

## Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC) Licensing Sub-committee Minutes December 3, 2020 5: 00 pm to 6: 00 pm

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Committee Members:	Jeannie Eylar, MSN, RN, Chair Adam Canary, LPN Helen Myrick, Public Member Yvonne Strader, RN, BSN, BSNA, MHA
Staff:	Amber Zawislak-Bielaski, MPH, Assistant Director of Licensing Shana Johnny, MN, RN, Nurse Practice Consultant, Ad- Hoc Karl Hoehn, JD, Assistant Director of Discipline- Legal Services

This meeting was digitally recorded to assist in the production of accurate minutes. All recordings are public record. The minutes of this meeting will be posted on our website after they have been approved at the **March 12, 2021**, NCQAC meeting. For a copy of the actual recording, please contact the Public Disclosure Records Center (PDRC) at <u>PDRC@doh.wa.gov</u>.

- I. 5:00 PM Opening Jeannie Eylar, MSN, RN, Subcommittee Chair
  - Roll Call
  - Call to Order at 5:05 PM.
- II. Standing Agenda Items
  - Announcements/Hot Topic/NCQAC Business Meeting Updates- None
- III. Old Business
  - Update on Continuing Competency- None
  - Update on Nurse Licensure Compact- None
- IV. New Business
  - NCQAC Licensing Requirements- Continuation of Operations During an Emergency- Discussion
     The topic of the draft NCQAC Continuation of Operations During an Emergency document was discussed in detail and the full document reviewed. Ms. Meyer provided an overview of the document and the discussion of licensing requirements the Licensing Sub-committee may be willing to waive during the pandemic. Mr. Hoehn provided an overview of the requirement for transcripts for internationally educated applicants found within WAC 246-840-090 and how it is also required by RCW 18.79.160. The sub-committee agreed that more data was needed to fully evaluate the requirement for transcripts and the impact if that were to be removed. Commissioner Strader and Commissioner Eylar discussed the option to waive all licensure requirements for nurses already licensed in another state and what the impacts of that waiver would look like. This waiver would need to go to the Governor for consideration. Concerns were discussed regarding how

the waiving of all requirements would lessen the commission's ability to track the number of nurses practicing in the state and the impacts on discipline if something were to happen with a nurse who was not licensed in Washington State. The process for 70.15 volunteer health care providers was also discussed and agreement that the 70.15 process can be confusing for providers and facilities due to the terminology of "volunteer". Commission Eylar suggested that a solution could be to request a waiver for licensure requirements to the Governor if the cases continue to increase or licensure delays remain. Consensus made by the Licensing Sub-committee to take the discussion of the waiver to the full commission on December 10, 2020 to request a waiver of licensure requirements for nurses already licensed in another state.

- WAC 246-840-090- Transcripts for Internationally Educated Applicants- Karl Hoehn (see above)
- V. Ending Items
  - Open Microphone (as time permits)- None
  - Review of Actions- NCQAC Continuation of Operations During an Emergency document approved and being brought to the full commission for review/approval on December 10, 2020. The topic of asking the Governor for a waiver of all licensure requirements for nurses licensed in another state also being brought to the full commission for review/approval on December 10, 2020.
  - Meeting Evaluation No Time.
  - Date of Next Meeting (Discuss since next scheduled date is a state holiday) January 22, 2021
  - Adjournment- 6:00 PM