



Position Statement: Telephonic Nursing

Telenursing involves nursing practice via electronic means such as telephone, satellite, or computer. Examples of telenursing practice include, but are not limited to, teaching, consulting, triaging, and advising or providing direct services. Rule 410-10 defines the standards of practice for registered and licensed practical nurses. These rules and additional documents provide guidance for nurses in determining their individual scope of practice and are located under "Laws, Policies and Rules" on the Board's web page.

Telenursing may also involve practicing nursing across state lines. For example:

- A nurse working in an emergency hotline center in Virginia may provide advice to clients in Georgia;
- A nursing faculty professor from Arizona may teach nurses enrolled in a graduate (Master's Degree) program in Georgia via the internet; or
- A nurse working for an insurance company in New York may assess ongoing home healthcare needs with a man in Georgia relating to injuries the man sustained in an accident 6 weeks ago.

The Board considers nursing practice as occurring in the state in which the client/student is located. If a nurse from another state provides nursing care or consultation to a resident of Georgia, except as excluded in the Nursing Practice Act, specifically O.C.G.A. § 43-26-12, the nurse must hold a valid Georgia nursing license or a multistate license from another Nurse Licensure Compact jurisdiction. A current map of the states belonging to the Nurse Licensure Compact may be found at www.nursecompact.com.

If a nurse in Georgia is providing nursing care or consultation to a client located outside of Georgia, the Board suggests the nurse contact the agency which regulates nursing in that jurisdiction to determine whether they are required to obtain a license to practice nursing in the jurisdiction where the client is located. Contact information for other boards of nursing may be found at: www.ncsbn.org.