

AANP State Fact Sheet

PENNSYLVANIA



Nurse Practice Act

[63 P.S. § 211](#)

Regulatory Structure: Reduced Practice

Pennsylvania constrains nurse practitioner (NP) licensure and practice.

Pennsylvania NPs must have a career-long written agreement with one or more physicians. NPs with current prescriptive authority approval must have a prescriptive authority collaborative agreement with at least two physicians as a condition of prescribing, dispensing or ordering drugs or other therapeutic or corrective measures.

See the Board of Nursing for more information. **63 P.S. § 212**

Regulatory Agency

NP licensure is regulated exclusively by the [Board of Nursing \(BON\)](#). **63 P.S. § 212.1**

Licensure Requirements

Requirements include a registered nurse license, a graduate degree in an NP role and national certification. **63 P.S. § 218.1**

Continuing Education (CE)*

Thirty CE hours are required every two years. See the BON for details. **63 P.S. § 218.1**

Malpractice Insurance

Malpractice insurance is required for Pennsylvania NPs. **63 P.S. § 218.7**

Medical Staff Membership†

NPs are not permitted to join medical staffs. **28 PA ADC § 107.2**

Primary Care Providers

NPs are defined in law as primary care providers. **28 PA ADC § 9.678**

Signature Recognition on Items of Patient Care

- **Physical Therapy:** NPs are authorized to refer to physical therapy. **63 P.S. § 218.2**
- **Parking Permits:** NPs are authorized to provide proof of disability for disabled parking permits. **75 Pa.C.S.A. § 1338**
- **DNR:** NPs are not currently authorized to sign Do Not Resuscitate orders. **20 Pa.C.S.A. § 5483**
- **Death Certificates:** NPs are authorized to sign death certificates. **35 P.S. § 450.502**
- **Pennsylvania POLST:** The [POLST form](#) may be signed by an NP. *PA Department of Health*

*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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