



State Policy Fact Sheet: Alabama

Nurse Practice Act: AL ST § 34-21-80

Regulatory Structure: Reduced Practice

Alabama law constrains patient access to nurse practitioner (NP) care. NPs are required by law to maintain a regulated collaborative agreement with a physician for at least one element of NP practice.

AL ST § 34-21-90

NP practice is jointly regulated by the Board of Nursing and Board of Medical Examiners.

Ala. Code § 34-21-81

Regulatory Agencies

NP licensure is regulated by the [Board of Nursing \(BON\)](#) and the [Board of Medical Examiners](#).

Ala. Code § 34-21-81

Licensure Requirements

Requirements include a registered nurse license, a graduate degree in an NP role and national certification. Effective January 2024: Continuing education content must also include information on the rules and statutes governing collaborative practice in Alabama. See the BON for details.

AL ADC 610-X-5-.03

Continuing Education (CE)*

Twenty-four contact hours of CE credit are required every two years.

AL ADC 610-X-4-.08

Medical Staff Membership**

Medical staff may be composed of practitioners other than doctors of medicine or osteopathy if appointed by the governing authority.

Ala. Code § 22-21-179

Collaborative Agreement Ratio***

A physician may not collaborate with or supervise any combination of certified registered NPs, certified nurse midwives or physician assistants exceeding 360 hours per week (nine full-time equivalent positions).

AL ADC 610-X-5-.05

Signature Recognition on Items of Patient Care

- Signature Recognition: Alabama recognizes NP signatures on select items of patient care.
Ala. Code § 34-21-93.1
- Physical Therapy: NPs are authorized to refer to physical therapy.
Ala. Code § 34-24-191
- Parking Permits: NPs are authorized to certify disability for parking placards.
Ala. Code T § 34-21-93.1
- DNR: NPs are not presently authorized to sign Do Not Resuscitate orders.
AL ADC 420-5-19-.02
- Death Certificates: NPs are authorized to sign death certificates.
Ala. Code § 34-21-93.1

*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.

***Exemptions may be available. Please consult the full law for guidance.

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