



Board of Nursing

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

OPEN SESSION MINUTES NOVEMBER 20, 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 Lechlitter, BSN, MBA, NE-BC	RN, Nurse Administrator Member, Board President	X	
Rachel Jordan, DNP, CRNP, FNP-BC, ACHPN	Advanced Practice Member, Board Secretary	X	
Iskra Gillis, MSN, RN, NEA-BC	Licensed Nurse Member, LPN, RN, APRN	X	
Dawne Hayward, RN, CM/DN, CDDN	RN, Delegating Nurse Member	X	
Jacqueline Hill, PhD, RN, CNE	RN, BSN Educator Member	X	
Irene Molina, DrPH, MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CPH	RN, Associate Degree Educator Member	X	
Robin Hill, DNP, RN	RN, Practical Nurse Educator Member	X	
Dawn Pfluger, BSN, RN, CPN, CRRN, CWOCN	Acute Care Nurse Member		X
Ameera Chakravarthy, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, CNE	Advanced Practice Member	X	
Gary N. Hicks, DNP, RN, CEN, CNE	RN Clinician Member	X	
Tyler Adamson, MPH	Consumer Member	X	
Board Counsel			

Michael Conti	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Katherine Cummings	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Board Staff			
Rhonda Scott	Executive Director	X	
Dr. Camile Forbes-Scott	Deputy Director	X	
Adrienne Smith	Executive Assistant	X	
Nikki Brown	Manager of Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement	X	
Dr. Sheila Green	Education Consultant	X	
Patrice Burris	Enforcement Division		X
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice	X	
Dr. Elizabeth Miller	Education Consultant	X	
Mitzi Fishman	Director of Legislative Affairs	X	
Taylah Davis	Education Consultant	X	
Brian Stallsmith	IT Division	X	
Michael Rogers	IT Division		
Other Audience Members (Not all attendees are documented)			
Tijuana Griffin	Washington Adventist University	X	
Hannah Hughes	University of Maryland Global Campus	X	

Open Session

1. **Call to Order:** Jordan made a motion to go into open session. Hayward seconded the Motion. The motion passed unanimously. The open session began at 9:04 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:
 - Staffing: The Board is actively recruiting. An administrative specialist for the front desk started on the date of the Board meeting. There are two nursing education program consultants for CNA Training programs scheduled to start in December. An education consultant is scheduled to start in December as well. Finally, the Director of Education position has been filled with a start date of December 11th. Interviews for the Director of Operations have concluded and there is a pending offer with the selected candidate.
 - CNA testing: Credentia continues to provide the Board with weekly updates. The Board is currently working through the procurement process to contract a second vendor to provide the exam.
 - On December 4th and December 11th, the Board will host an informal feedback session regarding the schedule of fee increases. The sessions are to include stakeholders and public individuals that will be able to provide their recommendations and concerns.

- The Certification Advisory Committee has openings for committee members. Interested individuals can visit the Board's website to view all open positions.

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

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

A. Initial Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Training Program Seeking Board Approval:
None

B. Renewal of Approved CNA Training Programs:

1. A New Horizon – CNA/GNA (Program Code: 23018)
2. Bethel Healthcare Institute – CNA/GNA (Program Code: 22851)
3. Trinity Nursing Academy, Inc –CNA/GNA (Program Code: 22934)

C. Approval of Faculty for CNA Training Programs:

1. Citizens Care & Rehabilitation Center - Havre de Grace
 - Susan Smith, R174178
2. Community College of Baltimore County
 - Robin Ferguson, R100590
3. Fresenius Medical Care
 - Christopher Carreon, R185357
4. Knowledge First Institute
 - Anne Marie Taylor, R098304
 - Shelika McLean, R161992

D. Approval of Change or Addition of Clinical Site for Approved CNA Training Programs:

1. Anne Arundel Community College is requesting to add the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center as a clinical site.
2. Care 'Xpert Academy, LLC is requesting to add Autumn Lake Healthcare at Silver Spring as a clinical site.

3. Discussion of Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None

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

Items A through E have been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Practice and Education Committee

A. Allegany College of Maryland Waiver Request update for Ms. Lennae Trotter

- Hicks made a motion to approve the faculty waiver request for Lennae Trotter for Allegany College of Maryland. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Hicks made a motion to re-confirm the recommendation that Allegany College of Maryland submit a progress report regarding all waiver faculty approved by the Board, to be included in the Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report scheduled for submission in December 2024. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Dr. Caroline Holland Combs, Dean of the School of Health Sciences/College of Southern Maryland/Nursing Program Administrator

- Hayward made a motion to approve Dr. Caroline Holland Combs as the Nursing Program Administrator for the College of Southern Maryland. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Salisbury University School of Nursing Substantial Expansion Modification: Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration

- Jordan made a motion to accept the approval granted by the Maryland Higher Education Commission on October 18, 2024, for the new Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration, to be initiated at Salisbury University School of Nursing in Fall of 2025. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed. Adamson abstained.
- Jordan made a motion to accept the written notification of approval provided by Dr. Jay A. Perman, Chancellor of the University System of Maryland, dated September 30, 2024, for the new Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration to be initiated at Salisbury University School of Nursing in Fall of 2025. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed. Adamson abstained.
- Hayward made a motion to approve the new Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration to be initiated at Salisbury University School of Nursing in Fall of 2025. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed. Adamson abstained.

D. Dr. Hannah Hughes, University of Maryland Global Campus, Nursing Program Administrator

- Jordan made a motion to recognize that the planned presentation for the October 23, 2024, Open Session board meeting was postponed until amendments were completed regarding Dr. Hannah Hughes' credentials and to approve Dr. Hannah Hughes as the Nursing Program Administrator for the University of Maryland Global Campus. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

E. St. Michael College of Allied Health, Alexandria VA: Substantial Equivalency

- Hayward made a motion to maintain approval as a substantially equivalent out-of-state RN/LPN approved nursing education program in accordance with COMAR 10.27.03.02.16 and COMAR 10.27.01.01 C

and D for St. Michael College of Allied Health's ADN program in Alexandria, VA. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

F. St. Michael College of Allied Health, Washington, DC: Substantial Equivalency

- Hicks made a motion for approval as a substantially equivalent out-of-state RN/LPN approved nursing education program in accordance with COMAR 10.27.03.02.16 and COMAR 10.27.01.01 C and D for St. Michael College of Allied Health ADN and PN programs in Washington, D.C. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Legislative Affairs (Mitzi Fishman)

A. Delegation to the Legislative Committee Request

- Molina made a motion to approve delegation to the Legislative Committee to take preliminary positions on bills on behalf of the full Board. Gillis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

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

A. Request to the Board to approve the FY 2024 Direct-Entry Midwifery Annual Report to the Board.

- Molina made a motion to deny the committee's recommendation to eliminate the requirement for all DEMs to submit Annual Data Collection forms to the Board. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed. J. Hill abstained.
- R. Hill made a motion to approve the recommendation made by the committee to grant DEMs a 30-day extension for renewals. Chakravarthy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Hicks made a motion to consider an examination of initial licensure application fees and renewal application fees for DEMs. Hayward seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Hicks made a motion to request that the committee provide to the Board with a summary of fees across other states and the national standard of fees for consideration. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Jordan made a motion to deny the recommendation of the committee on expanding the scope of practice for the licensed direct-entry midwives. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Molina made a motion to deny the recommendation of the committee to expand the scope of practice for DEMs to include vaginal delivery after cesarean delivery. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Request to the Board for consideration of the reappointment for an additional 4-year term, for Darcie Tough, CNM (R250827), whose initial appointment as a certified nurse midwife to the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee will expire on December 31, 2024
- Hicks made a motion to reappoint Darcie Tough, Certified Midwife, R250827 for an additional four-year term on the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Quarterly Reports

None provided. (*Quarterly Reports are presented during January, April, July, October*)

8. Other

- A. A detailed look at the constituent demographics data the IT department has been collecting. (Michael Rogers- Director, IT) – FYI
- B. A preview and implementation overview of the new website details. (Michael Rogers- Director, IT) – FYI

Adjournment: President Christine Lechlitter walked through the written statement required by the Open Meetings Act to close an open session. The written statement is attached. At 10:56 a.m., Hayward made a motion to close the open session pursuant to the statutory authority and reasons cited in the written statement. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

November 20, 2024 Closed Session Summary

Closed Session was held from 10:56 a.m. to 3:02 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 LPN applicant(s);
 - Take no action on a complaint involving 1 RN applicant(s);
 - Issue an Intent to Deny to 1 RN applicant(s)
- Review of applicants with a criminal history:
 - License 1 RN applicant(s);

- License 1 APRN applicant(s);
- Certify 5 MT applicant(s);
- Certify 9 CNA applicant(s);
- License 1 LPN applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;
- License 1 APRN applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;
- Certify 12 CNA 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.)