Summary Report

Nurse Practitioner Scope of Practice Laws

Nurse practitioners play a critical role in delivering health care services in the United States. State laws govern the level of autonomy nurse practitioners are provided to treat patients without collaboration or supervision with another health care provider. This map displays laws in effect from May 1, 2015 to August 1, 2017. Additional maps and tables are available by visiting www.lawatlas.org.



Full Practice Authority

Nurse practitioners have full practice authority in 23 states and the District of Columbia.

Jurisdictions: 24 (AK, AZ, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, MD, ME, MN, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OR, RI, SD, VT, WA, WY)

¹South Dakota changed from limited practice to full practice authority on 7/1/17.



Transition to Practice Requirements

In 10 states, nurse practitioners must satisfy a transition-to- practice requirement before they are granted full practice authority.

Jurisdictions: 10 (CO, CT, DE, MD, ME, MN, NE, NV, SD, VT)



Prescriptive Authority Limited

Twenty-seven states limit the practice authority of nurse practitioners. In all 27 states, nurse practitioners must collaborate with another health care provider to prescribe medication.

Jurisdictions: 27 (AL, AR, CA, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MI, MS, MO, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WI)