

American Association of Nurse Practitioners
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties

The Nurse Practitioner Roundtable Position on Revised APRN Compact Licensure

As equal partners in the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse License, Accreditation, Certification and Education (LACE) community, the NP Roundtable and our individual nurse practitioner (NP) associations do not endorse the revised APRN Compact for multistate licensure adopted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing in August 2020.

The NP Roundtable objects the inclusion of a requirement of 2080 clinical hours as a prerequisite for a multistate APRN license. Such a stipulation creates unnecessary and burdensome requirements for nurse practitioners, boards of nursing, patients, and the health care system. It is also inconsistent with the Consensus Model and evidence-based regulation.

There is no evidence that post-graduate practice hours of any length are necessary for patient safety. After graduation from an accredited graduate education NP program and successful passage of national certification examinations, NPs are qualified to assume the full scope of responsibilities associated with independent single state and multistate licensure. Arbitrary regulations requiring NPs to complete any number of clinical hours after graduation and national board certification create unnecessary, costly barriers to workforce development and affordable patient care. States where the APRN community have practice hour requirements were the result of extensive pressure and long-standing political manipulation by stakeholder groups that oppose full and autonomous APRN licensure; not based on evidence. The inclusion of 2080 practice hours by the NCSBN in the APRN Compact perpetuates an unnecessary barrier to improving patient access to care. Several states with post-graduate practice hour requirements have reported challenges with recruiting and retaining APRNs compacting provider shortages.

While the NP Roundtable recognizes the potential that a well-formed APRN Compact could address licensure portability issues, the current 2020 APRN Compact is not the right vehicle. In addition to excluding controlled substances and the lack of an APRN advisory committee to the APRN Compact administrators, the inclusion of a requirement of clinical hours as a prerequisite for a multistate APRN license precludes the endorsement of the NP Roundtable.

The NP Roundtable is a collaborative of national organizations representing the interests of the over 290,000 NPs in the US. The NP Roundtable advances common policy agenda and coordinates advocacy efforts on behalf of NPs. Since its formation in 2008, the NP Roundtable has developed common position and policy statements to articulate the perspective of the NP community. The participating organizations in the NP Roundtable are the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses of America, the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health, and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties.