



Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Ryan Moran, DrPH, MHSA, Acting Secretary

OPEN SESSION MINUTES MARCH 26, 2025 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	
Kenesha Watts	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Board Staff			
Rhonda Scott	Executive Director	X	
Dr. Camille Forbes-Scott	Deputy Director	X	
Adrienne Smith	Executive Assistant	X	
Nikki Brown	Manager of Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement	X	
Patrice Burris	Discipline Coordinator	X	
Carolyn Bailey	Director of Licensure	X	
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice		X
Trap Jervey	Health Policy Analyst	X	
Mitzi Fishman	Director of Legislative Affairs	X	
Della Sanders	Manager of Backgrounds	X	
Dr. Sheila Green	Education Consultant	X	
Lewis Green	Background Specialist	X	
Jeff Odin	Background Specialist	X	
Addias Valz-Richardson	Manager of Education	X	
Audience Members (Not all attendees are documented)			
Tijuana Griffin	Washington Adventist University	X	
Vanessa Velez	Stevenson University	X	
Brenda Mister	Wor-Wic Community College	X	

Open Session

1. **Call to Order:** J. Hill made a motion to go into open session. Molina 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: Updates were provided regarding staffing and the BMORE Healthy Expo.
- C. Review of Open Session Minutes: None.

2. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** R. Hill made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Molina seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Items B, C and D have been 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. Career and Technology Academy (Calvert County Public School) - CNA/GNA (Program Code: 22517)
2. Caroline Career & Technology Center - CNA/GNA (Program Code: 22518)
3. Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center - CNA/GNA (Program Code: 22530)
4. Montgomery College - CMA Update Renewal
5. Sterling Care Bethesda - CNA/GNA (Program Code: 23064) Approval of

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

1. Community College of Baltimore County
 - Brittany Johnson, R207310
2. University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health
 - Ciara Odle, R191023
 - Kristen Schmuff, R173371Other

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

1. Dominion Academy Inc (program code:22893) is seeking approval to add Fairland Center as a clinical facility for its CNA/GNA Training Program.
2. Southern Garrett High School (program code: 22553) is seeking approval to add Cherry Hill Assisted Living as a clinical facility for its CNA/GNA Training Program.

3. Discussion of Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None.

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

Items A, B and C have been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Practice and Education Committee

A. Felbry College - Not substantially equivalent

- Jordan made a motion to approve the recommendation that Felbry College is not substantially equivalent to nursing education in this State from 2018-2024. Hayward seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Stevenson University- Action Plan Progress Update

- Jordan made a motion to approve the Action Plan Report; accept that the outcomes summarized in the reports demonstrate achievement of programmatic outcomes and NCLEX-RN performance improvements for Stevenson University Into Practice BSN program; approve the finding that the action plan has been met; and accept the recommendation for Stevenson University Nursing Education Facility and Nursing Program Administrator to independently continue its implementation plan and submit report of its progress in the FY 2025 annual report. Gillis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Wor-Wic Community College-Faculty Waiver

- Jordan made a motion to approve the faculty waiver request for Tyler Tull. Gillis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Legislative Affairs (Trap Jervey, Health Policy Analyst)

A. Legislative Updates: Crossover

1. HB 783: Health Occupations – Implicit Bias and Structural Racism Training. The committee took no position.
2. HB 664: Health Occupations – Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives - Disciplinary Actions. The committee’s position was a Letter of Support.
3. HB 482: Occupational Licensing and Certification - Criminal History - Predetermination Review Process. The committee’s position was a Letter of Concern.
4. HB 19: Health Occupations - Nursing – Loan Repayment, Education, and Sunset Extension (Building Opportunities for Nurses Act of 2025). The committee’s position was a Letter of Support with Amendments.
5. HB 466 cross-filed with SB 277: Health Equality for Service Members Act. The committee’s position was a Letter of Support with Amendments.
6. HB 838 cross-filed with SB 854: Health Occupations – Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives – Revisions. The committee’s position was a Letter of Opposition.
7. HB 1480: Child Advocacy Centers - Continuity of Care Standards for Health Care Professionals and Reports of Violations. The committee’s position was a Letter of Support with Amendments.
8. HB 602: State Board of Nursing – Advanced Practice Nursing Licensure and Specialty Certification – Reciprocity Discussions (Maryland Border States Advanced Practice Nursing Act).
 - Molina made a motion to approve the committee’s recommendation to ratify the following crossover positions. R. Hill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Items 6.A and 6.B. have been reviewed by the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee with recommendations from the Committee to the Board to approve. Items 6.C & 6.D have been reviewed by the Electrology Practice Committee with a recommendation from the Committee to the Board to approve. Item 6.C, 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 “Application for Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” received by the Board from:

1. Emily Encinosa

- Molina made a motion to approve the application for licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery for Emily Encinosa. R. Hill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Request to the Board to review and consider updating the “Joint Statement on Planned Home Births” available on the Maryland Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Bureau website
 - Hicks made a motion that the Board does not want to be included in the “Joint Statement on Planned Home Births” available on the Maryland Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Bureau’s website. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Request to the Board to approve the updated “Survey for an On-Site Visit to an Electrologist’s Office”
 - Hayward made a motion to approve the updated “Survey for an On-Site Visit to an Electrologist’s Office”. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Request to the Board to review the notification of the change of location for an electrologist's office received by the Board from licensed electrologist:
 1. Fatima Wachuku, LE (E01479)
 - Hicks made a motion to approve a site visit of the new location within 6 months. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Quarterly Reports

(Quarterly Reports are presented during January, April, July, October)

8. Other

- A. Nursing Apprenticeship Programs- Mitzi Fishman
 1. Molina made a motion against development an RN apprenticeship program in Maryland. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Updates were provided regarding Credentia GNA testing.

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 11:24 a.m., Molina 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.

March 26, 2025 Closed Session Summary

Closed Session was held from 11:26 a.m. to 3:36 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 PMH applicant(s);
 - Issue an Intent to Deny to 2 RN applicant(s);
 - Issue an Intent to Deny to 1 LPN applicant(s);
 - Issue an Intent to Deny and Charge 1 APRN applicant(s); and
 - Issue a Default Order of Denial to 1 RN applicant.
- Review of applicants with a criminal history:
 - License 1 LPN applicant(s);
 - License 1 RN applicant(s);
 - Certify 4 MT applicant(s);
 - Certify 5 CNA applicant(s);
 - License 1 RN applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;
 - Certify 8 CNA applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter; and
 - 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.)