

## Scope of Practice by State – Nurse Practitioner:

**Full Practice:** State practice and licensure laws provides for all nurse practitioners to evaluate patients, diagnose, order and interpret diagnostic tests, initiate and manage treatments—including prescribing medications and controlled substances—under the exclusive licensure authority of the state board of nursing. This is the model recommended by the National Academy of Medicine, formerly called the Institute of Medicine, and National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

**Reduced Practice:** State practice and licensure laws reduces the ability of nurse practitioners to engage in at least one element of NP practice. State law requires a career-long regulated collaborative agreement with another health provider in order for the NP to provide patient care or limits the setting of one or more elements of NP practice.

**Restricted Practice:** State practice and licensure laws restricts the ability of a nurse practitioner to engage in at least one element of NP practice. State law requires career-long supervision, delegation, or team-management by another health provider in order for the NP to provide patient care.

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### Alabama

#### *Reduced Practice*

**Prescriptive Authority: Collaborative Practice under authority of a physician**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing and Board of Medical Examiners

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### Alaska

#### *Full Practice*

**Prescriptive Authority: Full Authority with licensure**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, national certification, and a consultation and referral plan.

### Arizona

#### *Full Practice*

**Prescriptive Authority: Full Authority with DEA licensure**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### Arkansas

#### *Reduced Practice*

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires collaborative practice agreement with a supervising physician**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### California

#### *Restricted Practice*

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires supervision of a physician or surgeon**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Registered Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license and a graduate degree.

### Colorado

#### *Full Practice*

**Prescriptive Authority: Full privileges after 1,000 hours with “provisional prescriptive authority”**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### Connecticut

#### *Full Practice*

**Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with licensure after three years of collaborative practice under physician**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Examiners for Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### Delaware

#### *Reduced Practice*

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires a collaborative agreement with a physician unless NP has special permission from the Board**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing  
Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **District of Columbia**

#### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with licensure***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, completion of NP program, and national certification.

### **Florida**

#### ***Restricted Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires supervision of a physician or surgeon***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing and Board of Medicine

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Georgia**

#### ***Restricted Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires a "protocol agreement" with a supervising physician***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Hawaii**

#### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with APRN licensure***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Idaho**

#### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with APRN licensure***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Illinois**

#### ***Reduced Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires a written collaborative agreement with a supervising physician or other healthcare professional***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Indiana**

#### ***Reduced Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires a collaborative practice agreement with a supervising medical professional***

***Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing***

Licensure Requirements: RN license and graduate degree or RN license and completion of NP certificate program along with national certification.

### **Iowa**

#### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) licensure***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Kansas**

#### ***Reduced Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires a written protocol from a responsible physician***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Kentucky**

#### ***Reduced Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires a written agreement (CAPA-NS) with a supervising physician or other healthcare provider***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Louisiana**

### ***Reduced Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires a Collaborative Practice Agreement (CPA) with a physician***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Maine**

### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with APRN licensure***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduation from NP program, and national certification.

## **Maryland**

### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with APRN licensure***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduation from NP program, and national certification.

## **Massachusetts**

### ***Restricted Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Under the authority of a supervising physician***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Registration in Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Michigan**

### ***Restricted Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Can prescribe nonscheduled drugs, but NPs need physician oversight to prescribe schedule 2-5 drugs***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license and national certification.

## **Minnesota**

### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with APRN registration***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license and national certification.

## **Mississippi**

### ***Reduced Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Under the supervision of a collaborative or consulting physician***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Missouri**

### ***Restricted Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires a Collaborative Practice Agreement (CPA) with a supervising physician***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduation from NP program, and national certification.

## **Montana**

### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with APRN licensure and Prescriptive Authority application***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduation from NP program, and national certification.

## **Nebraska**

### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Full authority following Controlled Substance Registration with the DEA**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Nevada**

### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with a license from the NV Board of Pharmacy**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **New Hampshire**

### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with APRN licensure**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **New Jersey**

### **Reduced Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires a "joint protocol" with a collaborating physician**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduation from NP program, and national certification.

## **New Mexico**

### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Full prescriptive authority with DEA registration and state certification**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **New York**

### **Reduced Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Newly certified NPs must have a written collaborative agreement and protocol with a physician and pursue DEA registration**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license and graduate degree or national certification.

## **North Carolina**

### **Restricted Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Prescriptive authority requires a supervising physician and use of the Controlled Substances Reporting System (CSRS)**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing and Medical Board

Licensure Requirements: National certification.

## **North Dakota**

### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with application for prescriptive privileges**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Ohio**

### **Reduced Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: A certificate to prescribe requires a "standard care agreement" with a collaborating physician**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Oklahoma**

### **Restricted Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires a written collaborative agreement with a physician licensed by the State Medical Board or Board of Osteopathic Examiners**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Oregon**

#### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Full prescriptive authority with APRN licensure**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Pennsylvania**

#### **Reduced Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires a collaborative agreement with a physician and DEA registration (for controlled substances)**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Rhode Island**

#### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Full prescriptive authority with Uniform Controlled Substances Act Registration (CSR)**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **South Carolina**

#### **Restricted Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires an approved written protocol with a collaborating physician**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **South Dakota**

#### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires a collaborative agreement with a physician and DEA registration (for controlled substances)**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing and Board of Medical and Osteopathic Examiners

Licensure Requirements: RN license and national certification.

### **Tennessee**

#### **Restricted Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires written protocol with a supervising physician**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Texas**

#### **Restricted Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires a separate application, a written "prescriptive delegation" from a supervising physician, DEA registration for controlled substances, and registration with TX Department of Public Safety**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Utah**

#### **Reduced Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Requires a UT Controlled Substances License, DEA registration, and at least two years (or 2,000) hours of post-licensure experience (to prescribe schedule 2 controlled substances)**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing

Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

### **Vermont**

#### **Full Practice**

**Prescriptive Authority: Full practice after fulfilling "transition to practice" hours under a collaborative agreement with a physician, DEA registration, and VT Prescription Monitoring System (VPMS) registration**

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing  
Licensure Requirements: Graduate degree and national certification.

## **Virginia**

### ***Restricted Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires a “practice agreement” with a collaborating physician***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing and Board of Medicine  
Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification

## **Washington**

### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full authority with prescriptive privileges application***

Regulatory Agency: Nursing Commission  
Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **West Virginia**

### ***Reduced Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Authority to prescribe after three documented years of experience under a collaborative agreement and with conditions (e.g., schedule III drugs limited to a 30-day supply)***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses  
Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Wisconsin**

### ***Reduced Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Requires “certification as an advanced practice nurse prescriber” with proof of collaborative physician agreement***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing  
Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.

## **Wyoming**

### ***Full Practice***

***Prescriptive Authority: Full privileges with prescriptive authority application***

Regulatory Agency: Board of Nursing  
Licensure Requirements: RN license, graduate degree, and national certification.