights

## A Brief History

In 2009, the Nevada State Board of Nursing (NSBN) completed 86 years of service to the residents of Nevada. Established by the state legislature in 1923, it was modeled on legislation enacted by other countries and a few other states. The intent was to separate untrained “nurses” from those who had undergone formal training.

Nevada’s first school of nursing was established by Saint Mary’s Hospital in 1909. An alumni association of the school’s graduates led the formation of the Nevada State Nurses Association in 1917. Its main objective was to “secure passage of a law providing state registration of nurses.”

Attempts to achieve this goal were made during the legislative sessions of 1915, 1919 and 1921, but all failed. In 1923, a bill was introduced by State Assemblywoman Marguerite Gosse of Reno. In spite of opposition, the bill was passed by both houses and signed into law by Governor James Scrugham on March 20, 1923.

Since its inception, the Nevada State Board of Nursing has grown from a three-member to a seven-member entity. Its functions and responsibilities have increased dramatically, as have the number of nursing care providers it oversees.

Over ninety-five individuals have served on the Board, bringing hundreds of years of nursing experience with them. They have represented every nursing specialty and a wide range of health care settings.

In 1973, a consumer member was added to represent the viewpoint of the general public, and in 1995, a certified nursing assistant member was added to represent the CNA community.

## Highlights of FY08/09

The Board continues to focus on its public protection mission, while removing unnecessary regulatory barriers and improving services in all areas. Here are a few highlights of FY08/09:

### **Commitment to Ongoing Regulatory Excellence**

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing conducts biannual surveys of boards of nursing, nurses, nursing education programs, and employers of nurses

which measure excellence on quality indicators in nursing regulation, related to five board functions: discipline, practice, education program approval, licensure and governance. The NSBN measured in the top 10 nursing boards in the nation on most indicators. During 2009, the NSBN was invited to focus groups on a national level to identify best practices in nursing regulation across the nation.

### **Regulatory changes to remove unnecessary barriers**

During the 2009 legislative session, the Board supported two pieces of legislation. One involved certification of medication aides for administering medication in long term and skilled care facilities in Nevada. The legislation never got out of its first committee. The Board supported another bill to ensure whistle-blower protection for nurses, physicians, and other healthcare providers which passed near the end of the session.

There was interest in allowing nurses who meet all other requirements for licensure to be awarded a “Volunteer” license. The Board approved an internal policy to issue a “Volunteer” license and waive the licensure fee, allowing nurses who attest that their practice will be limited to gratuitous nursing in times of natural or manmade disasters for an organized relief organization or in matters of public health such as immunization centers, public health clinics, or indigent clinics.

### **The Board’s Involvement in Research and National Healthcare Policy**

In May, 2009, the Board and partners, University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Spring Valley Hospital, completed a study on how international graduates of nursing schools might benefit from an interventional program to address language, culture, and institutional knowledge barriers to nursing practice in the U.S. Formal results will be available in the Fall of 2009.

Board members and staff are extensively involved in representing Nevada at a national level in their work with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). The purpose of the NCSBN is to provide an organization through which boards of nursing act and

## History and Highlights (continued)



counsel together on matters of common interest and concern affecting the public health, safety and welfare, including the development of licensing examinations in nursing. Representatives from the NSBN serve as the chair of the Continued Competence Committee, a member of the Institute of Regulatory Excellence Committee, the Delegate Assembly Resolutions Committee, and the Disciplinary Resources Task Force. For the upcoming year, the Board's executive director will serve on the NCSBN Board of Directors.

### **Technology Innovations Reduce the Board's Carbon Footprint**

The Board has initiated practices within its two office sites to respect the environment and increase efficiency. The Board invested in a document scanning and imaging system which allows the elimination of paper whenever possible. Paperless Board meetings and advisory committee meetings have replaced face-to-face meetings by utilizing videoconferencing capabilities between our Reno and Las Vegas office sites. This has decreased paper costs as well as travel costs, not to mention time and productivity for Board members, staff, and committee members. Online renewal of licensure and certification is available to all individuals whom the Board regulates, eliminated postage, paper, and increased staff productivity. Off site storage has been decreased by scanning and shredding the paper documents, while still meeting document retention requirements.

### **Approval of New Nursing Education Programs**

The Board continues to receive inquiries from nursing education programs across the nation interested in applying for Board approval.

The Board has approved two new nursing programs during this fiscal year: Kaplan LPN program and Apollo College, Reno. The number of fully approved nursing programs in Nevada has increased from six to eight, with Nevada State College and Touro University both advancing from provisional approval to full approval by meeting the required 80% first time pass rate for the national nursing exam, NCLEX.

The Board also approved one new certified nursing assistant program. Currently there are 18 approved certified nursing assistant programs throughout the state,

located in community colleges, nursing facilities and high schools. The Board also hosted its first faculty education day for nursing assistant instructors.

### **Enhancement of the Board's Alternative Program for Chemically Dependent Nurses**

The goal of the Board's Alternative Program for Chemically Dependent Nurses is to protect the public by identifying impaired nurses and certified nursing assistants, providing intervention and education, and requiring treatment. Under the authority of NRS 632.307, the Board monitors licensees through a structured program which includes a period of voluntary surrender of their license, intensive treatment, and return to work under a very stringent 5-year monitoring agreement. Impaired nurses who are interested in entering this program must meet very specific eligibility criteria. During this fiscal year, the Board broadened the eligibility requirements to encourage nurses to enter the program during preliminary investigation of misconduct related to controlled substances, thus more quickly removing the nurses from practice. In support of the Board's mission to protect the public, removing nurses from practice while requiring entry into treatment and long term monitoring provides public safety and support for nurses with the disease of chemical dependency.

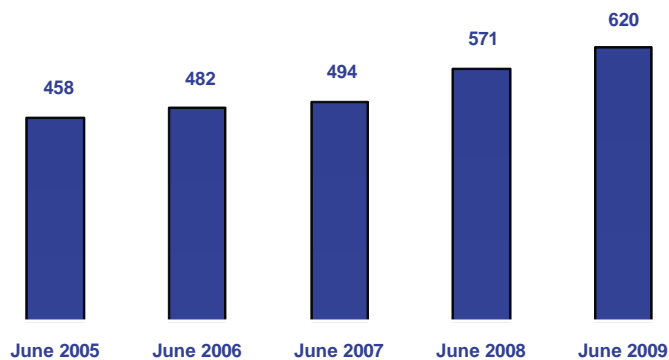
### **Establishing and maintaining stakeholder relationships**

Consumer and provider education is key to establishing and maintaining stakeholder relationships. Board members and staff provided nearly 100 presentations to consumers, nurses, nursing students, and other healthcare professionals during the last fiscal year. A clear understanding of the Board's mission and the processes it utilizes to meet that mission fosters trust and collaboration among stakeholders. The Board continues to host the Health Professions Council, made up of the larger health professions' boards, which meets at least quarterly to address common interests in healthcare regulation. The Board works closely with the Nevada Nurses Association and other professional nursing groups to promote effective communication for improving patient safety in Nevada.

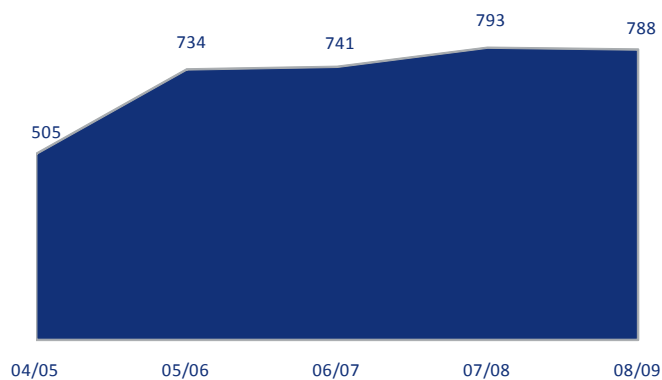
## Five-Year Comparison of Total Active Licenses and Certificates Holders



## Five-Year Comparison of Total Active Advanced Practitioners of Nursing

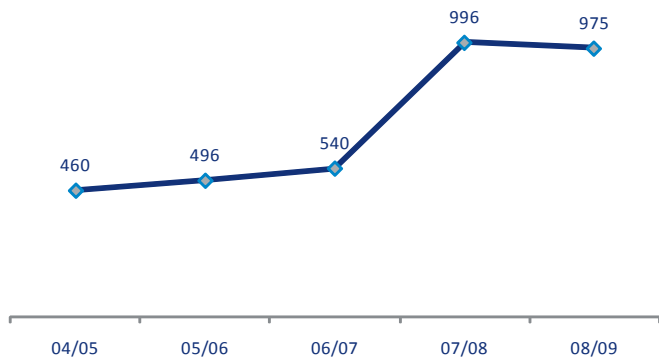


## Five-Year Comparison of Graduates from Nevada Nursing Programs

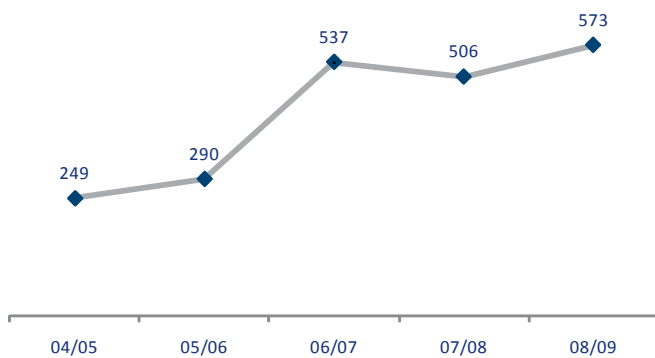




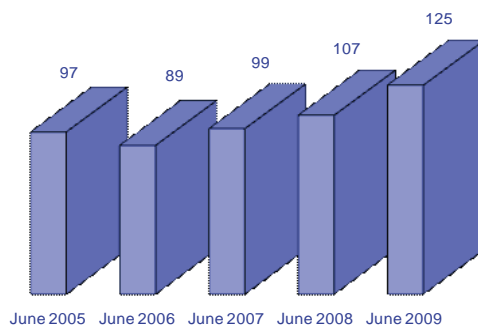
Five-Year Comparison of RN/LPN Complaints Opened



Five-Year Comparison of CNA Complaints Opened



Five-Year Comparison of Total Probation Participants



\*FY06/07 is the first year this report includes complaints opened generated by "yes" answers on initial applications

# Licensure and Certification Statistics

	RN	LPN	CNA
Average age	45	46	37

	RN	LPN	CNA
<b>Licenses or certificates issued in FY08/09</b>			
By examination (new and foreign graduates)	803	44	902
By endorsement (from another state)	2,458	318	351

	*APN	*CRNA	*EMS/RN	RN	LPN	CNA	Total Active
<b>Active licensee/certificate holders by county of residence</b>							
Carson City	19	1	3	480	62	248	813
Churchill	2	2	5	140	23	96	268
Clark	318	57	67	12,945	2,130	4,022	19,539
Douglas	13	1	1	346	25	72	458
Elko	11	6	9	243	30	165	464
Esmeralda	0	0	1	6	0	3	10
Eureka	0	0	0	0	1	2	3
Humboldt	1	0	0	59	8	51	119
Lander	0	0	1	24	4	21	50
Lincoln	0	0	3	16	8	21	48
Lyon	10	0	5	245	53	235	548
Mineral	0	0	2	11	8	42	63
Nye	4	1	4	158	56	116	339
Pershing	1	0	2	24	4	31	62
Storey	0	1	0	22	3	5	31
Washoe	172	5	27	3,682	396	1,341	5,623
White Pine	1	1	1	50	24	59	136
Out of State	68	59	47	7,826	441	304	8,745
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>*620</b>	<b>*134</b>	<b>*178</b>	<b>26,277</b>	<b>3,276</b>	<b>6,834</b>	<b>37,319</b>

\*These certification types are included in RN total

<b>Five-year comparison of total active licensees/certificate holders</b>				
June 05	June 06	June 07	June 08	June 09
30,267	32,176	34,510	35,248	37,319

# APN Certification Statistics



# Active

Advanced Practitioners of Nursing  
on June 30, 2009 - 620

## Active APNs by county of residence and practice specialty

	Acute Care	Fam Prac	Peds	Ob/Gyn	Wom Hlth	Adult	Neo	Fam Plan	Mid-Wife	Psych	Geri	Ent	Clinic Card	Total
Carson City		12			2	1		1	2		1			19
Churchill									1		1			2
Clark		179	27	17	29	22	13	1	11	12	4	1	2	318
Douglas		9				2		1	1					13
Elko		9		1	1									11
Esmeralda														0
Eureka														0
Humboldt					1									1
Lander														0
Lincoln														0
Lyon		6			3	1								10
Mineral														0
Nye		2			1		1							4
Pershing		1												1
Storey														0
Washoe	1	119	9	3	7	10	6	4	4	7		1	1	172
White Pine	1				1									1
Out of State		32	3	2	7	7	9	1	4	2	1			68
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>620</b>

Dual certifications are tallied under the broadest of the two specialties

## Five-year comparison of total active APNs

June 05	June 06	June 07	June 08	June 09
458	482	494	571	620

## Approved nursing programs

The Board approved these schools to conduct all portions of their nursing programs in Nevada.

### University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)

4505 S. Maryland Parkway  
Las Vegas, NV 89154

- PhD in Nursing
- Post-Masters Certificate, Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP); Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP)
- Master of Science in Nursing (MSN Degree)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN Degree)

### University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)

**Orvis School of Nursing**  
**College of Human & Community Sciences**  
Reno, NV 89557-00134

- Post-Masters Certificate, Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Post-Masters Certificate, Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)
- Master of Science in Nursing (MSN Degree)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN Degree)

### College of Southern Nevada (CSN)

Health Science Center, W1A  
6375 W. Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89146

- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS Degree)
- Certificate in Practical Nursing
- RN Refresher Course

### Great Basin College (GBC)

1500 College Parkway, Elko, NV 89801

- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS Degree)
- RN to BSN Degree

### Nevada State College (NSC)

1125 Nevada State Drive, Henderson, NV 89015

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- RN to BSN Degree Completion

### Touro University

874 American Pacific Drive  
Henderson, NV 89015

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN Degree)
- Entry Level Masters of Science in Nursing (Confer BSN and MSN)
- RN to MSN Degree
- BSN to MSN Degree
- Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP)

### Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC)

7000 Dandini Boulevard, RDMT 417, Reno, NV 89512

- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS Degree)

### Western Nevada College (WNC)

2201 W. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89701

- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS Degree)

### Apollo College, Las Vegas (provisional approval\*)

5740 S. Eastern Avenue, Suite 140, Las Vegas, NV 89119

- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS Degree)

### Apollo College, Reno (provisional approval\*)

5580 Kietzke Lane, Reno, NV 89511

- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS Degree)

### Kaplan College (provisional approval\*)

3315 Spring Mountain Road, Las Vegas, NV 89102

- Licensed Practical Nursing Program

### University of Southern Nevada (USN) (provisional approval\*)

11 Sunset Way, Henderson, NV 89014

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN Degree)

The Board approved these schools to conduct only the clinical portion of their nursing programs in Nevada

**Dixie State College of Utah**  
**Department of Health Sciences Nursing Program**  
225 South 700 East, St. George, UT 84770

**Lassen Community College**  
P.O. Box 3000, Susanville, CA 96130

**Mojave Community College**  
1971 Jagerson Ave., Kingman, AZ 86401

**\*Provisional approval:** Schools that have provisional approval meet the initial requirements of Nevada laws and regulations to offer a program of nursing education in Nevada. To obtain full approval, they must gain national accreditation (which they cannot do until after their first class is graduated), and they must achieve a first-time pass rate of 80 percent or higher on the NCLEX (an annual average). If individuals graduate from a school that has provisional rather than full approval, they are eligible for Nevada licensure.



## Graduates from Nevada Nursing Programs

Program	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09
PhD - UNLV	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
MSN - UNLV	6	11	5	3	7	16	10	25	36	24
MSN - UNR	8	14	8	9	14	7	9	20	17	13
BSN - UNLV	73	88	57	70	67	121	131	127	130	131
BSN - UNR	41	49	46	55	60	90	120	102	96	96
MSN - TOURO	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	17	26	26
BSN - GBC	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5	3	4
BSN - NSC	*	*	*	*	*	32	103	92	100	70
BSN - TOURO	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	8	20	25
BSN - USN	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	44	33
AAS - CSN	82	76	82	88	105	115	223	189	167	172
AAS - GBC	13	14	17	15	13	21	12	17	26	15
AAS - TMCC	22	36	34	35	43	37	52	73	52	55
AAS - APOLLO	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	15	45
AAS - WNC	22	20	29	25	30	42	43	45	40	49
LPN - CSN	0	1	21	21	21	23	21	20	20	27
LPN - WNC	11	19	19	16	0	1	10	1	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>788</b>

\*no data available

Sources: Nevada System of Higher Education Data Warehouse and Touro University Nevada

## NCLEX first-time pass rates for \*CY08

School	No. Tested	No. Passed	Percentage
Apollo College	45	24	58.33
College of Southern Nevada	172	147	85.47
Great Basin College	15	13	86.67
Nevada State College	70	56	80.00
Truckee Meadows Community College	55	54	98.18
Touro University	25	20	80.00
Western Nevada College	49	45	91.84
University of Nevada, Las Vegas	131	111	84.73
University of Nevada, Reno	96	88	91.67
University of Southern Nevada	33	18	54.55
<b>Nevada Total</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>83.35</b>
National, U.S. Educated, First-Time Pass Rate (reported by Pearson Vue, December 31, 2008)			86.70
College of Southern Nevada	27	21	77.78
<b>Nevada Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>77.78</b>
(National, U.S. Educated, First-Time Pass Rate (reported by Pearson Vue, December 31, 2008)			85.60

\*National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) first-time pass rates are reported on a calendar year, rather than fiscal year, basis. Source: Pearson Vue, reporting the number of first-time candidates who took and passed the NCLEX from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008. These figures may not include all of those who were graduated from Nevada schools within the same time frame, since individuals may choose to take the NCLEX any time after graduation, or choose to take it out of state.

**Approved Certified Nursing Assistant Training Programs  
on June 30, 2009**

Burk Horizon/Sunset - SW High School  
4560 W. Harmon Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89103  
702-799-8150

Desert Rose High School  
444 W. Brooks Avenue  
North Las Vegas, NV 89030  
702-799-8300

College of Southern Nevada  
6375 W. Charleston Boulevard  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146  
702-651-5681

Evergreen Carson City Health  
3050 N. Ormsby Lane  
Carson City, Nevada 89703  
775-841-4646

Evergreen Pahrump Health  
& Rehabilitation  
4501 NE Blagg Road  
Pahrump, NV 89060  
775-751-6600

Great Basin College  
1500 College Parkway  
Elko, Nevada 89801  
775-753-2216

Grover C. Dils Medical Center  
P.O. Box 1010  
Caliente, Nevada 89008  
775-726-3171

Manor Care Health Services  
3101 Plumas Street  
Reno, Nevada 89509  
775-829-7220

Mount Grant General Hospital  
PO Box 1510  
Hawthorne, Nevada 89415  
775-945-2461

Nevada Health Care Training  
& Education  
2404 Western Avenue, Suite C  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102  
702-471-0529

Pershing County School District  
P.O. Box 389  
Lovelock, Nevada 89419  
775-273-1147

Purrfect Nursing Services  
1711 Highland Drive, Suite A  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102  
702-385-3853

Sierra Nevada Job Corps  
14175 Mount Charleston Street  
Reno, Nevada 89506  
775-972-5627

South Lyon Medical Center  
213 S. Whitacre Street  
PO Box 940  
Yerington, Nevada 89447  
775-463-2301

Southern Nevada Vocational  
Technical Center  
5710 Mountain Vista Street  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89120  
702-799-7510

Truckee Meadows Community College  
7000 Dandini Boulevard  
Reno, Nevada 89512  
775-673-7115

Western Nevada College  
2201 W. College Parkway  
Carson City, Nevada 89701  
775-445-3296

White Pine County School District  
1800 Bobcat Drive  
Ely, Nevada 89301  
775-289-4811

**Certified Nursing  
Assistant  
exam results  
for FY08/09**

**Passed 91%**

**Knowledge  
exam results**

Passed	935
Failed	<u>87</u>
Total Tested	1,022

**Passed 90%**

**Clinical  
exam results**

Passed	965
Failed	<u>109</u>
Total Tested	1,074

**Passed 70%**

**Oral knowledge  
exam results**

Passed	26
Failed	<u>11</u>
Total Tested	37

Source: Thomson Prometric website reporting system

# Investigation Statistics



If the Nevada State Board of Nursing receives information that a nurse or nursing assistant may have broken the law (the Nevada Nurse Practice Act), the Board has the authority to investigate. It will only investigate if the complaint is received in writing, names a nurse or nursing assistant who is licensed or certified in the state of Nevada, is signed by the person making the complaint, and alleges a violation of the Nurse Practice Act. Investigations are also generated from nurses and nursing assistants who answer “yes” to one or more of the five screening questions asked on initial and renewal applications for licensure/certification.

Before disciplinary action is taken, the Board ensures the nurse or nursing assistant is given due process, which requires giving adequate notice and description of the charges, and a hearing or the opportunity for a hearing. The individual also has the right to a formal hearing, the right to an attorney, the right to not participate in an informal hearing, the right to not sign anything, the right to see the complaint, and the right to appeal.

If the evidence doesn’t support the allegations, the complaint may be dismissed or closed. If the evidence does support the allegations, the Board may take disciplinary action against the individual. If the investigation is generated from an answer to the application screening questions, depending upon the nature of the “yes” answer and the evidence received, the application may be cleared without disciplinary action or heard by the Board for final disposition, up to and including disciplinary action.

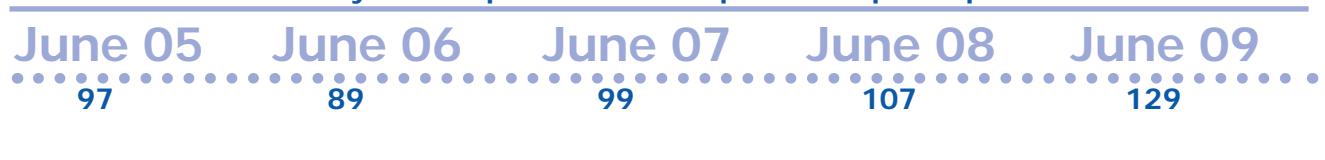
The disciplinary penalty is determined based on a number of factors which include the severity and recency of the offense, extent of patient harm, degree of deviation from standard practice, evidence of rehabilitation, current ability to practice safely, mitigating or aggravating factors, and past disciplinary history.

Disciplinary action can include denial, reprimand, fine, suspension, probation, voluntary surrender, or revocation of a license or certificate and may include requirements such as continuing education or drug testing. The Board considers each case individually.

**FY08-09 Probation Statistics** When considering what kind of disciplinary action it should take, the Board always asks itself, “What is needed to make this person safe to practice?” The answer depends on the nature of the violation. In many cases, the Board places individuals on disciplinary probation so that it can restrict, monitor and improve the person’s practice. The Board also has a very successful alternative monitoring program that allows qualified, chemically dependent nurses and nursing assistants to re-enter the workforce in a paced sequence. It also monitors their recovery to ensure the safety of their patients. The statistics below include all people who were on probation as of June 30, 2008.

<b>Type of Probation</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
Alternative (monitoring program)	47
RN Disciplinary Probation	63
LPN Disciplinary Probation	6
CNA Disciplinary Probation	13
	<b>TOTAL</b>
	<b>129</b>

### Five-year comparison of total probation participants



# RN/LPN Investigation Statistics

**Investigation Statistics** The statistics below relate to the investigations (complaints/applications) the Board opened during FY08/09. It is important to remember that investigations can begin in one fiscal year and continue into the next fiscal year. This means that the results, or outcomes, of investigations are not necessarily reported in the same fiscal year in which the complaints/application investigations were opened.

Type of investigations begun in FY08/09		
Type	Total	Percent of Total
Abuse/cause harm	23	2.4
Action in another state	4	.4
CE audit	103	10.5
Confidentiality violations	2	.2
Customary standards	46	4.7
Drug diversion/narcotic discr.	22	2.3
Failure to collaborate	21	2.2
Failure to supervise	34	3.5
Falsification of records	17	1.7
Fraud	5	.5
Fraudulent application	125	12.8
Impairment	20	2.1
Medication errors	0	0
Negligence/incompetence	6	.6
Patient abandonment	7	.7
Positive drug screen	6	.6
Practice beyond scope	20	2.1
Practice w/o license	7	.7
Professional boundaries	8	.8

Type	Total	Percent of Total
Unauthorized delegation	5	.5
Unprofessional conduct/other	26	2.7
Violation of Board order	54	5.5
Yes to screening question(s) on initial application	341	35.0
Yes to screening question(s) on renewal application	73	7.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Outcomes of investigations concluded in FY08/09		
Outcome	Total	Percent of Total
Closed	405	46.0
Cleared	250	28.4
Applications denied	39	4.4
Dismissed	2	.2
Fined	34	3.9
Reprimanded	98	11.2
Placed on probation	22	2.5
Suspended	5	.6
Voluntarily surrendered license	15	1.7
Revoked	10	1.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>100.0</b>



The 975 complaints opened in FY08/09 represent **3.3%** of the total RN/LPN population of **29,553**

### Five-year comparison of RN/LPN complaints opened

FY 04/05	460
FY 05/06	486
FY 06/07*	940
FY 07/08	996
FY 08/09	975

\*FY06/07 is the first year this report includes complaints opened generated by "yes" answers on initial applications

\*\*Renewal application screening questions are prefaced with, "Since your previous Nevada license was issued..."

### Number of application screening questions\*\* answered with "yes" in FY08/09

**Question No. 1.** Has your certificate/license, in any state ever been denied, revoked, suspended, reprimanded, fined, surrendered, restricted, limited or placed on probation? Is there any investigation, complaint or action pending?

Initial applications	<b>81</b>
Renewal applications	<b>24</b>

**Question No. 2.** Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense, including a misdemeanor or felony, or had a civil judgment rendered against you?

Initial applications	<b>292</b>
Renewal applications	<b>43</b>

**Question No. 3.** Do you currently use chemical substances in any way which impairs or limits your ability to practice the full scope of nursing?

Initial applications	<b>1</b>
Renewal applications	<b>1</b>

**Question No. 4.** Are you currently in recovery for chemical dependency, chemical abuse or addiction?

Initial applications	<b>12</b>
Renewal applications	<b>4</b>

**Question No. 5.** Do you currently have a medical or psychiatric/mental health condition which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice the full scope of nursing?

Initial applications	<b>4</b>
Renewal applications	<b>13</b>

TOTAL **475**

Total initial applications in FY08-09	<b>4,332</b>
Total renewal applications in FY08-09	<b>13,084</b>

# CNA Investigation Statistics

**Investigation Statistics** The statistics below relate to the investigations (complaints/applications) the Board opened during FY08/09. It is important to remember that investigations can begin in one fiscal year and continue into the next fiscal year. This means that the results, or outcomes, of investigations are not necessarily reported in the same fiscal year in which the complaints/application investigations were opened.

## Type of investigations begun in FY08/09

Type	Total	Percent of Total
Abuse/cause harm	40	7.0
Action in another state	0	0.0
CE/Employment audit	52	9.0
Confidentiality violations	0	0
Customary standards	14	2.4
Drug diversion	1	.1
Falsification of records	1	.1
Fraud	1	.1
Fraudulent application	97	16.9
Impairment	3	.5
Negligence/incompetence	6	1.0
Patient abandonment	4	.7
Positive drug screen	10	1.7
Practice beyond scope	7	1.2
Practice w/o certificate	2	.3
Professional boundaries	3	.5
Unprofessional conduct/other	9	1.5
Violation of Board order	20	3.5

Type	Total	Percent of Total
Yes to screening question(s) on initial application	276	48.1
Yes to screening question(s) on renewal application	31	5.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Outcomes of investigations concluded in FY08/09

Outcome	Total	Percent of Total
Closed	153	37.9
Cleared	176	43.5
Applications denied	26	6.4
Dismissed	0	0
Fined	3	.7
Reprimanded	12	3.0
Placed on probation	10	2.5
Suspended	0	0
Voluntarily surrendered license	16	4.0
Revoked	8	2.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## CNA Investigation Statistics (continued)



The 573 complaints opened in FY08/09 represent

8.4%

of the total CNA population of

6,834

### Five-year comparison of CNA complaints opened

FY 04/05 249

FY 05/06 250

FY 06/07\* 537

FY 07/08 506

FY 08/09 573

### Number of application screening questions\*\* answered with "yes" in FY08/09

**Question No. 1.** Has your certificate/license, in any state ever been denied, revoked, suspended, reprimanded, fined, surrendered, restricted, limited or placed on probation? Is there any investigation, complaint or action pending?

Initial applications 28

Renewal applications 5

**Question No. 2.** Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense, including a misdemeanor or felony or had a civil judgment rendered against you?

Initial applications 258

Renewal applications 25

**Question No. 3.** Do you currently use chemical substances in any way which impairs or limits your ability to practice the full scope of nursing?

Initial applications 3

Renewal applications 0

**Question No. 4.** Are you currently in recovery for chemical dependency, chemical abuse or addiction?

Initial applications 7

Renewal applications 1

**Question No. 5.** Do you currently have a medical or psychiatric/mental health condition which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice the full scope of nursing?

Initial applications 7

Renewal applications 1

TOTAL 335

Total initial applications in FY08-09 1,559

Total renewal applications in FY08-09 2,981

\*FY06/07 is the first year this report includes complaints opened generated by "yes" answers on initial applications

\*\*Renewal application screening questions are prefaced with, "Since your previous Nevada license was issued..."

# Board Advisory Committees

The Board is advised by and appoints members to standing advisory committees. These committees are composed of nursing professionals who are chosen based on expertise, geographic location and committee need.

Questions about nursing regulation and practice are brought to these committees for research, discussion and policy development. The Board considers the recommendations of its advisory committees during its regular meetings. Virtually every law, regulation and advisory opinion issued by the Board has been based on a recommendation by one of its advisory committees.

Committee openings are advertised in the Board's news magazine and on its website. Applications are reviewed and members are appointed at regularly scheduled Board meetings. One Board member serves as a liaison to each advisory committee; Board staff members serve as advisory committee chairs.

## Advanced Practice Advisory Committee

The Advanced Practice Advisory Committee advises and reports to the Board on matters related to the practice of advanced practitioners of nursing. It consists of not more than seven persons who are knowledgeable in areas concerning APN practice.

In FY08/09, the committee reviewed the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation:

Licensure, Accreditation, Certification & Education which was completed in July, 2008, through the work of the APRN Consensus Work Group and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing APRN Advisory Committee. The committee highlighted the need for Nevada to begin requiring national certification for APNs to ensure competence. The committee also proposed an advisory opinion that clarifies the role of the APN in Nevada while working within the Veterans Administration system.

**Chair:** Debra Scott, MSN, RN, FRE,  
Executive Director

**Liaison:** Kelly Espinoza, MSN, RN

**Committee Members:**

David Burgio, MS, RN, APN (Sparks)  
George Cox, MS, RN, CRNA (Las Vegas)  
Kate Sheppard, PhD, RN (Reno)  
Phyllis Suiter, MA, RN, APN (Las Vegas)  
Rhigel (Jay) Tan, MSN, RN, APN (Las Vegas)  
Susan VanBeuge, MSN, RN, APN (Las Vegas)  
Ronnie Wing, MSN, RN, CRNA (Spring Creek)

## Certified Nursing Assistant Advisory Committee

The Certified Nursing Assistant Advisory Committee is distinctive because its composition is defined by statute (NRS 632.072). Its duty is to advise the Board on matters relating to certified nursing assistants.

In FY 08/09 the Board acted on two of the committee's recommendations and revised its regulations by reducing to 40 the number of hours of employment as a CNA under the direction of a licensed nurse to renew a certificate, and by requiring all coordinators of approved CNA training programs to be registered nurses

**Chair:** Chris Sansom, BSN, RN, Director of Operations

**Committee Members:**

Teresa Strickler, LASW (Division of Aging Services) - Las Vegas  
Cheryl Becerra, RN - Las Vegas  
Mary Brann, MSN, RN (Acute Care) - Henderson  
Barbara Cavanagh, BSN, RN, CCM (Health Division, Department of Human Resources) - Carson City

**Liaison:** Carrie McMurray, CNA

Leslee Hoffer, RN, HCC III (Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Department of Human Resources) - Carson City  
Elizabeth Mongeau, BS, RN (Acute Care) - Las Vegas  
Terri Lynn Shoemaker, CNA - Las Vegas  
Carla Wright, RN - North Las Vegas

## Board Advisory Committees (continued)



### Disability Advisory Committee

The Disability Advisory Committee evaluates nurses and CNAs regarding chemical dependency or mental disorders which may be impairing nursing practice. It also monitors recovery progress through scheduled interviews with the nurse or nursing assistant and through regular reports from employers and treatment providers.

The committee also makes recommendations to the Board regarding application and/or reinstatement of licensure/certification, and termination of probation.

The entire committee meets semiannually to review the monitoring process, conceptual model, and provider status; plan educational presentations; and formulate proposals for policy and procedural changes to the Board. Representatives of the committee meet monthly in Reno and Las Vegas.

In FY08/09, the committee evaluated 221 individuals.

**Chair:** Kathleen Reynolds, BHS, RN,  
Compliance Coordinator

**Liaison:** Sandra Halley

### Education Advisory Committee

The purpose of this committee is to advise and report to the Board on matters related to education and continuing education. The committee consists of representatives from nursing education, nursing associations, and employers.

In FY08/09, The committee recommended a new policy to the Board for fulfilling the requirements of refresher for licensure renewal. The committee also collected data on new RN graduations and opportunities for employment.

**Chair:** Roseann Colosimo, PhD, MSN, RN,  
Education Consultant

**Liaison:** Tish Smyer, DNSc, RN

#### Committee Members:

Mary Chalfant, MS, BS, RN (Henderson)

Judith Cordia, EdD, RN (Henderson)

#### Committee Members:

Cookie Bible, BSN, RNC, APN (Zephyr Cove)

Peggy Cullum, RN (Las Vegas)

Virginia Deleon, RN (Henderson)

Patricia Durham-Taylor, RN (Reno)

Mattie Harris, RN (Las Vegas)

Deborah E. Martz, RN (Las Vegas)

Judith Slaney, RN, LADAC (Las Vegas)

Ann Testolin, EdD, MS, BS, RN (Reno)

#### Active Conceptual:\*

Jan Brethauer, RN (Yerington)

Mary Culbert, MS, RN (Reno)

Susan O'Day, BS, RN, CPAN (Reno)

Karienne Rimer, RN (Henderson)

Judith Vogel, BSN, RN (Boulder City)

\* Conceptual members are nurses who have served two terms but desire to remain available to the Board for their historical expertise

Margaret Covelli, BSN, MHA, RN (Henderson)

Karen Fontaine, MSN, RN (Reno)

Barbara Fraser, MS, RN (Las Vegas)

Susan Rae Gooch, RN (Las Vegas)

Dawn Koonkongstian, RN (Las Vegas)

Jan Kramer, MSN, RN (Las Vegas)

Madelon Lawson, BSN, RN, CAPA (Reno)

Robyn Nelson, RN (Henderson)

Margaret Puccinelli, PhD, RN (Elko)

Patsy Ruchala, DNSc, RN (Sparks)

Mable H. Smith, PhD, JD, RN (Henderson)

Shirlee Synder, RN (Henderson)

Vickie Wright, MSN, MBA, RN, CCRN, CCM (Reno)

Nancy L. York, PhD, RN, CNE (Las Vegas)



## Board Advisory Committees (continued)

### Nursing Practice Advisory Committee

The Nursing Practice Advisory Committee advises and reports to the Board on matters related to the establishment of state standards of nursing practice. The committee consists of at least 10 persons who are knowledgeable in all areas of general nursing practice in Nevada and trends in national nursing practice.

In FY80/09, the committee revised several practice decisions. Minimal revisions were made to the two obstetrical-gynecological decisions related to RN administration of cervical ripening agents and the definition of term pregnancy. The committee recommended and the Board approved the scope of practice for critical care RNs to insert an external jugular line for IV access. The committee revised and the Board approved the School Nurse Advisory Opinion to update the School Nurses' scope of practice in the school setting. The committee wrote and the Board approved new operational definitions for protocol, standing orders, and preprinted order sets, and included in the LPN scope of practice the task of drawing blood from a PICC line as an RN delegated task.

**Chair:** Debra Scott, MSN, RN, FRE, Executive Director

**Liaison:** Betty Carlgren, LPN

**Committee Members:**

Diane Allen, RN (Carson City)  
Kellie Benway, RN (Las Vegas)  
Judith Carrion, RN (Las Vegas)  
Caroline Copeland, RN (Las Vegas)  
Marti Cote, RN (Carson City)  
Cathy Dinauer, RN (Carson City)  
Gayle Lachance-Bulger, RN (Las Vegas)  
Lisa Mantkus, RN (Sparks)  
Cheryl McKinney, RN (Las Vegas)  
Susan Moore, RN (Reno)  
Linda Morton, RN (Las Vegas)  
Joseph Rosich, RN (Reno)  
Diane Smith, RN (Henderson)  
Karen Winter, RN (Gardnerville)

## Administration

5011 Meadowood Mall Way, Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502,  
888-590-6726

### **Debra Scott, MSN, RN, FRE, Executive Director**

Statewide Liaison and Spokesperson  
Organizational and Public Management  
Fiscal and Human Resource Management  
Legislative and Governmental Relations  
APN Advisory Committee Chair  
Nursing Practice Advisory Committee Chair

### **Chris Sansom, BSN, RN, Director of Operations**

Program Management  
CNA Advisory Committee Chair

### **Fred Olmstead, General Counsel**

Legal Counsel

### **Dean Estes, Director of Finance/Technology**

Budget, Accounting and Payroll  
Technology Support, Programming

### **Roseann Colosimo, PhD, MSN, RN, Education Consultant**

Nursing Education Programs  
CNA Training Programs  
Continuing Education Programs  
Education Advisory Committee Chair

### **Patty Shutt, LPN, Site Operations Supervisor**

Las Vegas Site Supervision  
Advanced Practice Certificate Processing

### **Marianne Kadlic, Executive Assistant**

Assistant to the Executive Director  
Scheduling  
Board Meeting Agenda and Arrangements

## Program Staff

5011 Meadowood Mall Way, Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502,  
888-590-6726

2500 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 207, Las Vegas, NV 89102  
888-590-6726

## INVESTIGATIONS and MONITORING

### **Linda Aure, BSN, RN, C, Senior Investigator**

Complaint Investigations  
Nursing Practice Questions

### **Lark Muncy, RN, Investigator**

Complaint Investigations  
Nursing Practice Questions

### **Amy Clark, BSN, RN Application Coordinator**

Application Review  
Fraudulent Application Screening  
Reinstatement Applications

### **Kathleen Reynolds, BHS, RN, Compliance Coordinator**

Disability Advisory Committee Chair  
Disability Advisory Committee Scheduling  
Probation and Alternative Program Monitoring



## LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION

### **Sarah Bowen, Licensure Specialist**

Licensure Eligibility Questions  
Endorsement, Exam & Renewal Applications  
Continuing Education Providers  
International Nurse Graduates & Licensure Issues

### **Ariadna Ramos Zavala, Program Assistant**

Licensure Eligibility Questions  
Endorsement, Exam & Renewal Applications  
Continuing Education Providers

### **Patty Towler, Senior Certification Specialist**

CNA Registry Maintenance  
CNA Certification and Renewals  
CNA Program and Instructor Approvals

## SUPPORT

### **Christie Daliposon, Management Assistant**

Assistant to the Director of Operations  
Discipline Investigative Support  
Compliance Support  
Board Meeting Preparation  
Disability Advisory Committee Scheduling

### **Adela Smith, Management Assistant**

Assistant to the Director of Finance/Technology  
Initial and Renewal Applications  
Financial File Management  
Nursing Personnel Files

### **Cyndie Souza, Management Assistant**

Discipline Investigative Support  
Yes Answer & Fraudulent Application Processing  
Board Meeting Preparation  
NURsys Data Entry

### **Melissa Myers, Receptionist**

Renewal Applications  
Program Support  
Inquiries, Information and Referrals  
Licensure and Certification Applications

### **Gail Trujillo, Receptionist**

Renewal Applications  
Program Support  
Inquiries, Information and Referrals  
Licensure and Certification Applications





# NSBN

Nevada State Board of  
**NURSING**



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