



Governance

Board Members

Roca Q. Sablan, *NP*
Chairperson
(Saipan Representative)

Aurelia G. Long, *NP*
Vice Chairperson
(Tinian Representative)

Anna V. Diaz, *CCHT*
Secretary
(Saipan, Tech
Representative)

Rafaela O. Perry,
Board Member
(Public Community Rep.)

Evita A. Kawai, *RN*
Board Member
(Saipan Representative)

Shirley L. Villanueva, *LPN*
Board Member
(Rota Representative)



OVERVIEW

The Northern Mariana Islands Board of Nursing (NMI BON), formerly the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners, was created within the Department of Public Health and established for the purpose of regulating the practice of Nursing. Pursuant to public No. 18-25, the NMI BON was renamed and re-established as an autonomous public agency. The Board is comprised of seven (7) board members, having at least one representative from each island (Saipan, Tinian and Rota) and representing all nursing professions and technicians, respectively.

The purpose of the NMI BON is to provide for the regulation of the practice of nursing affecting the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by regulating the practice of nursing and defining its powers and duties, including licensure of practitioners of nursing, establishing standards for educational programs preparing students for nursing practice, and prescribing penalties for violations of the provisions of the Nurse Practice Act (NPA).

Mission Statement

To protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth by regulating the practice of nursing through licensing of practitioners of nursing, establishing standards for educational programs preparing students for nursing practice, and prescribing penalties for violations of the provisions of the Nurse Practice Act.

GOALS:

1. Protect the integrity of quality care by nursing professions.
2. Regulate and enforce the adopted rules & regulation in accordance with the law.
3. Continue to monitor all nurses and technicians licensed under the NMI BON.
4. Implement quality service and standard compliance.
5. Open and consistent communication.



OUR PURPOSE:

To provide for the regulation of the practice of nursing affecting the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by regulating the practice of nursing.

1. Who we are
- 2. PERFORMANCE**
3. Finances
4. Future Outlook

PERFORMANCE REPORT:

In Fiscal Year 2021 (“FY 2021”), the NMI BON issued 667 licenses in the following profession, as regulated:

- Advance Practice Registered Nursing (APRN): 3
- Registered Nurse (RN): 641
- Licensed Practical Nurse (PN/LPN): 5
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA): 12
- Graduate Nurse (GN): 5
- Hemodialysis Technician (HT): 1
- Surgical/Psychiatric Technician (ST/PT): 0

LICENSE UPGRADE:

In the past, NMI BON use to issue licenses on a hard bound paper, business card type with NMI BON’s official stamp seal to signify its official purpose.

However, given the technology available in the market today and the demand to prevent identity theft, NMI BON has upgraded its license cards to a plastic credit card type that includes the licensee’s photo as the main identification and licenses issued now expire on the licensee’s date of birth.

NEW PROGRAM: NCLEX SCORE TRANSFER

The NCLEX Score Transfers with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has given NMI BON the advantage to issues licenses to nurses worldwide. This process are applicable to applicants who have taken and passed the NCLEX at another US nursing board but unable to obtain a license given the lack of social security requirement. Given the advantage over other nursing board, this new program has increased the number of registered nurses under the NMI BON, which also means an increase in revenue to the future economic stability of the NMI BON and the CNMI government.

WEBSITE

During FY 2021, the NMI BON launched a website to comply with the standards of the National Council State Boards of Nursing (“NCSBN”). The new website provides numerous resources to the public, most especially to interested nursing applicants. The new website www.nmibon.info is still currently being updated but valuable information are available for the public.

LICENSE VERIFICATION

Implemented several years, the NURSYS system allows hospitals worldwide to electronically verify the status of NMI BON licensed nurses. Hospitals including the Commonwealth HealthCare Corporation (“CHCC”) have this information at their fingertips. Most recently new methods to alert state to state fraud or questionable applicants is available through speed memos.



OUR MISSION:

To protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth by regulating the practice of nursing through licensing of practitioners of nursing

1. Who we are
2. Performance
- 3. FINANCES**
4. Future Outlook

FINANCES:

For FY 2021, the estimated budget of the NMI BON is \$176,509.32, derived from the NMI BON application fee. Revenue and Expenditures are shown in Table 1 and Table 2, respectively.

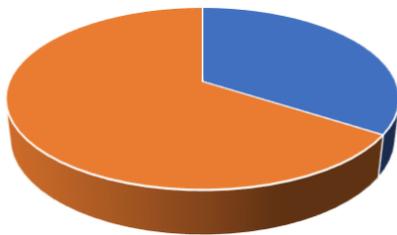
TABLE 1: REVENUE RESOURCES

1. Application Fee :	\$98,450.00
2. Renewals/Reinstatement:	<u>\$189,550.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$288,000.00

TABLE 2: EXPENDITURE

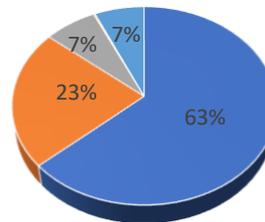
1. Salaries & Benefits:	\$112,000.00
2. Board Compensation:	\$360.00
3. Operational Expenses:	\$39,904.24
4. Travel:	<u>\$12,485.08</u>
TOTAL:	\$176,509.32

REVENUE
FY 2021



■ Application Fees ■ Renewals/ Reinstatement

EXPENDITURE
FY 2021



■ Salaries & Benefits ■ Operational Expenses
■ Travel ■ Board Compensation
■ Rent

As shown on the revenue chart, the number of applications received in 2021 has greatly declined due to the global pandemic of COVID-19. This caused a significant impact with submission of applications, both initial application and renewals. Many countries were affected with mail delivery; thereby causing a chain reaction worldwide. On chart 2 of the expenditures, the significant expenses are the salaries of the NMI BON employees, whom continued to work and provide services online even during times of shut down. While travel was almost non-existent during FY 2021, the employees continue to receive professional development and training virtually to upkeep with the technology and data processing during this time of social distancing.



FUTURE OUTLOOK:

The Board strives to ensure quality education of the nursing program in the Commonwealth and protect the integrity of quality care by nursing professions

1. Who we are
2. Performance
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- 4. FUTURE OUTLOOK**



Membership with the NCSBN allows the Board to meet at least 5 to 6 times a year to discuss, vote and adopt standards of nursing practice that will empower the CNMI or be a barrier. It is in these meetings that we protect and make our Island nations concerns aware to an influential organization making changes and decisions on Nursing healthcare decisions. These meeting consist of extensive researched material provided by all states to improve and continue our regulatory excellence of the nursing profession



Due to the increasing numbers of nurses and healthcare practitioners, NMI BON is registered under the established federal Nurse Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB). NPDB is a tracking system to alert users that a comprehensive review of the practitioner, provider, or supplier's past actions may be prudent. This allows NMI BON to report information about nursing discipline actions that is reported to the NPDB.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

The NMI BON continuously update its rules and regulation in conformance with technology and the demands of this ever changing profession.

Additionally, the NMI BON strives hard to provide guidance in the only nursing program in the CNMI to ensure quality education is delivered.

The NMI BON will soon implement its online application system with the assistance of the NCSBN software program, the Optimal Regulatory Board System (“ORBS”). While NCBN will provide this software, it is at no cost to the NMI BON. ORBS is a confidential and secure cloud-based system that reduces the manual input of data and provides a complete backup of all license/enforcement/management data while applicants/nurses can manage their initial/renewal applications online. This new software will allow the NMI BON to have an open communication with all applicants.

Because of the demand in the nursing profession, the NMI BON will eventually become an integral part of the Nurse Licensure Compact (“NLC”). The NLC is rigorous process but will be beneficial to the CNMI.