

152.10 License revocation or suspension.

1. Notwithstanding sections 147.87 to 147.89, the board may restrict, suspend, or revoke a license to practice nursing or place the licensee on probation. The board may also prescribe by rule conditions of license reinstatement. The board shall prescribe rules of procedure by which to restrict, suspend, or revoke a license. These procedures shall conform to the provisions of chapter 17A.

2. In addition to the grounds stated in section 147.55, the following are grounds for suspension or revocation under subsection 1 of this section:

a. Willful violation of the rules of the board.

b. Continued practice while knowingly having an infectious or contagious disease which could be harmful to a patient's welfare.

c. Conviction for a felony in the courts of this state or another state, territory, or country if the felony relates to the practice of nursing. Conviction shall include only a conviction for an offense which if committed in this state would be deemed a felony without regard to its designation elsewhere. A certified copy of the final order or judgment of conviction or plea of guilty in this state or in another jurisdiction shall be conclusive evidence of conviction.

d. (1) Having a license to practice nursing as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse revoked or suspended, or having other disciplinary action taken by a licensing authority of another state, territory, or country. A certified copy of the record or order of suspension, revocation, or disciplinary action is prima facie evidence of such fact.

(2) Having a license to practice nursing as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse revoked or suspended, or having other disciplinary action taken, by a licensing authority in another state which has adopted the nurse licensure compact contained in section 152E.1 or the advanced practice registered nurse compact contained in section 152E.3 and which has communicated information relating to such action pursuant to the coordinated licensure information system established by the compact. If the action taken by the licensing authority occurs in a jurisdiction which does not afford the procedural protections of chapter 17A, the licensee may object to the communicated information and shall be afforded the procedural protections of chapter 17A.

e. Knowingly aiding, assisting, procuring, advising, or allowing a person to unlawfully practice nursing.

f. Being adjudicated mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction. Such adjudication shall automatically suspend a license for the duration of the license, unless the board orders otherwise.

g. Being guilty of willful or repeated departure from or the failure to conform to the minimum standard of acceptable and prevailing practice of nursing; however, actual injury to a patient need not be established.

h. (1) Inability to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety by reason of illness, excessive use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or other type of material or as a result of a mental or physical condition.

(2) The board may, upon probable cause, request a licensee to submit to an appropriate medical examination by a designated physician. If requested by the licensee, the licensee may also designate a physician for an independent medical examination. The reasonable costs of such examinations and medical reports to the board shall be paid by the board. Refusal or failure of a licensee to complete such examinations shall constitute an admission of any allegations relating to such condition. All objections shall be waived as to the admissibility of the examining physicians' testimony or examination reports on the grounds that they constitute privileged communication. The medical testimony or examination reports shall not be used against a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse in another proceeding and shall be confidential. At reasonable intervals, a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse shall be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that the registered nurse or licensed practical nurse can resume the competent practice of nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients.

[C77, 79, 81, §152.10]

2000 Acts, ch 1008, §7; 2005 Acts, ch 53, §7; 2008 Acts, ch 1088, §104

Referred to in §272C.3, 272C.4, 272C.5