



State Policy Fact Sheet: Colorado

Nurse Practice Act:

Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-255-101

Regulatory Structure: Full Practice

Colorado practice and licensure laws authorize nurse practitioners (NPs) to evaluate patients, diagnose and prescribe medications and therapeutic measures.

Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-255-101

Colorado requires NP attestation of successful completion of 750 hours of experience in an agreement with a physician or advanced practice registered nurse mentor as a condition of prescriptive authority.

Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-255-112

See the Board of Nursing or more information.

3 Colo. Code Regs. § 716-1

Regulatory Agency

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

Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-255-107

Licensure Requirements

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

Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-255-111

Continuing Education (CE)*

CE hours are required in accordance with national certification requirements.

3 Colo. Code Regs. § 716-1:1.14-H

Malpractice Insurance

Colorado NPs must have malpractice insurance that pays at least \$500,000 per claim and \$1,500,000 in the aggregate.

Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-255-113

Medical Staff Membership**

Medical staff composition is determined by a facility's bylaws.

Colo. Code Regs. 1011-1:4-6

Primary Care Providers

NPs are defined as primary care providers.

3 Colo. Code Regs. 702-4:4-2-53

Signature Recognition on Items of Patient Care

- Signature Recognition: Colorado recognizes NP signatures on select items of patient care.
Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-255-111
- Physical Therapy: NPs are authorized to refer to physical therapy.
3 Colo. Code Regs. 716-1:1.14
- Parking Permits: NPs are authorized to provide proof of disability for parking permits.
C.R.S.A. § 42-3-204
- DNR: NPs are authorized to sign Do Not Resuscitate orders.
Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-255-111
- Death Certificates: NPs are authorized to sign death certificates. See statute for specific requirements.
Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 25-2-110
- Colorado Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST)/Medical Order Scope of Treatment (MOST): NPs are authorized to sign MOST forms.
Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-18.7-104

*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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