



Pathway in Ohio for Military Personnel to Become Licensed Practical Nurses Effective September 29, 2017

The Board collaborated with representatives of the Ohio National Guard, the Office of Workforce Transformation, and the Ohio Department of Veteran Affairs to address a pathway for medics who complete the Air Force BMTCP 4N051 (5 Skill Level) training to become Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) in Ohio. The Board requested that the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) complete a second military gap analysis comparing the 5 Skill Level training to the PN curriculum.

The NCSBN gap analysis determined that the 5 Skill Level met the requirements of the PN curriculum. The Board reviewed the information and agreed to pursue PN licensure for those who obtained the Level 5 Skill Level. In addition, on the advice of the Ohio National Guard representatives, the Board requires completion of the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) Associate Degree in Practical Nursing Technology program, or prior to 2016, the Allied Health program. An individual cannot obtain the degree from CCAF without the 5 Skill Level training; however, an individual could obtain only the 5 Skill Level training without the CCAF associate degree.

The Board was successful in amending the Nurse Practice Act to designate it as an Ohio approved education program in the 2017 budget bill, HB 49. The provision became effective September 29, 2017.

The Air Force program is included as a Board-approved practical nursing education program for NCLEX-PN. To become licensed, Ohio National Guard representatives provide a Program Completion Letter to confirm that the individual applying to take the NCLEX-PN has completed the requirements.

The Board is proud to have facilitated a solution that provides public protection and also offers a pathway to LPN licensure for military personnel.