

Minutes September 17, 2025

Meeting: **Illinois Nursing Workforce Center**
 Meeting Date: September 17, 2025
 Meeting convened: 11:07 am
 Meeting Adjourned: 1:03 pm
 Meeting Locations: Video Conference: Chicago #5C5, Springfield#258
 Guests: remote

Board Members Present: Krista L. Jones, Chairperson
 Lynda M. Bartlett, Member
 Glenda Morris Burnett, Member
 Gina Canny, Member
 Elaine Hardy, Member
 Blanca Miller, Member
 Karen Richey, Member
 Daisy Sherry, Member
 Diane Smith, Member
 Theresa E. Towle, Vice-chairperson.

Board Members Absent: Heather Escobar, Member

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

Guests: In-person or remote: None

Topic	Action
I. Call to Order, Roll call. a. Declaration of a quorum at 11: 07 a.m.	K. Jones declared quorum 11:07 am
II. Announcements, Correspondence 1. Welcome to Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Advisory Board. Board members and staff introduce themselves 2. Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) a. FY26 Nurse Educator Fellowship program applications due Oct 31, 2025. b. FY26 Nursing Education grant program applications due Sept 29, 2025. 3. Illinois Nurses Foundation 40-under-40 event September 18, 2025. 4. Student Nurses Association of Illinois Annual Convention, October 4, 2025.	
III. Board Liaison Time 1. L.B. Roberts, Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) Board Liaison a. Brief board orientation - 1-page IDFPR Strategic Pillars. - Illinois Nurse Practice Act (NPA), Article 75: Illinois Nursing Workforce Center. - Discussion includes that the NPA includes conducting surveys with the nurse license renewal process. Suggestion to add an education question to specify the name of the school and how soon after graduation was one employed. Survey questions to be discussed later in the meeting. - Other: speaking in public on behalf of IDFPR, must have prior approval b. Election of new FY26 officers: chairperson and vice-chairperson, 1-year terms	Action: K. Jones –approval as chairperson.

T. Towle nominate K. Jones as chairperson, vote approval. K. Jones nominate T. Towle as vice-chairperson, vote approval.	T. Towle – approval as vice-chairperson.
2. M. Bromberg, IDFPR Nursing Coordinator -Update IDFPR CORE licensing system, currently phase III. -Board of Nursing recent meeting, September 5, 2025, approval of five new Illinois pre-licensure nursing education programs throughout the state. Illinois has a new voluntary licensure status for certain healthcare professions for individuals that currently have a license and no disciplines, to begin January 1, 2027. -National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), annual meeting, August 2025. Discuss NCSBN plan to offer the NCLEX® licensure examination at home. -Will send additional details post-meeting.	Action: K. Jones –approval as chairperson. T. Towle – approval as vice-chairperson.
V. Chairman Time: 2. Review draft FY26 and draft FY27 INWC Board of Director meeting dates FY26: September 17, 2025; October 22, 2025; December 10, 2025; February 18, 2026; April 15, 2026; and June 10, 2026. FY 27: September 16, 2026; October 21, 2026; December 9, 2026; February 17, 2027; April 14, 2027; and June 9, 2027. Discussion: having board meetings on these dates would maintain 6 meetings per year, Fall through Spring, on Wednesdays, time: 11am-1pm, videoconference Chicago and Springfield Offices. Only individuals meeting in-person are considered part of the quorum. Board members may remotely attend board meetings, but may not vote. Motion was made/seconded: G. Canny/T. Towle move to approve the FY27 INWC BOD meeting dates, times. 3. Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) Nursing Education Scholarship (NES) Program Briefly discuss the Nursing Education Scholarship (NES) Law, which annually accepts applications March 1 through April 30. No language in the statute prevents an NES awardee from using their post-graduation employment to fulfill both the NES service obligation and any other service obligation resulting from other financial aid.	Action: approve FY27 INWC BOD meeting dates.
VI. Review and Approval of Minutes: 1. The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) requests the addition of the IBHE FY25 Nurse Educator Fellows abstracts to the minutes as an Appendix. The abstracts have in past years been an appendix to the minutes. Discussion: to recommend having the recognition event during the June 2026 INWC board meeting. This abstract is also the fellows end-of-grant report and has been received by IBHE. Motion was made/seconded: B. Miller/D. Sherry move to approve or deny adding the FY25 IBHE 56 Nurse Educator Fellows abstracts to the May 14, 2025, meeting minutes as an Appendix. 1. The May 14, 2025, Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Advisory Board meeting minutes. Motion was made/seconded: K. Richey/T. Towle move to approve the May 14, 2025, meeting minutes as amended.	Action: approve adding IBHE FY25 Fellows abstracts to the May 14, 2025, minutes as an Appendix. 05/14/25 minutes with Appendix A: IBHE Fellows abstracts, approved by individual board members.

VII. Old Business 1. LPN 2025 draft report: The data was collected during LPN renewal process beginning in November 2024 through the end of February 2025. Two separate ebasts were sent to all Illinois LPNs in March 2025 requesting survey participation with an end of participation date of April 14, 2025. The collective response rate from post license renewal survey completion and the ebast survey completions was 10.5%. Data analysis was completed, the draft report was written and shared with the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) Advisory Board members during the past few months. Recommended revisions received from the INWC board were incorporated. Motion was made/seconded: B. Miller/D. Sherry move to approve the LPN 2025 draft report. 2. Illinois license renewal 2026 draft nurse surveys: IDFPR will be required by legislation, HB3487 20ILCS2105-368 to collect demographic information on all licensees effective 1/1/2026. Online license renewal nurse surveys have been conducted by the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) since 2014. The revisions are to the LPN, RN, APRN and FPA-APRN surveys that will be distributed during the 2026-27 license renewal process. As mandated by legislation HB1615/PA225 ILCS65/75-10 data will be voluntarily collected during the biennial license renewal process and should include the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers (The Forum) Minimum Supply Data Set (MDS) which was revised December 2024. The surveys for LPN, RN, APRN AND FPA-APRN are in the same format as The Forum MDS. Surveys have the same sections, and the questions are in the same order with limited revisions to questions, answer options and additional questions. The APRN and FPA-APRN surveys had questions deleted from previous surveys that are now part of the license renewal process. These surveys were shared with the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) Advisory Board members during the past few months prior to this board meeting. Discussion: included clarification if RNs and LPNs can be part of a licensure compact – yes. A nurse with a compact license is to have the compact license in his/her home state. Revision in questions included: do you have licenses in multiple states, separate nursing faculty and nursing education questions, clarify student loan question to ask if student loan is for education at any level, add not applicable and/or not working as an answer option to a few questions, clarify telehealth is a billable service, hospital clinical educator is a nurse educator outside academia, self-employment. Survey process – since APRNs and FPA-APRNs must first be licensed as RNs, and since the survey will be offered prior to license renewal, if the APRN or FPA-APRN answers “yes” they are licensed as an APRN or FPA-APRN will they be cut-off and stopped from answering the remainder of the RN survey questions? The goal is that the nurse does not have to complete both surveys that have similar questions. Since the license renewal process begins March 2026, there is an opportunity for limited revision, such as adding a question, to the surveys. At the May 2025 board meeting INWC BOD meeting there was general agreement to license renewal supply survey questions. The board agreed to these additional revisions that will begin to be included in the new licensing system this month.	Action: to approve the LPN 2025 survey report.
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3. Demand survey draft data A brief overview of the partnership with the Illinois Department of Employment Services (IDES) and the work with them since 2024 to obtain the draft data on nurses, jobs, job settings in each of the 102 Illinois counties. Per HB1615/ PA225 ILCS65/75-10 this data is to begin to be collected in 2026 with a report to the legislature in 2027. Discussion deferred until the next meeting due to time restrictions.	
VIII. New Business	
1. INWC Strategic Plan – defer discussion until the next meeting	
IX. Public Comment	None.
X. Adjournment Motion was made to adjourn the meeting: G. Canny/ T. Towle seconded	There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:03 pm
The next Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Advisory Board meeting will be Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 11am.	

Members of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) Advisory Board of Directors: Lynda Bartlett, Chicago, IL; Gina Canny, Springfield, IL; Heather Escobar, Norridge, IL; Elaine Hardy, Bloomington, IL; Krista Jones, Broadlands, IL; Blanca Miller, Dunlap, IL; Glenda Morris-Burnett, Chicago, IL; Karen Richey, IN; Daisy Sherry, Darien, IL; Diane Smith, Richton Park, 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>