



**Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)
Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2022
2:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

Commission Members:

Laurie Soine PhD, ARNP, Chair
Tiffany Randich, RN, LPN, Vice-Chair
Jonathan Alvarado ARNP, CRNA
Quiana Childress, GCertHealthSc, BS, LPN
Ella B. Guilford, MSN, M.Ed., BSN, RN
Dawn Morrell, RN, BSN, CCRN
MaiKia Moua, RN, BSN, MPH
Helen Myrick, Public Member
Sharon Ness, RN
Kimberly Tucker PhD, RN, CNE

Excused

Adam Canary, LPN, Secretary/Treasurer
Mabel Ezeonwu PhD, RN
Yvonne Strader, RN, BSN, BSPA, MHA

Assistant Attorney General:

Sierra McWilliams, Assistant Attorney General

Staff:

Paula R. Meyer, MSN, RN, FRE, Executive Director
Chris Archuleta, Director, Operations
Gerianne Babbo, Ed.D, MN, RN, Director, Education
Shad Bell, Assistant Director, Operations
Amber Bielaski, MPH, Assistant Director, Licensing
Debbie Carlson, MSN, RN, CPM, Director, Practice
Mary Sue Gorski, PhD, RN, Director, Advanced Practice, Research and Policy
Karl Hoehn, JD, FRE, Assistant Director, Discipline – Legal
Grant Hulteen, Assistant Director, Discipline – Investigations and WHPS
Bethany Mauden, Administrative Assistant
Kathy Moisio, PhD, RN, Director, Nursing Assistant Programs
Catherine Woodard, Director, Discipline and WHPS

- I. 2:00 PM Opening – Laurie Soine, Chair – DISCUSSION/ACTION**
- II. Call to Order**
 - A. Introductions**
 - B. Announcements**
- III. Licensing Fees: Recommendation to financially support decision packages - DISCUSSION/ACTION**
 - A. Health Enforcement and Licensing Management System**
 - New database to replace the ILRS system that is at the end of its lifespan.

B. Licensing

Expectations for seven days or less for processing for out of state licensure. This necessitates increased staff to accommodate the Governor’s and legislature’s direction.

C. Long Term Care Staffing Crisis

NCQAC staff needed for nursing assistant training programs and LPN apprenticeship programs. The original decision package had the NCQAC contracting with the health workplace counsel to achieve culture changes in LTC settings. The final package separately funded both the NCQAC and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

The NCQAC considers licensing fee increases necessary to fund expenses related to decision packages supported in the Governor’s, House, and Senate Budgets. The Secretary of Health has the authority for fees and works in consultation with the NCQAC.

The Department of Health (DOH) filed a Preproposal (CR-101) for WAC 246-840-990, Fees and Renewal Cycle on November 10, 2021 as WSR #21-23-053. The DOH in consultation with the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC) is considering fee changes for registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, advanced registered nurse practitioners, and nursing technicians.

RCW 43.70.250 requires that the costs of licensing each profession be fully borne by members of that profession. Rulemaking is needed to ensure fees cover the costs of licensing the professions. A fee change may be necessary to cover the cost of a database solution to replace an outdated licensing system, for staffing to continue nurse license processing within legislated timelines, and staffing to address increased workload associated with nursing assistants and the long-term care crisis.

Interested parties’ meetings to receive input from the public were held December 2nd, 8th and 10th, 2021 and March 21st and March 23rd, 2022 regarding the proposed fee increase.

Action: Ms. Randich moved to support the NCQAC recommendation to the Secretary of the Department of Health for nursing fee increases as follows:

Profession	Application Fee	Renewal Fee
Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	\$130	\$130
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$69	\$69
Registered Nurse	\$124	\$124
Nursing Technician	No Increase	No Increase

Dr. Kimberly Tucker seconded the motion.

Action: The motion carried.

IV. Public Comment – WSNA asked questions regarding the increase related to the regulation of nursing assistant training programs costs.

V. Meeting Evaluation

VI. Closing

The meeting was closed at 3:00pm by NCQAC Chair, Dr. Soine.