



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

PAT QUINN
Governor

BRENT E. ADAMS
Secretary

JAY STEWART
Director
Division of Professional Regulation

January 2012 IL Center for Nursing Update:

The Mission of the Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN) is to advocate and ensure appropriate nursing resources necessary to meet the healthcare needs of the citizens of Illinois.

ICN was established by legislation in 2006, Section 75-10, the Nurse Practice Act. The ICN Advisory Board meets minimally six times per fiscal year between September and June. The meeting dates and minutes are posted on the website: www.nursing.illinois.gov

The Department has received many inquiries regarding continuing education and in particular the upcoming RN license renewal on May 31, 2012. There is a **new** "IL RN Continuing Education Frequently Asked Questions" document on the ICN Website which includes answers that will hopefully provide some clarification <http://nursing.illinois.gov/NursingCE.asp>. Please note that a complete copy of the Nurse Practice Act and the Rules may be found on the Department's website (www.idfpr.com) or on the Center for Nursing's website (www.nursing.illinois.gov).

In February 2011, the IL Healthcare Action Coalition (IL HAC) was selected in Wave II as a State Action Coalition (SAC), convened to advance the Future of Nursing: *Campaign for Action* (CFA) <http://www.thefutureofnursing.org/>

The Campaign vision is that all Americans have access to high quality, patient-centered care in a healthcare system where nurses contribute as essential partners in achieving success. IL DCEO and IL Center for Nursing (ICN) are partnering to maintain regional focus on workforce initiatives with measurable accomplishments in four key areas: education, collaboration, practice and leadership. For information click here: <http://nursing.illinois.gov/TeamIllinois.asp>

A workshop for faculty of licensure-preparing nursing education programs is presented by the IDFPR/IL State Board of Nursing with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) on the SIU Carbondale Campus, Carbondale, IL on Tuesday, April 24, 2012. The NCSBN staff conducts this one-day workshop for the purpose of providing information to educators who prepare students to take the NCLEX® licensure examination. Workshop objectives include, identifying the NCSBN practice analysis process and explaining how the results are used to update NCLEX test plans; illustrating basic principles of computer adaptive testing & describing standard setting; identifying the use and application of NCLEX® Program Reports and Candidate Performance Reports by nursing education programs.

The 2012 application cycle for the [Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program \(NELRP\)](#) is currently open. NELRP offers Registered Nurses (RNs), advanced practice registered nurses, such as Nurse Practitioners (NPs), and nurse faculty an opportunity to repay 60 percent of their outstanding qualifying educational loans in exchange for a two-year service commitment at a Critical Shortage Facility (CSF) or an accredited school of nursing. For 2012, the program is reserving up to half of the award funding for NPs; the remaining funding will continue to support RNs and nurse faculty. The deadline to apply to NELRP is February 15, 2012 at 5:00 pm EST. To learn more about NELRP eligibility and requirements, visit: <http://www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/repayment/nursing/guidance.pdf>.



The Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN) was established in 2006 to advocate for appropriate nursing resources necessary to meet the healthcare needs of the citizens of Illinois. ICN is working with industry professionals and educational institutions to ensure that Illinois has a nursing workforce necessary to meet the demands of a growing and aging population. Visit the ICN website, www.nursing.illinois.gov.

Members of the ICN Board of Directors:

Chairperson Michele Bromberg, Skokie, IL; Kathryn Christiansen, Park Ridge, IL; Nancy Cutler, Freeport, IL; Donna Hartweg, Bloomington, IL; Mary Lebold, Chicago, IL; Marcia Maurer, Troy, IL; Donna Meyer, Edwardsville, IL; Marsha Prater, Springfield, IL; Jim Renneker, Chicago, IL; Maureen Shekleton, Glen Ellyn, IL; Deborah Terrell, Chicago, IL.

FUTURE OF NURSING™
Campaign for Action

The Future of Nursing: IL Action Coalition was convened to advance *The Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action™*, a collaboration created by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the AARP Foundation <http://championnursing.org/>