

# Minutes

Meeting: **Illinois Nursing Workforce Center**  
 Meeting Date: February 21, 2024  
 Meeting convened: 11:03 am  
 Meeting Adjourned: 1: 16 pm  
 Meeting Locations: Video Conference: Chicago, Springfield

Board Members Present: Krista L. Jones, Chairperson  
 Theresa E. Towle (11:49am), Vice-chairperson  
 Lynda M. Bartlett (11:30am), Member  
 Heather Escobar, Member  
 Fran LaMonica, Member  
 Amanda Oliver, Member  
 Karen Richey, Member  
 Daisy Sherry, Member

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Michele Bromberg, Nursing Coordinator  
 Linda B. Roberts, Manager

Guests: In-person: S. Swart  
 Remote: none

Topic	Action
<b>I. Call to Order, Roll call.</b> a. Declaration of a quorum at 11:03 a.m.	K. Jones declared quorum 11:03 a.m.
<b>II. Announcements, Correspondence</b> 1. Welcome. Brief introductions of board members, staff, guests. 2. Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) FY24 Nurse Educator Fellowship application extended to a second round of applications, submission deadline March 4, 2024. 3. National Black Nurses Day – 2/23/24. CCNBNA event, the Apostolic Church, Chicago. 4. Nursing Education Scholarship Grant (NESP) annual online applications 3/2/24-4/30/24. 5. Student Nurse Political Action Day, April 16, 2024, Springfield, Illinois. 6. National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers annual meeting, June 17-19, 2024, San Diego, California. 7. The Illinois Nurses Foundation annual scholarship applications are open until 3/15/24. 8. ANA-Illinois annual RN nurses day in Springfield, IL 4/17/24.	Additional discussion included A. Oliver describing items #7 and 8.
<b>III. Review and Approval of Minutes (Action):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The September 13, 2023, Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Advisory Board meeting minutes.</li> <li>• The October 18, 2023, Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Advisory Board meeting minutes. Motion was made/seconded: F. LaMonica/A. Oliver move to approve both the September 13, 2023, and the October 18, 2023, meeting minutes at the same time.</li> </ul>	9/13/23 and the 10/18/23 minutes approved by individual board members.
<b>IV. New Business</b> Reorder agenda: Begin review of proposed question revisions to the 2024 post-license renewal survey questions. 1. Review INWC supply survey questions and proposed distribution process. -Begin with brief review of HB1615/PA225 ILCS65-75-10, signed by Governor Pritzker 07/28/2023.	

A) Section 75-10. (1)(A) which states: "...The survey shall use the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers Minimum Nurse Supply Dataset". There are 20 questions in this dataset, all except two are part of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center survey questions. The two questions not included in the RN supply survey are about APRNs:

-Forum MDS variable #8: type of license: the INWC asks: are you currently working as an APRN (CRNW, CNM, CNP, CNS), if yes, please cease participation, a different survey for those licensed as APRNs is available post-APRN licensure renewal payment of fees.

-Forum MDS variable #12: APRN license/certification: the INWC supply survey only asks this question on the APRN and FPA-APRN supply surveys.

-Other National Forum supply MDS variables or questions have been part of the Nursing Workforce supply surveys since post-license renewal nurse surveys began in 2014.

B) Begin with brief review of HB3768/PA 103-0414, signed by Governor Pritzker 08/04/2023, Uniform Racial Classification Act. This legislation provides that a State Agency is not required to use the Middle Eastern or North African classification for reporting workforce or hiring data until July 1, 2025.

-review the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center current supply survey questions collecting ethnicity and race data, compare with HB3768 legislation.

-discussion included combining the ethnicity and race questions, review of the descriptors used for race are the same descriptors used by the federal government and the State of Illinois.

-Motion was made/seconded: A. Oliver/H. Escobar to combine the ethnicity and race questions on the RN, APRN, FPA-APRN and LPN supply survey questions, so the question will now read:

Select one of the following races or ethnicities that apply to you:

-American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian; Black or African American; Hispanic or Latinx; Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander; Middle Eastern or North African; White or Caucasian; 2 or more races; Some other race; Other: please specify.

C) Review supply survey questions that were asked in the 2022 INWC supply survey focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on survey respondent's workplace.

Discussion includes that the stem of these questions includes a reference to 2020, that the CDC is currently revising COVID-19 restrictions, for example they have recently removed the five day quarantine for a positive COVID-19 test result, vaccinations that are required for both the workplace and for pre-licensure students in clinicals/patient care areas, the requirements, interest in tracking this information.

Motion was made/seconded: F. LaMonica/T. Towle to remove the questions regarding proof of completion of COVID-19 vaccination series to maintain employment; if you have an approved COVID-19 exemption, how often are you required to complete a COVID-19 test to maintain employment; and the question about workplace revisions have occurred at your current place of employment since Fall 2020.

Revisions to survey questions approved about race and ethnicity by individual board members.

Revisions to survey questions about COVID-19 approved by individual board members.

Reorder agenda: return to

2. RWJF CCNA AARP Health Equity and Nursing Summit: Turning Commitments into Action, October 31 and November 1, 2023. The IL Healthcare Action Coalition was represented by Dr. Theresa Towle. The AARP is working in coalition to approve health equity. There were representatives of many national organizations. Discussion included creating financial success, inclusivity, improving representation in the nursing workforce of underrepresented communities. RWJF Campaign for Action <https://campaignforaction.org>

<p>Reorder agenda: return to:</p> <p>3. 2023 LPN Supply Survey Report discussion. Data was collected from responses to the survey that was distributed by eblast to Illinois licensed LPNs on February 16 and March 3, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The response rate is 31%; of approximately 27,000 LPNs. The structure of the report is similar to the RN, APRN and FPA-APRN reports, including a review of age, diversity, education, education, certifications, workplace, roles, specialty areas.</li> <li>-Review of various data points, including that LPNs have a large racial diversity, most have received their license in the US, there are a variety of certifications that LPNs have, salary is higher than in 2021- but this 2023 survey differentiates between FT and PT salaries, and a few other differences when compared with the 2021 supply survey data collected.</li> </ul> <p>Motion was made/seconded: T. Towle/D. Sherry to approve the 2023 IL LPN Survey Report as written, with updated references prior to posting on the INWC website.</p>	<p>2023 LPN Survey Report approved by individual board members.</p>
<p>Reorder agenda to reports:</p> <p><b>V. Board Liaison Time</b></p> <p>1. L. B. Roberts, IDFPR INWC Board Liaison Report</p> <p>Report of current activities has been discussed in many other sections of this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-IBHE Nursing Grants and Nurse Educator Fellowships, FY25 not yet available. FY24 application deadline extended to 3/4/24; this information has been sent to deans, directors IL Coalition of Nursing Organization member leaders.</li> </ul> <p>2. M. Bromberg, IDFPR Nursing Coordinator Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-There are seven new members on the IL Board of Nursing.</li> <li>-Low pass rates for schools continue to be posted on the INWC website, currently there are 10 schools with low pass rates.</li> <li>-Discussion included other details of HB5155, for example CTS is tracking the nursing student graduation date. If a student wants to take the NCLEX 180 days after graduation they need to take a NCLEX review course or remediation from their education program before being allowed to take the NCLEX.</li> </ul>	
<p>Reorder agenda to Chairperson report:</p> <p><b>VI: Chairperson Time</b></p> <p>K. Jones, Chairperson report. Represented the INWC with L.B. Roberts at the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers at their mid-year meeting January 9-10, New Orleans. The mid-year meeting focused on organizational development, state and national outreach activities, strategic planning, various activities to strengthen organizations and leaders as well as state status updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Time: it is nearing end of meeting time, so the strategic planning discussion will be priority for the next Advisory Board meeting scheduled for 6 weeks, 4/3/24. There were resources sent for this meeting, please review prior to the next meeting. Resources included a PowerPoint presentation from the recent National Forum meeting, resource of California and Florida in their recent strategic planning review and revision.</li> </ul>	
<p>Reorder agenda to Old Business:</p> <p><b>VII. Old Business</b></p> <p>Strategic Planning – defer discussion until the next Advisory Board meeting 4/3/2024.</p>	
<p><b>VIII. Public Comment</b></p>	<p>Questions asked and answered.</p>

<b>IX. Adjournment</b>	There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:16 pm
<b>The next INWC BOD meeting will be Wednesday, April 3, 2024.</b>	

Members of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) Advisory Board of Directors: Lynda Bartlett, Chicago, IL; Heather Escobar, Norridge, IL; Krista Jones, Broadlands, IL; Fran LaMonica, Chicago, IL; Amanda Oliver, Oak Forest, IL; Karen Richey, Schererville, IN; Daisy Sherry, Darien, IL; Theresa Towle, Tinley Park, IL.

The Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) (formerly the Illinois Center for Nursing) was established in 2006 to advocate for appropriate nursing resources necessary to meet the healthcare needs of the citizens of Illinois. INWC 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. INWC Website: <https://nursing.illinois.gov>