



COLLEGE OF
LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES
OF ALBERTA

About Alberta's
**LICENSED
PRACTICAL
NURSES**

competent committed care



ABOUT ALBERTA'S LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES

Licensed Practical Nurses are professional nurses working within their own scope of practice, standards of practice and code of ethics. They are one of three categories of professional nurses in Alberta involved in the assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of nursing care.

LPNs study from the same body of nursing knowledge as registered nurses (RNs) and registered psychiatric nurses (RPNs) with a focused approach in foundational knowledge, critical thinking, and clinical judgment. They have the knowledge, skill, judgment, and abilities to contribute in all phases of the continuum of care from prevention to acute treatment and management, to long term and palliative care. LPNs may have independent, interdependent, and often overlapping roles on the healthcare team.

Where do Licensed Practical Nurses work?

LPNs contribute to Alberta's healthcare system through a wide range of practice areas including acute care, seniors health and wellness, long term care, community, primary care clinics, education, occupational health and safety, public health, and leadership.

What education and preparation do Licensed Practical Nurses have?

LPNs in Alberta graduate from a two-year diploma in practical nursing offered at the college level. The program provides a minimum of 1650 instructional hours including 750 hours of theoretical instruction and 900 hours of clinical/lab experience.

There are numerous post-entry level learning opportunities for LPNs. Advanced Practice authorization is available in the areas of peri-operative, orthopedics and footcare. There are also certificate programs in areas such as mental health, chronic disease management, leadership, gerontology, wound care, and palliative care.

What registration requirements must Licensed Practical Nurses meet?

As a self-regulating profession, LPNs must comply with registration requirements set out by the College



of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) under the Health Professions Act, Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation (Alta Reg 81/2003). This includes initial registration upon completion of an approved practical nurse program or equivalent, annual renewal of registration, participation in continuing competence activities, and active engagement in the practice of the profession.

What professional standards must a Licensed Practical Nurse maintain?

The legislative mandate of the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA), as enacted under the Alberta Health Professions Act (HPA), is to protect the public. To fulfill its duty, CLPNA requires its members to deliver safe, competent and ethical nursing care. These requirements are set out in the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics for the profession and in relevant legislation. The CLPNA is committed to assuring the public that Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) meet these requirements, and in doing so, has the responsibility of managing and resolving complaints made against the regulated members or former members (if within 2 years since registration lapsed) of the CLPNA.



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ABOUT CLPNA

The CLPNA's first responsibility is to the public. We regulate the profession of Licensed Practical Nurses, setting and maintaining standards to ensure the public receives safe, competent, and ethical healthcare services. Our focus and commitment to public protection underpins everything we do. Albertans can be confident Licensed Practical Nurses are regulated through the CLPNA's enactment of government legislation.

INFO & SERVICES

www.clpna.com



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NEED ADVICE?

General

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