



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619

CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary

MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH
Commissioner

Tel: 617-624-6000
www.mass.gov/dph

Circular Letter: DHCQ 15-9-641

To: Acute Care Hospitals, Chief Executive Officers
Non-Acute Care Hospitals, Chief Executive Officers
Ambulatory Surgical Centers, Chief Executive Officers
Clinics, Chief Executive Officers
End Stage Renal Dialysis Centers, Chief Executive Officers
Temporary Nurse Staffing Agencies, Executive Directors
Long Term Care Facilities, Administrators

FROM: Eric Sheehan, Interim Director, Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality

DATE: September 25, 2015

RE: Revocation and Suspension of Licensure based on Fraudulent Credentials

The purpose of this circular letter is to inform Massachusetts facilities of actions by the Division of Health Professions Licensure (DHPL) and the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (BORN) that may affect the licensure of nurses employed by the facilities.

DHPL has recently discovered that a number of individuals obtained a license to practice nursing as either a licensed practical nurse or as a registered nurse on the basis of fraudulent information and documentation submitted with an application for licensure by reciprocity. Applicants for reciprocity qualify for licensure in Massachusetts on the basis of already holding a license in another state that maintains standards that are substantially the same as Massachusetts.

The BORN has already taken action to revoke or suspend the licenses of individuals that DHPL has identified to date as providing fraudulent information and documentation concerning their qualifications for licensure by reciprocity. DHPL's review is ongoing and it is anticipated that BORN will take similar actions against the licenses of additional individuals that may be identified as having submitted fraudulent applications.

The BORN has published a list of the individuals whose licenses have been revoked and suspended to date. The list can be located on the BORN's website at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/hcq/dhpl/nursing/>

The BORN will update this list with any additional actions it takes as new individuals may be identified. All facilities are strongly urged to compare this list against their roster of staff whose employment requires a nursing license immediately upon receipt of this circular letter. All facilities are further urged to check this list daily as new individuals may be added to it.

In the event that a facility identifies an employee who appears on this list, that facility is urged to contact Kevin Keenan, the BORN Licensing Coordinator at: kevin.keenan@state.ma.us.

Phone: 617-973-0902

Fax: 617-973-0984

cc: Monica Bharel MD, MPH, Commissioner, Department of Public Health