



Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

OPEN SESSION MINUTES JUNE 26, 2024 BOARD MEETING

Held at the Maryland Board of Nursing,
4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215,
and VIA Conference Call

Attendance

NAME	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
Board Members			
Christine Lechliter, BSN, MBA, NE-BC	RN Member (Nurse Administrator), Board President	X	
Dawn Pfluger, BSN, RN, CPN, CRRN, CWOCN	RN Member (Acute Care Nurse)	X	
Gary N. Hicks, DNP, RN, CEN, CNE	RN Member (Clinician)	X	
Dawne Hayward, RN, CM/DN, CDDN	RN Member (Delegating Nurse— Supervised Group Living)	X	
Rachel Sherman, DNP, CRNP, FNP-BC, ACHPN	APRN Member	X	
Ameera Chakravarthy, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, CNE	APRN Member	X	
Jacqueline Hill, PhD, RN, CNE	RN Member (Baccalaureate Nursing Educator)	X	
Robin Hill, DNP, RN	RN Member (Practical Nursing Educator)		X
Irene Molina, DrPH, MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CPH	RN Member (Associate Degree Nursing Educator)	X	
Iskra Gillis, MSN, RN, NEA-BC	Licensed Nurse Member	X	
Tyler Adamson, MPH	Consumer Member	X	
Board Counsel			

Michael Conti	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Katherine Cummings	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Carla Boyd	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Tiffani Shannon	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Board Staff			
Rhonda Scott	Executive Director	X	
Camille Forbes-Scott	Deputy Director	X	
Adrienne Smith	Executive Assistant	X	
Nikki Brown	Manager of Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement	X	
Patrice Burris	Enforcement Division	X	
Mitzi Fishman	Director of Licensure	X	
Elizabeth Miller	Education Consultant	X	
Bonnie Oettinger	MBON Consultant	X	
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice	X	
Brian Stallsmith	IT Division	X	
Audience Members (Not all attendees are documented)			
Tijuana Griffin	Washington Adventist University	X	
Maiji Anderson	Morgan State University	X	
Lori Harvin	Coppin State University	X	
Joan Tilghman	Coppin State University	X	

Open Session

1. **Call to Order:** J. Hill made a motion to go into open session. Hicks seconded the Motion. The motion passed unanimously. The open session began at 9:06 a.m.
 - A. Roll call and declaration of quorum: A roll call of the Board members was conducted, and a quorum of the Board was present.
 - B. Board of Nursing Updates:
 1. Currently recruiting for Director of Education position
 2. Director of Information Technology to begin July 10th or 24th
 3. Fiscal Assistant position is vacant, recruiting to begin soon
 4. Governor’s Appointment Office is in the process of recruiting a Consumer member, leaving 3 vacant Board member positions (2 LPN members and 1 RN Clinician member)
 5. Regularly scheduled Board President and Board Secretary elections to occur today at the end of Open Session
 - C. Review of Open Session Minutes: Molina made a motion to approve the November 2021 and December 2021 Open Session minutes as written. Hayward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** Hayward made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Sherman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Items A, B, C and D were reviewed and recommended for approval by the Practice and Education Committee

A. Initial Certified Nursing Assistant Training (CNA) Program Seeking Board Approval:

1. A Watchful Eye Career Institute-CNA/GNA program

B. Renewal of Approved Certified Nursing Assistant Training (CNA) Programs:

1. Boyd J Michael III Tech (Washington County Technical High School) CNA/GNA - program code 22531
2. Easton High School – CNA Program code: 23062
3. Frederick Community College-CNA/GNA - program code 22371
4. Frederick County Career and Technology Center – CNA/GNA - program code: 22510
5. Fresenius Medical Care-CNA/DT -program code 00113
6. Hagerstown Community College-CMA/CMA Update
7. Wor-Wic Community College-CNA-Only-program code 22365
8. Patterson High School-CNA/GNA-program 22911
9. Montgomery County Refugee Training Program-CNA/GNA-program code 22446
10. Southern Garrett High School-CNA/GNA-program code 22553

C. Approval for Faculty for Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Training Programs:

1. A Watchful Eye
 - Tiffany Skinner, R168763
2. Corrina Bailey, R149768
3. Chesapeake College
 - Karla Wieland-Cherry, R123408
4. Community College of Baltimore County
 - Jennifer Swaoger, R221759 -*waiting for updated data form contacted program*
 - Rosemary Minarik, R133283
5. Fresenius Medical Center
 - Sandra Trujillo, 26NR16262000 (New Jersey - Multi-State)
6. Meritus Medical Center
 - Shannon Crilly, R218051
7. Montgomery College
 - Chrismond Sharpe Manson, R123408

- Ann Do, R234607
 - Donna Murphy Gonella, R234607
 - Mojgan Azadi, R192579
 - Marie Perin, R114234
 - Stacey Williams, R166674
 - Latasha Monique Cousar, R207386
8. Montgomery County High School
 - Carrie Ostry, R175550
 9. Peace Health Care at Mountain City Center
 - Debra Savage, R120879
 10. Prince George's Community College
 - Sheinah Copeland, R175831
 11. University of Maryland Medical Center
 - Pamela Jones, R145836

D. Approval for Change or Addition of Clinical Site for Approved Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program:

1. Cambridge Nursing Assistant Academy - Gaithersburg is requesting to add Montgomery Village Care Center as a clinical site for its CNA/GNA program.
2. It Works Learning Center is requesting to add Autumn Lake Healthcare at Alice Manor, Autumn Lake Healthcare of Silver Spring, Autumn Lake Healthcare of Braddock Heights, Autumn Lake Healthcare of Birch Manor, Lorien Bel Air, and Complete Care Annapolis as clinical sites for its CNA/GNA program.
3. The Nursing Assistant Academy is requesting to add Crescent Cities Nursing and Rehabilitation Center as a clinical site for its CNA/GNA program.

3. Discussion of Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None.

4. Education (Dr. Sheila Green, Education Consultant)

Items A through G were reviewed and recommended for approval by the Practice and Education Committee

A. Morgan State University – Site Visit Report

- Hicks made a motion to approve the findings from the April 29th through April 30th Onsite Visit report for Morgan State University to continue conditional program approval and the NCLEX-RN examination performance report. Hayward seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Coppin State University – Action Plan, Nursing Education Program Consultant
 - Hicks made a motion to approve the Coppin State University Action Plan and the Nursing Education Program Consultant Bonnie Ross. Sherman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Care Hope College ADN Program - Not Substantially Equivalent
 - Hayward made a motion to find that the Care Hope College ADN Program is not substantially equivalent as of the 2021 graduating class and forward. Sherman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Essential School of Nursing ADN Program - Not Substantially Equivalent
 - Sherman made a motion to find that the Essential School of Nursing ADN Program is not substantially equivalent as of the 2021 graduating class and forward. Hayward seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- E. Global Health College ADN Program - Not Substantially Equivalent
 - Hicks made a motion to find that the Global Health ADN Program is not substantially equivalent effective as of December 31, 2018 moving forward. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- F. Hagerstown Community College - Hybrid Registered Nurse Refresher Program Renewal
 - Sherman made a motion to approve Hagerstown Community College’s Hybrid Registered Nurse Refresher Program renewal for 5 years. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- G. University of Delaware - Registered Nurse Refresher Program Renewal
 - Sherman made a motion to approve the University of Delaware’s Registered Nurse Refresher Program renewal for 5 years. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Certification (Jaray Richardson, Manager, Certification)

None

6. Licensure and Advanced Practice (Carolyn Bailey, Director of Licensure)

None

7. Legislative Affairs (Mitzi Fishman, Director of Legislative Affairs)

A. FYI - Legislative Summaries 2022-2024

B. Departmentals

1. **Health Occupations – Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife – Denial, suspension, or revocation of license:** The Board is proposing to address an inconsistency in the wording of this statute with that of other statutes (i.e., § 8-316(a) for nurses and § 8-6A-10(a) for certificate holders). With this Departmental, the wording of statute 8-6C-20(a) would be revised to allow the Board to grant the application to an APPLICANT SUBJECT to discipline such as reprimand, probation, or suspension, etc. This Departmental will also ensure that the statutory language for Licensed

Direct-Entry Midwives is consistent with the language in the corresponding statutes for nurses and certificate holders.

- Hicks made a motion to approve the-above stated amendments for language consistency. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Health Occupations – Nursing Assistant Training Programs –**

Approvals: The Board seeks to repeal § 8–6A–14(g) in its entirety. First, this provision concerning reapproval of a nursing assistant training site is inconsistent with the Board’s current reapproval process. The current process for approving nursing assistant training programs includes initial approval of the program’s training site(s). When the program seeks renewal of approval, programs are reviewed for continued compliance with applicable statutes and regulations, but the training site itself is not required to be independently reapproved; therefore, the current statute is unnecessary. Second, the Board seeks to repeal newly-signed provision § 8–6A–14(g)(2), effective October 1, 2025.

- J. Hill made a motion to approve the recommendation to repeal § 8–6A–14(g) in its entirety and to repeal newly-signed provision § 8–6A–14(g)(2), effective October 1, 2025. Hayward seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Health Occupations - Nurses - Exception for Higher Degrees to Satisfy Minimum Educational Qualification vs Health Occupations - Nurses - Substantial Equivalence:**

The following Departmental is presented as two options for the Board to consider and speaks to nurse licensing and substantial equivalence. Both versions amend Health Occupations Article § 8-302 and § 8-307, Annotated Code of Maryland. Option 2 adds an additional amendment to Health Occupations Article § 8-316, Annotated Code of Maryland. Option 1 is titled Health Occupations - Nurses - Exception for Higher Degrees to Satisfy Minimum Educational Qualification. This option keeps the current minimum qualification for licensure that requires an applicant’s out-of-state nursing education program to be “substantially equivalent” to Maryland-approved programs (the “substantial equivalency requirement”) but adds an exception for applicants whose pre-licensure education is not found to be substantially equivalent by the Board. Option 2 is titled Health Occupations - Nurses - Substantial Equivalence. This option removes the substantial equivalency requirement and replaces it with an objective standard that requires out-of-state nursing education programs to be accredited and approved by the appropriate regulatory body in the state in which the program is located.

- Sherman made a motion to adopt Option 1 with the amendment to strike the language that states “advanced degree program” and replace that with “baccalaureate” and add a requirement for direct

patient care hours, with clarification that this exception would only apply to endorsement applicants. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Direct-Entry Midwives and Electrology (Monica Mentzer, Manager, Practice)

Items 8.A.1-2, and 8.B, have been reviewed by the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee with recommendations from the Committee to the Board to approve, and Item 8.B was additionally reviewed by the Practice and Education Committee with a recommendation to the Board to approve. Item 8.C has been reviewed by the Electrology Practice Committee with a recommendation from the Committee to the Board to approve, and was additionally reviewed by the Practice and Education Committee with a recommendation to the Board to approve.

A. Request for approval of the “Application for Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” received by the Board for initial licensure as a Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife for:

1. Michelle Disney
 - Hayward made a motion to approve the application for licensure to practice direct-entry midwifery for Michelle Disney. Sherman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Christina Andrews
 - Sherman made a motion to approve the application for licensure to practice direct-entry midwifery for Christina Andrews. Hayward seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Request for approval of the updated “Application for Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” document

- Hayward made a motion to approve the updated application for licensure to practice direct-entry midwifery. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Request for approval of the updated “Instructions for An Electrology Licensure Applicant” document

- Adamson made a motion to approve the updated instructions for an electrology licensure applicant document changing the email box to the general electrology address. Pfluger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Quarterly Reports

None

10. Other

A. Board President and Secretary Elections

1. Christine Lechliter has been re-elected for Board President.
2. Dr. Rachel Sherman has been elected as Board Secretary.

Adjournment: President Gary Hicks walked through the written statement required by the Open Meetings Act to close an open session. The written statement is attached. At 11:20 a.m., Hayward made a motion to close the open session pursuant to the statutory authority and reasons cited in the written statement. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

June 26, 2024 Closed Session Summary

Closed Session was held from 11:20 a.m. to 4:27 p.m. at 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore MD 21215. The same Board members present for the open session were present for the closed session (unless recused from a particular matter). The authority for the closed session was Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305(b)(13) in order to discuss confidential matters involving applicants for licensure/certification that are prohibited from public disclosure pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-303(f), Health Occ. §§ 1-401 et seq., and/or Gen. Prov. § 4-333. The topics actually discussed were confidential matters involving applicants for licensure/certification.

The Board voted to take the following actions during closed session:

- Review of applicants who are the subject of a complaint:
 - Take no action on a complaint involving 1 APRN applicant(s);
 - Take no action on a complaint involving 3 RN applicant(s);
 - Take no action on a complaint involving 4 LPN applicant(s);
 - Take no action on a complaint involving 2 CRNP applicant(s);
 - Accept a Consent Order Denial for 1 RN applicant(s);
 - Accept a Consent Order Granting License by Endorsement/Reprimand for 1 RN applicant(s);
 - Accept a Consent Order Granting Certification/Probation for 1 CNA applicant(s);
 - Accept a Consent Order Granting Certification/Reprimand for 1 CNA applicant(s);
- Review of applicants with a criminal history:
 - Issue an Intent to Deny to 1 MT applicant(s);
 - License 3 RN applicant(s);
 - License 3 LPN applicant(s);
 - Certify 8 CNA applicant(s);
 - Certify 10 MT applicant(s);
 - License 1 RN applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;
 - Certify 7 CNA applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;
 - Certify 1 MT applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;

(During the closed session, the Board also performed quasi-judicial and administrative functions that are not subject to the Open Meetings Act and are therefore not summarized above.)