

## **GEORGIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES**

A conference call Committee Meeting of the **LPN Rules Committee** of the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Practical Nurses was held on Wednesday, August 23, 2006, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Barbara Mitchell, RN, NHA, Cognizant Board member  
Grace Taylor, LPN

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, Allied Health Fields  
Janet Jackson, Assistant Attorney General  
Janet Starr, DHR QMA Program Director  
Mary Lou Rhan, DHR

The Conference Call meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **General Discussion:**

Information previously disseminated from several states with QMA's already practicing was reviewed by the sub-committee members with particular emphasis on Background Checks, Testing Requirements, Rules, Policies and Regulations of these varied other state QMA programs.

The National Council on State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) is developing an "NCLEX Type" exam. Sub-Committee members discussed not waiting for the development of the NCSBN exam, but to move forward with an exam of some type ready for the inaugural class of the Atlanta Tech Pilot project, expected to graduate in the Spring of 2007.

Following discussion, the sub-committee decided to recommend to the Board that the final exam to be administered to this inaugural class at Atlanta Tech could suffice for now as the exam, once passed, accepted as one component of the certification process of these individuals as Qualified Medication Aides. AAG Janet Jackson informed the sub-committee members the law allows the Board to approve or to administer an exam of their choice. The school, Atlanta Tech, will need to present their final exam to the full board for review and final approval of use.

The sub-committee asked that Mr. Zimmerman begin developing an application for certification of the QMA's based on currently accepted applications used by the LPN Board.

### **Pilot Project:**

Janet Starr, DHR QMA Program Director, updated the sub-committee on the pilot project. Five clinical sites have contacted Atlanta Tech expressing an interest in working

with the pilot project. DHR will follow up with these sites and hopes to decide by mid September which sites to utilize.

**Board Rules:**

AAG Janet Jackson reported making progress with the writing of the QMA Rules and will have information for the full Board for consideration of adoption of said rules.

**Misc:**

The sub-committee discussed at length that this new designation (QMA) will not in any way diminish the importance, recognition and respect of Licensed Practical Nurses or Registered Nurses. These individuals should only compliment the professional nurses, and the intent is to free up these professional nurses to do the duties they are so highly trained to do.

**The next meeting of the LPN Rules Committee is to be determined.**

There being no further business to discuss, the conference call committee meeting was adjourned at 10:55am.

Minutes Recorded/Reviewed By: Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

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Jacqueline Dumas, Board President

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Date

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Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

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Date