



PRACTICE STATEMENT

The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) is mandated by government to regulate the profession of Practical Nurses in a manner that serves and protects the public. Accordingly, the College develops specific practice statements relevant to the Practical Nursing Profession. The purpose of a Position Statement is: to provide LPNs, employers and the public with information and clarity regarding the practice for LPNs; to help eliminate misconceptions regarding the scope of practice for LPNs; and to assist employers with utilizing LPNs more effectively in the health care system.

Temporary Registration

PRACTICE STATEMENT 2

Approved by Council – September 15, 2011

The Temporary Registration Practice Permit is the practice permit issued to new graduates of an approved practical nursing program in Alberta. The Temporary Practice Permit is issued short term, not to exceed one year, and provides the authority for a new graduate to start practicing as a novice, while studying to write and await results from the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination (CPNRE). Upon completion of the CPNRE, successful candidates are eligible to receive an Active Practice Permit. Candidates are allowed three opportunities to successfully complete the CPNRE. If a candidate is unsuccessful three times, the Temporary Practice Permit is immediately suspended and the candidate has the option to seek remedial learning.

Under the Health Professions Act, Temporary Registrants are autonomous and assume responsibility for their own nursing practice. The Temporary Registrant is accountable to their clients to provide safe, competent, ethical care; their employer to work within job descriptions and policies and procedures; and their regulatory College to comply with the LPN Regulation, Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics of the profession.

Temporary Registrants:

- Are recognized as a Licensed Practical Nurse, and may legally sign LPN after their name
- Assume accountability and responsibility for their practice
- Practice within the policies of the employer and may complete applicable education in the employment setting
- Must identify and seek guidance and direction when they find situations that are beyond their competence level

Must practice under the following parameters:

- With indirect remote consultation from another regulated provider in a home care environment
- With direct/indirect supervision available and staffed on the unit in areas such as acute care, long term care, or assisted living



- May not assign activities to, or supervise another regulated health provider or an unregulated health care aide
- May not assume a formal leadership role or “charge” position independently
- May be supported by a preceptor or mentor to learn the formal leadership role or “charge” position

Temporary Registrants are novices who require support and mentoring to successfully transition into clinical practice. Collaborative practice environments that support new graduates are vital to ensure patient safety, quality outcomes, and sustainability of human health resources. Mentoring and support from active practice nurses is a vital component to ensure a timely and supportive transition for the novice nurse.

Definitions

Direct supervision: a regulated nurse with full practice permit (regulated member) is present in the practice setting at the point of care. The regulated member is providing supervision “at the side of” the new graduate.

Indirect supervision: the regulated nurse with full practice permit (regulated member) is available for guidance and consultation but is not directly at the side of the new graduate. The regulated member is staffed on the unit and readily available where care is being provided.

Indirect remote: a regulated nurse with full practice permit (regulated member) is available for consultation and guidance but is not physically present in the location where care is being provided and can be easily contacted through the use of technology. The regulated member can be reached by telephone, pager or other electronic device when the temporary registrant needs verbal assistance or guidance in providing client care. This is appropriate supervision in home care/community care when most client care is on a one-to-one basis.

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