

Practice of Practical Nursing (Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)) Standards

The Practice of Practical Nursing (LPN) standards are listed below. For your convenience and future reference, you may wish to bookmark the Alabama Administrative Code Link [<http://www.abn.alabama.gov/Content.aspx?id=123>] . Practice of Practical Nursing (Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)) Standards are located in **Rule 610-X-6-.05**.

610-X-6-.05 Practice of Practical Nursing (Licensed Practical Nurse Practice)

- (1) The practice of practical nursing includes, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Acts designed to promote and maintain health.
 - (b) Prevention of illness and injury.
 - (c) Exercise of appropriate nursing judgment.
 - (d) Conducting and documenting focused nursing assessments of the health status of patients.
 - (e) Conducting and documenting data elements of the comprehensive assessment.
 - (f) Administering medications and treatments when ordered by a legally authorized prescriber.
 - (g) Provision of care under the direction of a registered nurse, physician, or dentist who considers the following elements:
 - (i) Evaluation of knowledge, skills and experience of the licensed practical nurse.
 - (ii) Complexity of the assigned tasks.
 - (iii) Health status of patient.
 - (h) Documentation of nursing interventions and responses to care in an accurate, timely, thorough and clear manner.
- (2) Competence in the practice of practical nursing by a licensed practical nurse shall include, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Knowledge and compliance with:
 - (i) Applicable statutes and regulations.
 - (ii) Standards for nursing practice.
 - (iii) Standardized procedures for nursing practice including but not limited to facilities policies and procedures.
 - (b) Maintenance of knowledge and skills in the area of practice.
 - (c) Assumption of responsibility for recognizing limits of personal knowledge and experience.
 - (d) Consulting with or referring patients to other healthcare providers to resolve situations beyond the expertise of the licensed practical nurse.
- (3) The scope of an individual licensed practical nurse's level of practice includes, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Educational preparation, initial and continued.
 - (b) License status.
 - (c) State and federal statutes, and regulations.
 - (d) State and national standards appropriate to the type of practice.
 - (e) Limitations on scope as determined by facility policy and procedure. (f) Nursing experience.
 - (g) Demonstrated competence.
 - (h) Knowledge, skills, and ability to manage risks and potential complications.