

STATE OF COLORADO

STATE BOARD OF NURSING

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Division of Registrations

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Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

May 25, 2007

Dear Licensee:

On October 1, 2007, Colorado will join 21 other states in implementing the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC). The Nurse Licensure Compact is a mutual recognition model of nurse licensure that allows a nurse to have one unrestricted license, issued by the state in which the nurse claims primary residence, and to practice in all states that have entered into the interstate compact (multi-state licensure). The NLC requires the nurse to adhere to the practice laws and rules of the state in which the patient receives care.

Under the NLC a nurse may hold only one compact license and it must be issued by the primary state of residence. "Primary state of residence" means the state of a person's declared fixed permanent and principal home for legal purposes; domicile. When you next renew your Colorado license, you will be required to declare your primary state of residence. However, for purposes of implementing the NLC on October 1, 2007, your address of record with the Colorado Board of Nursing will determine your primary state of residence.

Our records indicate that your primary residence is in another compact state. A compact state is one of the 21 states that are already part of the NLC. Therefore, when Colorado implements the NLC on October 1, 2007, your Colorado license will expire **even if the expiration date printed on the license is 9/30/08**. In order to continue to practice in Colorado you must apply for and be granted licensure in your primary state of residence if you do not already have a license in that state. Please allow enough time for your primary state to process your application and issue a license prior to October 1, 2007.

To update your address, you may access our online system at www.doradls.state.co.us.

- If your primary residence changes to Colorado, your license will be designated as a multi-state (compact) license on October 1, 2007.
- If your primary residence changes to a non-compact state, your Colorado license will be designated as a single-state license, valid for practice only in Colorado, effective October 1, 2007. You will be required to hold a license in each state in which you practice.

Additional information about the NLC, including a complete list of participating states, is available on the Nursing Board's webpage at www.dora.state.co.us/nursing.

You may also contact me via email at karen.dechant@dora.state.co.us or by phone at 303-894-2415 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Karen Dechant
Nurse Compact Administrator