

ANNUAL REPORT

OHIO BOARD OF NURSING

July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012



The mission of the Ohio Board of Nursing is to actively safeguard the health of the public through the effective regulation of nursing care.

Prepared for the Honorable John Kasich, Governor



Ohio Board of Nursing

www.nursing.ohio.gov

17 South High Street, Suite 400 • Columbus, Ohio 43215-7410 • (614) 466-3947

September 21, 2012

The Honorable John Kasich
Governor, State of Ohio
77 South High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Governor Kasich:

On behalf of the Ohio Board of Nursing, we are pleased to submit this annual report for state fiscal year 2012, in accordance with Section 4723.06 of the Revised Code. The report highlights the work of the thirteen-member Board, supported by a staff of sixty-four employees. The Board is responsible for regulating over 256,000 licenses and certificates and 174 nursing education programs.

The Board administers and enforces the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4723. During fiscal year 2012, the Board issued and renewed licenses and certificates to qualified individuals; surveyed and approved education and training programs; and disciplined and monitored the practice of licensees and certificate holders who violated the Nurse Practice Act or administrative rules regulating practice.

We believe this Annual Report details the Nursing Board's important and significant role in positively impacting the safety of nursing care. Board initiatives, collaborative government efforts, and public and private partnerships reflect Ohio's goal to achieve a lean and efficient government with common sense approaches to meeting regulatory challenges.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bertha M. Lovelace".

Bertha Lovelace, RN, CRNA
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy J. Houchen".

Betsy Houchen, RN, MS, JD
Executive Director

Mission

The mission of the Ohio Board of Nursing is to actively safeguard the health of the public through the effective regulation of nursing care.

Overview

The Board's top priorities are to efficiently license the nursing workforce and remove dangerous practitioners from practice in a timely manner to protect Ohio patients. Public protection is critical, as nursing touches virtually every citizen of Ohio. The Board regulates over 256,000 licenses and certificates, an increase from 223,000 in 2008.

Demonstrated Track Record and Nationally Recognized

The Board has a demonstrated track record of insuring excellent public protection, funding initiatives to combat the nursing shortage, and regulating the largest number of licensed professionals of any agency in the State of Ohio. In order to ensure the highest quality of services and better achieve lean government, the Board has been an innovator fostering development of new approaches for patient safety, such as utilizing a just culture analysis in reviewing practice complaints, participating in the creation of a national patient safety database, and being selected as one of three states to pilot a National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Transition to Practice study.

Ohio's participation with NCSBN has enabled the Board to work with other nursing regulatory boards across the country to enhance the effectiveness and expertise of the Board. Betsy Houchen, the Board's Executive Director, was elected to serve a third term on the NCSBN Board of Directors, and Lisa Emrich, the Board's Program Manager for Education and Practice, continued in her elected position on the NCSBN Leadership Succession Committee. Board member Judith Church was a member of the NCSBN Examination (NCLEX) Item Writing Panel and Lesleigh Robinson, the Board's Program Manager for Licensure and Continuing Education, was appointed to the NCLEX Committee. In addition, staff continued to actively participate in national forums and meetings.

In 2012, the Board was recognized by NCSBN for its achievement in providing TERCAP® practice breakdown data for the development of a national database on nursing practice and patient safety. The innovative work of the Board was further recognized by the Citizen Advocacy Center, a national organization that brings together representatives of many different health related boards and stakeholders. The Board conducted presentations on discipline processes and the Patient Safety Initiative for the Citizen Advocacy Center's Annual Meeting.

Contributions to Statewide Initiatives

Prescription Drug Abuse

With the introduction of House Bill 93, the Board collaborated with the administration, legislators, law enforcement and other state boards and agencies in the fight against prescription drug abuse. Ohio's commitment to end opiate abuse is consistent with our mission to actively safeguard the health of the public through the effective regulation of nursing care. The Board is diligent in ensuring that licensees are practicing and collaborating with physicians in accordance with the statutory requirements and rules.

The Board contributes to meetings of the Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Group (PDAAG) chaired by ODH and ODADAS, and is a member in support of various initiatives of the Governor's Opiate Cabinet Action Team (GOCAT) Committees on Reforming Prescribing Practices, the Metrics Subcommittee, the Committee on Law Enforcement and the Professional Education Workgroup.

Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition

House Bill 130 (127th General Assembly) created the Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition (Reentry Coalition) to address legal and other barriers to employment for individuals released from prison. As part of the Reentry Coalition, Board staff Tom Dilling represented over twenty health care licensing bodies including the Nursing, Medical, and Pharmacy Boards. These boards regulate over 650,000 health care and other professional service providers in Ohio. Representation from this perspective was vitally important because licensing and employment issues within the health care professions carry heightened public safety ramifications in a variety of areas, including: the confidential and private nature of the care; increased employee access to drugs; and special needs for the care of vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and those with mental illness.

To extend this work to boards of nursing across the country, a presentation was provided through the NCSBN. Tom Dilling and Ohio's Solicitor General, Alexandra Schimmer, who served on the national committee that crafted the Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction Act, presented information on ex-offender issues related to state licensing boards. They also presented together with Ed Rhine, Deputy Director in the Office of Offender Reentry at the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, before a group of professional licensing boards in Ohio to explain the work of the Coalition and preview legislative efforts.

Patient Centered Medical Homes

House Bill 198 (128th General Assembly) created the Patient Centered Medical Homes pilot program as a way of providing more comprehensive and higher quality care at lower costs. The bill created an Education Advisory Group (EAP) to administer the pilot project. Board member Judith Church has represented the Board on the EAP since the group's inception.

Legislation and Administrative Rules Impacting Nursing in Ohio

Legislation

The Board monitored proposed legislation that could impact the practice of nursing or Board operations, provided Board members legislative reports, and worked with other regulatory boards and public stakeholders on issues of mutual interest. Bills related to the Board that became effective in fiscal year 2012 include:

- Senate Bill 2 contained certain sections of law that became effective on January 1, 2012, including requirements that agency rules be subject to review by the Common Sense Initiative.
- Senate Bill 83, effective June 8, 2012, granted increased Schedule II prescribing authority to Advanced Practice Nurses (APNs) with prescriptive authority. The bill required the Board to adopt certain rules and amended the grounds for discipline related to self-administration of drugs.
- House Bill 262, effective June 27, 2012, included language strongly recommending licensing boards adopt rules that require training in the

recognition and handling of cases involving human trafficking for nurses who may encounter victims in the normal course of their practice.

- House Bill 86, effective September 30, 2011, indirectly impacted the grounds for discipline in the Nurse Practice Act that permit the Board to take actions on licensees with findings of guilt, convictions, and findings of treatment in lieu of conviction.

In addition, the Nursing Board initiated a comprehensive review and update of its Nurse Practice Act with licensees, interested parties, and other stakeholders that resulted in the introduction of House Bill 303, sponsored by Representative Kirk Schuring. Consistent with the Board's strategic planning to promote public safety and the safe practice of nursing, the proposed legislation addresses pertinent regulatory issues and requirements for licensees and certificate holders and provides greater clarity about the requirements for those regulated by the Board. House Bill 303 passed the House in May of 2012 and is currently in the Senate for consideration.

Administrative Rules

The Board conducted the five-year review of applicable administrative rules as required by Ohio Revised Code Section 119.032, and at the same time, amended additional administrative rules that were not scheduled for the five-year review, primarily to eliminate redundancy, rescind obsolete language, and make the rules simpler to read and understand. The Board eliminated four rules as part of the rule package.

For rules that became effective on February 1, 2012, the Board participated in the newly created Common Sense Initiative (CSI) pilot program and filed a portion of the rules with the CSI office after completing their Budget Impact Analysis form. The process helped the Board prepare for future rule filings and was designed to help the CSI office develop their program at the same time.

The Board, based on House Bill 93, promulgated a new administrative rule to set standards and procedures for APNs with prescriptive authority to access the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS). As directed by House Bill 93, new Rule 4723-9-12, OAC, Standards and Procedures for Review of OARRS, effective March 19, 2012, identifies specific fact patterns indicating possible drug abuse or diversion that require an APN prescriber to access and review OARRS prior to prescribing, as well as situations that require collaboration and discussion with the APN's collaborating physician.

Senate Bill 83, effective June 8, 2012, granted increased Schedule II prescribing authority to APNs with prescriptive authority. As authorized in Senate Bill 83 and with direction from the Committee on Prescriptive Governance (CPG), a committee composed of nurse, physician, pharmacy and consumer representatives to oversee various aspects of the APN prescribing formulary and related rules, the Board reviewed and modified the Formulary governing Schedule II prescribing by APNs. The Formulary specifies categories of Schedule II drugs that may be utilized in the collaborative practice as well as providing certain prohibitions and parameters governing the degree of collaboration required at initiation of the prescribing. The Board is proposing to amend rules in Chapters 4723-8 and 4723-9, OAC, and implement new Rule 4723-9-13, OAC, for the purpose of ensuring proper education and training related to the expanded authority of APNs to prescribe schedule II controlled substances, and to provide for proper safeguards and parameters to protect the public. The rules are expected to be effective by November 2012.

Fiscal Year 2012
Program Area Highlights and Statistics

Nursing Education

The Board approves pre-licensure education programs to assure the programs maintain academic and clinical standards for the preparation of entry-level nurses.

- The Board currently oversees 174 nursing education programs (102 registered nurse programs and 72 practical nurse programs), as compared to 143 in 2008.
- The Board approved 14 new nursing education programs. Board education surveyors conducted site visits to 37 existing nursing education programs.
- The Board appointed Board Member Janet Arwood as the Board Education Liaison to provide assistance to staff in reviewing whether education programs are meeting and maintaining the requirements of the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules, and whether applicants for proposed education programs meet the requirements; to review NCLEX scores of education programs' graduates; and to review program progress reports submitted to the Board.
- The Board reviewed the performance of nursing education programs by tracking the performance of students taking the NCLEX licensure examination. Programs are required to maintain a passing rate at or above 95% of the national pass rate for first-time test candidates.
- As a result of nursing education programs not meeting minimum standards, the Board sanctioned five programs in fiscal year 2012. Two of the programs progressed through the Chapter 119., ORC, hearing process. Further, three education programs are operating under Board Consent (settlement) Agreements or Adjudication Orders due to their non-compliance with the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules.
- The Board convened the Advisory Group on Nursing Education. The Advisory Group provided recommendations to the Board regarding nursing education and Chapter 4723-5, OAC, the education rules; considered the recommendations of the IOM Future of Nursing Report; and completed a comparison of accreditation and regulatory requirements for nursing education.
- The Board maintained the approval status of 24 Dialysis Technician Training Programs; 21 Medication Aide Training Programs; and 3 Community Health Worker Training Programs.

Licensure and Certification

The Board issues licenses and certificates to individuals who meet statutory and regulatory requirements and implements processes to license, certify, and renew applicants as quickly as possible so they may enter or remain in the workforce.

- The Board continued to increase organization efficiency using online renewal. For the 2012 licensed practical nurse renewal, an online renewal rate of 95% was achieved. The Board also maintained a system to enable endorsement licensure applicants to check the status of their applications online.
- To expedite licensure applicants through the process and authorize their eligibility to take the NCLEX examination more quickly, intermittent staff were added to process applications, respond to callers, and research issues related to required documents.
- The Board continued use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program, an inter-governmental information sharing initiative designed to aid agencies in determining immigration status and thereby ensuring that only entitled non-citizen applicants receive a state license.
- Lesleigh Robinson, Board Program Manager, continued her term as a member of the NCSBN NCLEX Examination Committee.
- The volume of applications received from applicants seeking licensure by examination is increasing. The Board received 17,449 applications in fiscal year 2012, an increase from 14,987 in 2008. In order to timely process the large volume of applicants, a fourth full-time position was added to the Unit, in addition to one intermittent position.

ACTIVE LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES AS OF JUNE 30, 2012

Type	Number
Registered Nurses (RNs)	178,462
Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs)	60,187
Advanced Practice Nurses – Certificates of Authority	10,270
Advanced Practice Nurses – Certificates To Prescribe	5,922
Dialysis Technician – Ohio Certified	1,507
Dialysis Technician – Temporary Certificate 1	293
Dialysis Technician – Temporary Certificate 2	2
Dialysis Technician – Temporary Certificate 3	0
Community Health Worker	95
Medication Aide Certificates	112
TOTAL	256,850

NURSES LICENSED BY EXAMINATION OR ENDORSEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2012

Type	Licensed by Examination	Licensed by Endorsement	Temporary License Issued	Total
LPN	3,995	357	207	4,559
RN	8,285	2,409	1,251	11,945
Total	12,280	2,766	1,458	16,504

Continuing Education

The Board assures that licensees and certificate holders maintain competency based on continuing education requirements set forth in the Nurse Practice Act and the administrative rules.

- The Advisory Group on Continuing Education, composed of continuing education approvers and providers, presented recommendations to the Board regarding continuing education issues and the administrative rules governing continuing education.
- The Board conducted a continuing education audit of 3,215 registered nurses for the 2009-2011 audit period. Verification of completion of the continuing education requirements was conducted for this randomly selected group of licensees.
- Ten Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN) Approvers of Continuing Education continued to assure that providers of continuing education met the requirements set forth in the administrative rules.
- Continuing education requirements were developed to address the enactment of Senate Bill 83, the expansion of APN prescriptive authority.

Compliance, Discipline, and Monitoring

The Board efficiently handles complaints, investigations, and adjudications to safeguard the health of the public and, in cases involving chemical dependency or practice issues, provides alternative to discipline programs, as determined appropriate.

- In the Compliance Unit a staff of seven compliance agents and one enforcement agent investigated complaints; six adjudication coordinators and two supervising attorneys were responsible for complaint intake review, review of investigations, settlements, and disciplinary actions; and six monitoring agents monitored compliance with Board actions and alternative program agreements for chemical dependency.
- Board Member Judith Church was re-elected to serve as the Supervising Member for Disciplinary Matters.
- During fiscal year 2012, the Board received 7,298 complaints. Based on the evidence obtained during the investigation, the Board pursued disciplinary action or closed the complaint.
- Board adjudication coordinators, investigators, and monitoring agents began using the Ohio Court Network (OCN) web site of the Ohio Supreme Court to access the majority of Ohio court case information in one location. This increased the effectiveness and efficiency of the Board in obtaining needed court documents and information.
- Because Ohio was one of the high performers identified by the past CORE surveys in the area of discipline, the NCSBN Commitment to Ongoing Regulatory Excellence Committee (CORE) invited Ohio to attend a national focus group to identify promising practices and standards of excellence for boards of nursing in the area of investigations and discipline.
- The Compliance Unit developed a Criminal History Fact Sheet for individuals inquiring about admission to nursing education programs, licensure requirements, and discipline consequences.
- To increase states' access to discipline information, all Board actions were reported to national disciplinary data banks: NURSYS; Division of Practitioner Data Banks, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and Sanctions & Exclusions, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services. The Board maintained an outstanding submission rate: in one year, 1,193 records were submitted in a timely manner and only 3 records required follow-up.
- The Board received an invitation from Attorney General DeWine to have a Board representative on the Attorney General's Elder Abuse Commission. Supervising Attorney Jodi Crowe represented the Board due to her experience in health care regulation and her previous prosecutorial experience in elder abuse.

- The Board continued Settlement Conferences for post-notice disciplinary cases to expedite the resolution of cases, and the Board Hearing Committee to conduct administrative hearings and expedite hearing cases through the Chapter 119. hearing process. The Board documented cost savings through the use of the Hearing Committee.
- Lisa Ferguson-Ramos, Compliance Program Manager, worked directly with the compliance staff of the Medical and Pharmacy boards, and other state agencies such as the Ohio Department of Health and the Bureau of Workers Compensation, to target prescription drug abuse cases.
- Monthly meetings were held with the Assistant Attorneys General representing the Board to coordinate disciplinary processes and assure the timely resolution of disciplinary cases.
- The Board conducted comparative searches between the Board's licensure database and data from the state's sexual offender eSORN system (Electronic Sexual Offender Registration and Notification) and a nationally compiled sexual offender list.
- The Board continued the Patient Safety Initiative, a joint collaboration with nursing employers to more comprehensively review and address nursing practice and system issues to improve patient safety.

COMPLAINTS

Type of Complaint	Number
Action Taken in Another State/Jurisdiction	642
Addendum	1
APN Practice Issues	70
APN Lapses	7
Boundaries	39
Community Health Worker Applicant	3
Confidentiality	22
Criminal	262
Default/Child Support	5
Dialysis Applicant	55
Drugs/Alcohol	641
Endorsement Applicant	306
Fraud (Theft)	13

Fraud (Medicare/Medicaid)	4
Imposter/Never Licensed	26
Invalid License (lapsed/inactive)	30
Medication Aide Applicant	5
Miscellaneous	1,634
NCLEX Test Applicant	1,583
Non-compliance	211
Nursing Student	5
Patient Abuse	69
Practice	866
Physical Impairment	2
Psychiatric Impairment	12
Renewal Applicant	515
Reinstatement	272
TOTAL	7,300

LICENSURE APPLICANTS REFERRED TO COMPLIANCE FOR REVIEW

Type	Total Number	Referred to Compliance
Licensure by Examination	12,280	1,583 (13%)
Licensure by Endorsement	2,766	306 (11%)
TOTAL	15,046	1,889 (12.5%)

BOARD ACTIONS

Type of Action Taken	Number
Board Order	205
Permanent Surrender	44
Default Order	44
Consent Agreement	568
Notice of Opportunity	204
Immediate Suspension	85

Temporary Suspension	12
Summary Suspension	2
Automatic Suspension	81
Suspension Without Stay	262
Stayed Suspension (Probation)	300
Revocation	0
Permanent Revocation/Denial	122
Reprimand	133
Permanent Withdrawal of Application	0
Non-Permanent Withdrawal of Application	4
Voluntary Retirement	10
TOTAL	2,076

MONITORING

Cases	Number
Active cases	1,236
Inactive cases ¹	1,580
Monitoring ceased due to the issuance of an Automatic Suspension and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing	81
Monitoring ceased due to Board release of the licensee/certificate holder from the terms and conditions of their Board Order/Consent Agreements	132
Removed from monitoring due to permanent licensure surrenders	15
TOTAL	3,044

¹ Cases on inactive monitoring status generally involve suspended licenses or certificates. The case is assigned to “active” monitoring status upon an individual’s request for reinstatement and/or entry into a post-suspension consent agreement.

Alternative To Discipline Programs

The Board monitors individuals' compliance with the requirements of confidential alternative to discipline programs and their ability to return to safe practice.

Alternative Program For Chemical Dependency

Participants' compliance with their Alternative Program Agreements was monitored to determine the ability of actively recovering individuals to practice nursing in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act.

Case Description	Number
Applications mailed	61
Applications returned	39
Active cases	63
Admissions	17
Successful completions	18
Terminations	15

Practice Intervention and Improvement Program (PIIP)

Board staff monitored participants' compliance with their Participatory Agreements that set minimum requirements for practice remediation, including education and worksite monitoring.

Case Description	Number
Referrals	18
Cases admitted	8
Cases active (June 30, 2012)	10
Successful completions	8
Refused admission/ineligible	5
Failed to complete terms of program agreement	1

Nursing Practice

The Board addresses pertinent nursing regulatory issues and requirements for licensees and certificate holders and provides greater clarity about the requirements to those regulated by the Board and to the general public.

- The Board was recognized by NCSBN for providing TERCAP® data which contributed to the development of a national database on nursing practice breakdown. Through this database, patterns of error, risk factors, and system issues that contribute to practice breakdown are identified, and new approaches for patient safety developed. Ohio was one of seventeen state nursing boards participating in the TERCAP® project this year. TERCAP® (Taxonomy of Error, Root Cause Analysis and Practice-Responsibility) is the tool used to gather data and track cases involving practice breakdown.
- The NCSBN Transition to Practice Study, designed to examine the effect of the Transition to Practice model on patient safety and quality outcomes based on the practice of newly licensed nurses transitioning to practice, began its second year. Ohio is one of three states participating in the study.
- Board staff responded to an average of 350 inquiries per month regarding the application of the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules to specific practice situations regarding nursing, advanced practice, dialysis care, medication aides, and community health workers.
- The Board convened the Advisory Group on Dialysis to discuss Board approval and national certification of dialysis technician training programs.
- The Board maintained and updated the Formulary that establishes the parameters for drugs prescribed by APNs who hold certificates to prescribe.
- The Board convened the Committee on Prescriptive Governance (CPG) to develop recommendations regarding the prescribing authority of APNs who hold a certificate to prescribe and revise the Formulary and make recommendations regarding rules related to Senate Bill 83, expanded authority to prescribe schedule II controlled substances.

Administration

Administration includes operational support such as legal, fiscal, personnel, legislative and regulatory matters, information technology, and communications.

Board Governance

The Board met seven times during the year for a total of fifteen meeting days. Meetings were held at the Board office, 17 South High Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio. In the fall of 2011, the Board re-elected Bertha Lovelace as Board President, elected Melissa Meyer as Vice-President, and re-appointed Betsy Houchen as Executive Director.

Ohio Action Coalition/The IOM Future of Nursing Report

The Institute of Medicine (IOM), in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), issued *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* in 2010. The Report set forth eight recommendations for nursing. To develop strategies to implement the recommendations, the Ohio Action Coalition was established through a collaborative process with nursing groups in Ohio. Board member Sue Morano and Executive Director Betsy Houchen were asked to represent the Board on the Steering Committee of the Coalition. Through the Coalition the Board became an active participant with the nursing community and part of nursing collaboration throughout Ohio for the exchange of ideas and to advance the IOM recommendations.

Nurse Education Grant Program

The Board provided grant funding to nursing education programs for the purpose of increasing their nursing student enrollments. Ten dollars of each nurse license renewal fee is transferred to the Nurse Education Grant Program (NEGP), established by House Bill 95 (125th General Assembly). During the September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2013 grant cycle, the Board awarded fifteen grants totaling \$2,506,053. Programs receiving the funds report an increase in their student enrollment capacity.

Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program

To address Ohio's nursing workforce shortages and to encourage nursing graduates to remain in Ohio as they enter the work place, the Board assists the Ohio Board of Regents in administering the Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program (NEALP). Five dollars of each nurse license renewal fee is used to fund NEALP. This program provides financial assistance to Ohio students as an incentive to become nurses or nursing faculty in Ohio nursing education programs. For the 2011-2012 school year, \$330,071 was awarded to applicants. Under NEALP, loan recipients are potentially eligible for 100% loan forgiveness based upon their commitment to remain employed as a nurse in Ohio.

Communications and Information Technology

Throughout the year, the Board informed the public, licensees, certificate holders, and other interested parties about the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules governing practice, proposed statutory and administrative rule changes, and other issues relating to regulation.

- The Board issued *Momentum*, a magazine published quarterly at no cost to the taxpayers or the Board, and distributed the publication to holders of active licenses and certificates.
- The Board increased communications with nurses and the public through Facebook, eNews, and Twitter, to deliver Board news and time-sensitive announcements.
- The Board maintained an ongoing liaison and working relationship with multiple state agencies, nursing groups, and other health care stakeholders to foster information sharing.
- The Board scheduled Open Forum at each Board meeting to provide an opportunity for interested parties to address the Board.
- To assure other states, boards, employers, and the public have necessary and accurate data from Ohio when licensing, disciplining, hiring, or seeking information about licensees, the Board's IT and Licensure staff reviewed and submitted revised data to Nursys, a national database. This began the second phase of the NCSBN Nursys Data Integrity Project.
- The Board provided detailed discipline information to the general public by linking additional disciplinary documents to the license credential or certificate record.
- The Ohio Center for Nursing website was coordinated by the Board and maintained independent of the Board's primary website. Established to promote nursing as a career and provide information about the nursing workforce in Ohio, this website also functioned as the Ohio Network for Nursing Workforce (ONNW) site for Ohio's membership in the National Forum for State Nursing Workforce Centers.
- The Board maintained daily submission of credential data from the licensing system to the national nursing database, Nursys.
- Board staff participated in the state eLicense Policy Work Group and worked with the Office of Information Technology to address eLicense system improvements and a system revision.

**APPENDIX A
Board Members
(Members for All or Part of Fiscal Year 2012)**

Name/Position	City	End of Term
Bertha M. Lovelace, RN, CRNA President	Shaker Heights	2012
Melissa G. Meyer, LPN Vice-President	Amelia	2012
Judith A. Church, RN, CNP Supervising Board Member for Disciplinary Matters Chair, Advisory Group on Nursing Education	Miamisburg	2012
Janet Arwood, LPN	Hilliard	2013
Rhonda Barkheimer, RN Chair, Advisory Group on Continuing Education	Canton	2014
Delphenia W. Gilbert, RN	Akron	2011
Patricia Hayek, LPN	Canfield	2011
Maryam W. Lyon, RN Chair, Advisory Group on Dialysis	Sidney	2013
Johnnie Maier, Jr., Consumer Member	Massillon	2011
J. Jane McFee, LPN	Perrysburg	2013
Susan Morano, RN	Lorain	2014
Tracy Ruegg, RN, CNP	Powell	2013
Roberta Stokes, RN, CNP	Cleveland	2013

**APPENDIX B
Fiscal Operations**

Revenue	
Income from Fees	\$9,239,575
Total Revenue	\$9,239,575

Payroll and Personal Services	
All Staff Payroll	\$5,200,613
Payroll Savings Transfer	\$0
Training and Registrations	\$3,672
Court Reporting	\$35,806
Hearing Officers	\$57,109
Expert Witnesses	\$0
Subpoena Fees	\$13,157
Advisory Group Travel	\$4,649
Purchased Services (other)	\$12,413
Actual Spent	\$5,327,419

Maintenance	
Rent (+space repairs, improve)	\$ 236,831
Maintenance & Repairs	\$20,524
Office Supplies	\$49,230
Staff Travel	\$23,674
Board Member Travel	\$25,256
Telephone	\$22,071
Telephone (DAS)	\$35,404
Printing (DAS)	\$58,344
Printing (Other)	\$23,707
Mail Services (DAS)	\$52,446
Auditor of State (Audit Fees)	\$11,879
Ohio Shared Services	\$4,920
Bank Lock Box & Bank Fees	\$183,904
Computer Services (DAS)	\$65,134

Computer Maintenance (other)	\$8,361
Other	\$104,072
Actual Spent	\$925,757
Equipment	
Computer / IT	\$26,354
All other	\$31,792
Actual Spent	\$58,146
Refunds	
Actual Spent	\$1,040
OPERATIONAL COSTS TOTALS	\$6,312,362

Special Issues Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$19,580
New Donations / CE	\$0
Actual Spent	\$500
Fund Balance	\$19,080

NEGP FUND	
Actual Disbursed	\$1,309,999
Administrative Expenses	\$16,627
Total	\$1,326,626
FY 2012 Appropriations	
Operational Budget (4K90)	\$6,943,322
Special Issues (5P80)	\$5,000
Nurse Education Grant (5AC0)	\$1,373,506
Total Appropriations	\$8,321,828

APPENDIX C

Strategic Initiatives

In addition to carrying out its responsibilities pursuant to Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code, the Board conducted strategic planning. The Board adopted the following Strategic Initiatives to promote public safety and the safe practice of nursing:

1. Assure licensees and certificate holders meet statutory and regulatory requirements to be licensed or certified to practice in Ohio and are appropriately credentialed to practice, while maintaining an efficient and effective system to license or certify applicants as quickly as possible to enter or remain in the workforce.
2. Efficiently handle complaints, investigations, and adjudications to safeguard the health of the public and, in cases involving chemical dependency or practice issues, provide alternative to discipline programs, if determined appropriate.
3. Approve pre-licensure education programs to assure the programs maintain academic and clinical standards for the preparation of entry-level nurses.
4. Assure licensees and certificate holders maintain competency based on continuing education standards set forth in the Nurse Practice Act and administrative rules.
5. Address pertinent regulatory issues and requirements for licensees and certificate holders and provide greater clarity about the requirements to those regulated by the Board and to the general public.
6. Implement technological systems to increase organizational efficiency and the use of resources.

APPENDIX D
Board Staff
(As of June 30, 2012)

Administrative

Executive Director	Betsy Houchen, RN, JD
Executive Assistant	Joseph Kirk
Hearing Officer	Beth Lewis, JD
Operations/IT Manager	Eric Mays
Network Administrator	Cary Dachtyl

Compliance

Program Manager	Lisa Ferguson-Ramos, RN, JD
Adjudications Counsel	Holly Fischer, JD
Program Administrator/Supervisor	Margo Pettis
Administrative Professional	Peggy Carrier
Administrative Professional	Rose Ferguson
Administrative Professional	Cynthia Gossard
Administrative Professional	Brandon Kerlee
Administrative Professional	Melissa Malone
Administrative Professional	Carol Polanski
Clerk (Int.)	Emily Fischer
Supervising Attorney	Jodi Crowe, JD
Supervising Attorney	Rebecca Green, JD
Adjudication Coordinator/Legislative Liaison	Tom Dilling, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Anita DiPasquale, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Carol Ellensohn, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	David Geiger, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Julia Hilty, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Phalyn Williams, JD
Adjudication Coordinator	Michael Wise, JD
Enforcement Agent	Timothy Fulk
Compliance Agent	Dennis Corrigan, RN
Compliance Agent	Janelle Freeman, RN
Compliance Agent	Diana Harris, RN
Compliance Agent	Melissa Knauss, RN
Compliance Agent	Pamela Morse, RN
Compliance Agent	Amy Sala, RN
Compliance Agent	Brian Torrence, RN
Monitoring Agent	John Cover
Monitoring Agent	Monique Holokai-Kane, RN
Monitoring Agent	Catherine Kessler, RN
Monitoring Agent	Susan Mann Orahood, RN
Monitoring Agent	Marion Wilson, RN
Monitoring Agent	Richard Young, RN

Licensure, Certification, and Continuing Education

Program Manager	Lesleigh Robinson, RN
Initial Licensure Supervisor	Karen Scott
Renewal Supervisor	Brenda Murphy
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Cheryl Brown

Certification/Licensure Specialist	Tami Earles
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Amanda Eisert
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Debra Fulk
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Melody Gullion
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Glenda Nunamaker
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Alisan Riemenschneider
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Brandy Smith
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Terry Tietz
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Ebony Turner
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Karen Unroe
Certification/Licensure Specialist	Angela White
Certification/Licensure Specialist (Int.)	Ruchi Grewal
Certification/Licensure Specialist (Int.)	Kelly Moore
Administrative Professional	Toni Notturniano

Education, Practice, and Administration
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Program Manager	Lisa Emrich, RN
Administrative Professional	Stephanie Sharp
Fiscal Officer	Kathy King
Fiscal Specialist	Katha Bloomer
Nursing Education Surveyor	Jody Hostetler, RN
Nursing Education Surveyor	Cathy Learn, RN
Nursing Education Surveyor	Kristie Oles, RN
Nursing Practice Consultant	Jennifer Wheeler, RN