

# Louisiana State Board of Nursing Guidelines for Interpreting Scope of Practice for Registered Nurses in Louisiana

**STEP ONE:** Describe the act to be performed.

**STEP TWO:** Review the scope of Registered Nurse (RN) practice in the [Louisiana Nurse Practice Act](#) (i.e. Louisiana Revised Statutes), and [LSBN Rules and Regulations](#) (i.e. Louisiana Administrative Code)

**STEP THREE:** Answer the questions below and follow the guidelines.

1. Do you hold a current/active Louisiana RN license?

**YES**



Go to #2

**NO**



**OBTAIN LOUISIANA  
LICENSE**



2. Is the act expressly permitted or prohibited by the Louisiana Nurse Practice Act or other Louisiana statute or rule?

Click [here](#) to see Louisiana Revised Statutes R.S. 37: 913 (13) & (14)

**PERMITTED OR UNSURE**



Go to #3

**PROHIBITED BY RULE AND/OR STATUTE**



3. Is the act consistent with the nursing practice rules in the Louisiana Administrative Code, [declaratory statements](#), and [practice opinions](#) of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN)?

Click [here](#) to see Chapter 37 (Nursing Practice) and Chapter 39 (Legal Standards of Nursing Practice)

**YES**



Go to #4

**NO**



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4. Do you personally possess the depth and breadth of knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the act safely and effectively as acquired in a pre-licensure program, post-basic program, continuing education program or structured self-study?

**YES**



Go to #5

**NO**



**UNTIL ADDITIONAL  
KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS &  
ABILITIES GAINED**

5. Is the performance of the act within the appropriately established facility/agency policies and procedures?

**YES**



Go to #6

**NO**



**PERFORMANCE OF ACT  
MAY PLACE PATIENT,  
NURSE, AND/OR  
EMPLOYER AT RISK !**

6. Are you prepared to accept accountability and liability for your action? Is the act prudent and defensible based on current standards of care?

**YES**



**PERFORM THE ACT**

**NO**



**THE ACCOUNTABILITY  
IS NOT ASSUMED !  
NOTIFY APPROPRIATE  
PERSON(S)**

### Resources:

[Louisiana Nurse Practice Act](#) (i.e. Louisiana Revised Statutes)

- see R.S. §37:913 (13) and (14) for statutory definitions of RN practice

[LSBN Rules and Regulations](#) (i.e. Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 46:XLVII - Nurses)

- see Chapter 37 for rules defining scope of RN practice
- see Chapter 39 for rules regarding legal standards of nursing practice