Iowa Board of Nursing

Phone: 515-281-3255
nursing.iowa.gov

Promoting & Protecting the Health of Iowans

IDPH Iowa Department of Public Health

They are there when you are born, when you are ill, and often, when you die. They are the thousands of dedicated nurses in Iowa who provide care at all stages of life.

Every Iowan deserves to be treated by nurses who are competent and licensed to work within their authorized scope of practice. The Iowa Board of Nursing ensures all nurses practicing in Iowa are qualified and competent. If an individual has a concern, the Board investigates complaints to protect the health of Iowans. Ninety-eight percent of complaint investigations are completed within 18 months.

The Iowa Board of Nursing works to make certain all Iowans receive the highest quality of nursing care.

Did you know?

There are over 60,000 nurses providing health services in Iowa.

Why is the Iowa Board of Nursing important to promoting and protecting the health of Iowans?

- Iowans deserve care from qualified professionals.
- Iowans deserve protection from care that does not meet standards, including timely investigations of complaints about nursing practice, and discipline of nurses who are found to have violated the law.

Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

Strengthen the public health infrastructure

What do we do?

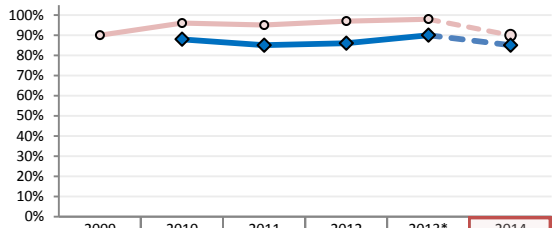
- License nurses who meet requirements.
- Approve nursing education programs.
- Approve continuing education providers.
- Promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the mandate of the laws.
- Investigate complaints and monitor disciplined licensees.
- Prosecute nurses whose practice is out of compliance with Iowa Code and Iowa Administrative Code.
- Enforce nursing continuing education requirements.
- Maintain licensee records.

How do we measure our progress?

❶ **Percent of complaint investigations that are completed within 12 or 18 months of receiving the complaint.**

Data Source: Iowa Board of Nursing Database.

How are we doing? During SFY2013, 90% of complaint investigations were completed within 12 months of receiving a complaint and 98% were completed within 18 months. The target for SFY2014 will be to complete 85% of complaint investigations within 12 months of receiving a complaint and 90% within 18 months. These goals were achieved in SFY2011 through SFY2013. The Board of Nursing had 970 complaint cases filed and opened in SFY2013, versus 1020 in SFY2012 and 1074 in SFY2011.



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013*	2014 Target
% of complaint investigations complete within 18 months	90%	96%	95%	97%	98%	90%
% of complaint investigations complete within 12 months		88%	85%	86%	90%	85%

*All enforcement data was migrated to the Board's new database on November 19, 2012. The data available for measurement for SFY2013 is for the seven month period from December 2012 through June 2013.

What can Iowans do to help?

1. Iowans and employers may contact the Iowa Nursing Board for information regarding discipline history or may retrieve discipline documents through our website nursing.iowa.gov.
2. Iowans may report nurses whose practice does not appear to meet minimum qualifications by calling 515-281-3255, emailing enforce@iowa.gov or completing a complaint form at our website nursing.iowa.gov.
3. Iowa nurses are required to report other nurses whose practice does not meet minimum standards.

Expenditures

Retained fees*: K19-2082

	State Fiscal Year 2012 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2013 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2014 Estimate
State funds	$0	$0	$0
Other funds*	$2,145,253	$2,230,718	$3,930,000
Total funds	**$2,145,253**	**$2,230,718**	**$3,930,000**
FTEs	20.25	18.91	22.60

Note: Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.