

CHANGES TO CE REQUIREMENTS ARE COMING!



Don't be caught off guard!

[Senate Bill 912](#) was passed during the 89th legislative session, and it **changes the way Continuing Education (CE) is tracked** for all healthcare professionals, including nurses.

What is Changing?

Beginning September 1, 2026, all nurses will be required to upload their completed CEs into a digital tracking platform prior to license renewal. A license will not be eligible for renewal until the system confirms all CE requirements have been met. The Texas Board of Nursing is in the process of selecting a tracking platform vendor and will send out updates and instructions as they become available.

Why This Matters

Historically, nurses maintained their own copies of CE certificates and only provided them to the Board if selected for audit. The new tracking system will allow nurses to track and store their CEs for every renewal cycle in order to meet the new rule requirements on September 1, 2026.

The option to renew your license will only be available after you demonstrate CE compliance. Plan ahead and don't let your license lapse! **Failure to renew your license means you cannot practice as a nurse.**

How to Prepare

- Start collecting copies of all CEs now so you are ready to upload once a platform opens!
- Take CE courses from reputable providers who are on the [Board-recognized CE provider list](#).
- Check that you meet all [CE requirements](#), including [targeted CE](#) (See [Board Rule 216](#) for more information).
- Stay alert for further guidance from the Texas Board of Nursing on when and how to transition your CE records to the new platform. More information will be published over the upcoming months.

Begin organizing your CE records now so your next renewal goes smoothly!



Texas nurses should be familiar with the requirement to complete 20 contact hours of continuing nursing education (CNE) or maintain a Board-approved national certification each renewal cycle. In addition to this general requirement, certain topics are designated as “targeted continuing nursing education.”

Under the Nursing Practice Act and Board Rule 216, targeted CNE refers to focused learning activities on specific topics the Legislature or the Board has identified as especially important for safe practice. These topics are not “extra” hours; instead, they shape how some of your CNE hours are obtained.

Nursing Jurisprudence and Nursing Ethics:

What is the Nursing Jurisprudence and Nursing Ethics requirement?

Each nurse licensed by the Texas Board of Nursing is required to complete at least two contact hours of CNE in Nursing Jurisprudence and Nursing Ethics before the end of every third two-year licensing period (about every six years).

This requirement applies to all nurses, regardless of practice setting or role. It is separate from, and in addition to, the one-time Nursing Jurisprudence Exam that is required for initial licensure.

What must the course include?

In order to count toward the Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics (NJE) targeted CNE requirement, the course (or combination of courses) must:

- Be at least **two contact hours** in length;
- Include content related to:
 - **The Texas Nursing Practice Act** ([Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 301](#));
 - **Board Rules**, including [Board Rule 217.11, Standards of Nursing Practice](#);
 - Relevant **Board Position Statements**;
 - **Principles of nursing ethics**; and
 - **Professional boundaries**.

Are the targeted NJE hours part of my CNE renewal hours?

Yes! The targeted NJE hours count toward the 20 contact hours of CNE required for license renewal; they are not in addition to the 20 hours.

How can I choose an NJE course?

When selecting a course, look for language in the description indicating that it meets the Texas BON’s [Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics requirement](#). Many providers clearly identify courses that are designed to fulfill this mandate.

What are the APRN-specific requirements?

It is important for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to understand that the only method to meet this requirement is Continuing Nursing Education. APRNs may use category 1 CME (or Continuing Medical Education) to satisfy all other continuing competency requirements, but the **NJE has to be CNE**. This targeted requirement mandates that all nurses take a course that is approved to provide continuing nursing education.



Keeping track of your renewal cycle

Because the two-hour NJE course requirement is tied to every third two-year licensing period, it can be easy to lose track of when your Jurisprudence and Ethics hours are due. Building a reminder into your personal renewal checklist is an easy way to stay on schedule. Please see our article “**Texas Nurses: Big Changes to CE Requirements Are Coming! Don’t be Caught Off Guard!**” (on [page 6](#) of this Bulletin) for information on upcoming CNE documentation tracking requirements!

In future issues of the Texas Board of Nursing Bulletin, this **Targeted CNE Spotlight** section will highlight other targeted CNE requirements to support you in planning meaningful, compliant continuing nursing education that aligns with your practice:

- Older adult/geriatric care
- Forensic evidence collection
- Human trafficking prevention



Board of Nursing Seeks APRN Expert Witnesses

The mission of the Texas Board of Nursing is to protect and promote the welfare of the people of Texas by ensuring that each person holding a license as a nurse in the State of Texas is competent to practice safely.

To that end, the BON is seeking APRNs who specialize in various areas, including but not limited to mental health/psychiatry, labor and delivery, emergency room care, school nursing, correctional health, neonatal care, hospice care, skilled nursing care, pediatric inpatient care, pediatric outpatient care, adult inpatient care, and adult outpatient care to serve as experts for the Board.

The expert will provide consulting services and/or testimony in various disciplinary proceedings. The expert’s services may include: reviewing records; preparing an expert report; and/or providing deposition, trial, or hearing testimony. Compensation will be based on the expert’s qualifications and experience.

If interested, please contact Board Attorney

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