



# State Policy Fact Sheet: Tennessee

## Nurse Practice Act:

T. C. A. § 63-7

### Regulatory Structure: Restricted Practice

Tennessee restricts nurse practitioner (NP) license and practice.

Tennessee NPs must practice under the supervision of a physician. Additionally, NPs are restricted from prescribing medications in Schedules II-IV unless specifically authorized by the formulary or approved after consultation with the supervising physician before initial issuance of the prescription. NPs must adhere to supply limitations on Schedule II and III opioids. Exemptions and additional restrictions may apply. See the Board of Nursing for more information.

T. C. A. § 63-7-123

### Regulatory Agency

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

T. C. A. § 63-7-207

### Licensure Requirements

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

TN ADC 1000-04-.03

### Continuing Education (CE)\*

In addition to CE hours required for national certification, NPs with prescriptive authority must maintain additional CE hours in controlled substance prescribing. See the BON for details.

TN ADC 1000-4-.05

### Medical Staff Membership\*\*

NPs are not permitted to join medical staffs.

TN ADC 0720-14-.06

### Primary Care Providers

NPs are defined in law as primary care providers.

TN ADC 1200-13-13-.01

### Signature Recognition on Items of Patient Care

- Physical Therapy: NPs are authorized to refer to physical therapy.  
T. C. A. § 63-13-104
- Parking Permits: NPs are authorized to provide proof of disability for disabled parking permits.  
T. C. A. § 55-21-113
- DNR: NPs are not currently authorized to sign Do Not Resuscitate orders.  
TN ADC 0720-30-.01
- Death Certificates: NPs are not presently authorized to sign death certificates.  
T. C. A. § 68-3-502
- Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST)/Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST): Tennessee's POST form may be signed by an NP.  
T. C. A. § 68-11-224

\*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.

**DISCLAIMER:** The material contained in this fact sheet is offered as information only and not as practice, financial, accounting, legal or other professional advice. Correspondents must contact their own professional advisors for such advice.