



State Policy Fact Sheet: West Virginia

Nurse Practice Act: W. Va. Code, § 30-7-1

Regulatory Structure: **Reduced Practice**

West Virginia constrains nurse practitioner (NP) licensure and practice.

West Virginia NPs must have a collaborative agreement with a physician as a condition for prescriptive practice for three years. See the Board of Registered Nurses for full details.

W. Va. Code, § 30-7-15b

West Virginia NPs may prescribe no more than a three-day supply of Schedule II narcotics.

W. Va. Code, § 30-7-15a

Regulatory Agency

NP licensure is regulated exclusively by the [Board of Registered Nurses](#).

W. Va. Code, § 30-7-4

Licensure Requirements

Requirements include a registered nurse license, a graduate degree in an NP role and national certification.

W. Va. Code St. R. § 19-7-3

Schedule II Controlled Substance Prescriptive Authority

NPs may prescribe Schedule II controlled substances. Schedule II narcotics are limited to no more than a three-day supply.

W. Va. Code, § 30-7-15a

Continuing Education (CE)*

Twenty-four CE hours are required every two years. See the Board of Registered Nurses for details.

W. Va. Code St. R. § 19-7-6

Medical Staff Membership**

Medical staff composition is determined by the facility's governing body.

W. Va. Code St. R. § 71-12-11

Primary Care Providers

NPs are defined in law as primary care providers.

W. Va. Code, § 33-25A-2

Signature Recognition on Items of Patient Care

- Signature Recognition: West Virginia grants NPs signature recognition.
W. Va. Code, § 30-7-15d
- Physical Therapy: NPs are not prohibited from referring to physical therapy.
- Parking Permits: NPs are authorized to provide proof of disability for disabled parking permits.
W. Va. Code, § 17C-13-6
- DNR: NPs are authorized to sign Do Not Resuscitate orders.
W. Va. Code, § 16-30C-6
- Death Certificates: NPs are authorized to sign death certificates.
W. Va. Code, § 16-5-19
- West Virginia Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (**POLST**): NPs are authorized to sign the POLST form.
W. Va. Code, § 30-7-15d

*Contact hours in specific topics may be required. Please contact your state Board of Nursing for current information.

**Medical Staff Membership refers to governing and voting privileges and is not reflective of clinical or admitting privileges within institutions.

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