



Where can you find the most current version of the Illinois Nurse Practice Act (NPA)? Is there a list of pre-licensure nursing education programs approved by the Illinois Board of Nursing? When did Illinois first have more than 10,000 APRNs licensed? Is there a page that has all the nurse licensing information?

The answer to all the above questions can be found on the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) website, <http://nursing.illinois.gov/>. As a part of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR), the INWC has links to the Licensing Section, ensuring up-to-date information. The tabs on the left side of the page link to both licensing and regulatory information, as well as items unique to the INWC.

For example, all pre-licensure nursing education programs are approved by the Board of Nursing. This page includes links to the schools, as well as student pass rates on the national nursing licensure (NCLEX) examination. Schools that are on probation are also listed <http://nursing.illinois.gov/PreLeducation.asp>. There is a separate tab for post-licensure nursing education which includes the type of education specialization focus each school offers.

The tab 'licensure/renewal' links directly to the Licensing Section's "Nurses" page <https://www.idfpr.com/profs/nursing.asp>. This page includes license applications, resource documents for foreign educated nurses, links to file a complaint and renew a license if the license is in the biennial renewal period. This page also provides licensing information, including a link to the current version of the NPA.

What was the first year that there were more than 10,000 APRNs licensed in Illinois? Answer: 2015. The tab 'Data/Reports' <http://nursing.illinois.gov/ResearchData.asp> has current and retrospective information on the number and type of nurses licensed in Illinois. This includes all reports on the statewide data that have been collected voluntarily during the license renewal process. Recent reports include both the 2016 RN and APRN reports. Recent reports have been written by the INWC board; past reports, such as the supply-demand regional analysis, were created through state coalitions.

The INWC was initially established through legislative action in 2006, and placed within IDFPR to address issues of supply and demand in the nursing profession. Comprised of eleven members with diverse expertise, the INWC is administered by a managing director. Since its inception, the INWC has established multiple coalitions with regional, state, and national organizations to address the statutory mandate.