



CRNAs – Transition to Licensure

HB 216 – New law effective April 6, 2017

This document addresses questions and provides general information about transitioning to APRN licensure with a designation as a CRNA and the 2017 deadlines for both RN and the 2017 COA renewal/APRN license issuance process.¹

HB 216 eliminates the certificate of authority (COA) and the Certificate to Prescribe (CTP) and replaces them with an APRN license that will designate APRNs as CRNAs, CNPs, CNSs, or CNMs. The bill makes additional changes to Chapter 4723., Ohio Revised Code (ORC), also known as the Nurse Practice Act, as well as other related ORC sections. The bill becomes law on April 6, 2017.

HB 216 Overview and APRN Licensure for CRNAs

Overview

HB 216 requires that APRNs be “licensed” in Ohio rather than certified. CRNAs will be licensed as APRNs with the designation of CRNA. The bill did not grant prescribing authority to CRNAs.

The bill eliminates COAs after December 31, 2017. COA holders are authorized to practice as APRNs through December 31, 2017.

The bill mandates that any person who wishes to continue to practice in Ohio as an APRN, including those with a designation of CRNA, obtain licensure in Ohio by the statutory deadline of December 31, 2017.

¹ This is one of four Board summaries regarding HB 216 that are available on the Board website at www.nursing.ohio.gov: Summary of Major Provisions of HB 216; CNPs, CNSs, CNMs--Transition to Licensure; CRNAs--Transition to Licensure; Advanced Pharmacology Licensure Requirements. The Board will post additional information and FAQs in the future.

For CRNAs who hold a COA, the transition to licensure will *begin July 1, 2017 through* the 2017 COA renewal/APRN license issuance process. Once the COA is successfully renewed this year, APRNs will be licensed and will no longer have a COA.

The Board plans to begin licensing new CRNA applicants on or after April 6, 2017. The Board is working with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and their contractor to confirm that the needed IT modifications will be made by this date in the Ohio eLicense system.

- Please note -- to be licensed as an APRN you must also be licensed as an RN, so you must complete both your RN license renewal and the COA renewal/APRN license issuance process and meet the applicable deadlines. (See below.)

CRNAs Who Currently Hold a COA

CRNAs who hold a current COA will be licensed ***through the 2017 COA renewal/APRN license issuance process beginning July 1, 2017.***

CRNAs do not need to complete or provide documentation of advanced pharmacology education because they do not have prescriptive authority. The bill did not grant prescriptive authority to licensed CRNAs.

- CRNAs must renew their RN license on or before October 31, 2017.
- CRNAs must complete the COA renewal/APRN license issuance process no later than December 31, 2017 in order to become a licensed APRN and continue practice.
- CRNAs with a lapsed or inactive COA must submit a reactivation or reinstatement application to make the COA active prior to completing the 2017 COA renewal/APRN license issuance process.
- Once the 2017 COA renewal/APRN license issuance process is completed, CRNAs will be licensed and will no longer have a COA.

New CRNA Applicants on or After April 6, 2017

The Board will begin licensing new APRN applicants on or after the effective date of the bill, April 6, 2017. These new APRN licensees will have a CRNA designation.

- The Board plans to begin licensing and stop “certifying” new APRN applicants on or after April 6, 2017. The Board is working with DAS and their contractor to confirm that the needed IT modifications will be made by this date in the Ohio eLicense system.
- New applicants for CRNA licensure do not need to obtain the 45 hours of advanced pharmacology as required for APRNs with a designation of CNP, CNS, or CNM, because CRNAs do not have authority to prescribe in Ohio.

IMPORTANT RENEWAL DEADLINES
RN License Renewal and 2017 COA Renewal/APRN License Issuance

APRNs may renew their RN license and complete the COA renewal/APRN license issuance process on or after July 1, 2017.

The final deadline for APRNs to renew their **RN license** is **October 31, 2017**.

- APRNs must renew their RN license to be eligible to complete the COA renewal/APRN license issuance process.
- The late processing fee for RN renewal goes into effect on September 16, 2017.
- Those renewing their RN license on or after September 16, 2017 will pay an additional \$50.00.

The final deadline for APRNs to **complete the COA renewal/APRN license issuance process is December 31, 2017** because HB 216 specifies that current COAs will remain valid until December 31, 2017.

- The renewal/license issuance fee is \$135.
- There is no late processing fee for the COA this year.

The Board recommends APRNs complete the RN renewal and the COA renewal/APRN license issuance processes at the same time to assure timely renewals. Please remember to complete **BOTH** processes in order to complete all the required steps to become a licensed APRN.

Questions?

We want to answer your questions, but we don't want to miss your call. We will be renewing and issuing over 200,000 nursing licenses in 2017.

If you have questions concerning licensure and HB 216, please e-mail us so we can more timely address your questions and those of your fellow licensees.

Please email practice216@nursing.ohio.gov

[On the front page of the Board website \(www.nursing.ohio.gov\)](http://www.nursing.ohio.gov), please click on "[Subscribe to eNews, Facebook, and Twitter](#)" to sign up to receive Board updates and alerts regarding HB 216 and renewal.