RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title 49—PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS

STATE BOARD OF NURSING [49 PA. CODE CH. 21]

Continuing Education; Reporting of Crimes and Discipline

The State Board of Nursing (Board) amends §§ 21.29, 21.131—21.134, 21.156, 21.332 and 21.723 and adds §§ 21.29a, 21.156b and 21.723a (relating to reporting of crimes and disciplinary action) to read as set forth in Annex A.

Effective Date

The final-form rulemaking will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Statutory Authority

The amendments regarding registered nurses and licensed dietitian-nutritionists are authorized under sections 2.1(k) and 12.1(a) of The Professional Nursing Law (RN Act) (63 P.S. §§ 212.1(k) and 222(a)) which provide the general authority to the Board to establish rules and regulations for the practice of professional nursing, the practice of dietetics-nutrition, the administration of the RN Act and requirements of continuing nursing education for registered nurses. The amendments regarding practical nurses are authorized under section 17.6 of the Practical Nurse Law (PN Law) (63 P.S. § 667.6) which authorizes the Board to establish rules and regulations for the practice of practical nursing and the administration of the PN Law.

Background and Purpose

This final-form rulemaking accomplishes two goals: (1) amends current continuing education regulations for registered nurses; and (2) requires licensees to report criminal and disciplinary actions sooner than currently required. The Board published continuing education regulations implementing section 12.1 of the RN Act at 38 Pa.B. 3796 (July 12, 2008). To ease implementation, the Board provided registered nurses with a grace period of 6 months to cure deficiencies. Now that licensees have had an opportunity to obtain the continuing education and seek renewal, this grace period is no longer warranted and, in its place, the Board is implementing a procedure for continuing education compliance identical to that applied by the other licensing boards within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs. Additionally, the final-form rulemaking provides the Board with the flexibility to require licensees to complete continuing education on a specific topic as the necessity arises. This is particularly important when there are advances or changes in practice that affect the entire profession or significant modifications to the Board's regulations.

Regarding the reporting of criminal and disciplinary actions, $\S 21.29(c)(4)$ (relating to expiration and renewal of license) requires registered nurses to report these actions on their biennial renewal. Similarly, $\S 21.723$ (relating to license renewal) requires licensed dietitian-nutritionists to report criminal and disciplinary actions at

biennial renewal. Conversely, § 21.156 (relating to renewal of license), which applies to practical nurses, formerly did not require reporting of criminal and disciplinary actions at all. In many circumstances, especially in cases when licensees enter into an Accelerated Rehabilitation Disposition (ARD) Program, licensees avoid notifying the Board of the criminal action because the matter has been expunged by the time of renewal. The Board is authorized to discipline licensees who receive ARD, disposition instead of trial or probation without verdict in the disposition of felony charges. In addition, licensees who receive ARD or other pretrial disposition of DUIs and other drug offenses may suffer from mental or physical illnesses or conditions or physiological or psychological dependence on alcohol, hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs, or other drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination, authorizing the Board to require mental and physical examinations under section 14(a)(2) and (2.1) of the RN Act (63 P.S. § 224(a)(2) and (2.1)) or section 16(a)(6) of the PN Law (63 P.S. § 666(a)(6)). It is therefore imperative that the Board receive these reports in a timely manner.

Similarly, in spite of the statutory requirements in section 11.1 of the RN Act (63 P. S. § 221.1) and section 13.2 of the PN Law (63 P. S. § 663.2), at times the Board does not learn that disciplinary actions, including the immediate and temporary suspension of a license, were taken against a licensee in another state until the licensee reports it upon biennial renewal. To ensure that the Board receives information about these criminal and disciplinary actions in a timelier manner, the Board is updating the regulations to clarify the requirements and to expedite the reporting of crimes and disciplinary actions.

Summary and Responses to Comments

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 44 Pa.B. 648 (February 1, 2014). Publication was followed by a 30-day public comment period during which the Board received comments from Paula A. Bussard, Senior Vice President, Policy and Regulatory Services, The Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP); Margaret Cybularz, MSN, RN, Prism Career Institute; Natalie O. DeLeonardis, RN, MSN, Coordinator, North Campus Outreach Practical Nurse Program, Pennsylvania College of Technology; Dawn Johnson, MSN, RN, Ed, Practical Nurse Administrator, Erie Business Center; and Meg Rowe, Pennsylvania Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) also submitted comments. Neither the House Professional Licensure Committee (HPLC) nor the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee (SCP/PLC) commented on the proposed rulemaking.

Generally

Natalie DeLeonardis and Dawn Johnson commented in favor of the proposed rulemaking. Meg Rowe commented that the Pennsylvania Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics did not have issues with the proposed rulemaking.

§\$ 21.29a, 21.156b, 21.723a. Reporting of crimes and disciplinary action

Section 21.29a(a), 21.156b(a) and 21.723a(a) require registered nurses, practical nurses and licensed dietitian-nutritionists, respectively, to report crimes and disciplinary actions to the Board within specified time frames. Margaret Cybularz expressed agreement with these re-

porting requirements in that they send a message of accountability for practice and protection of citizens in this Commonwealth. Paula Bussard noted HAP's appreciation for the standardization of reporting requirements for registered and practical nurses.

IRRC noted that §§ 21.29(c) and 21.723(b)(4) require the disclosure of pending criminal charges on the biennial renewal application and recommended that the Board amend §§ 21.29a, 21.156b and 21.723a to also require disclosure of pending criminal charges and disciplinary actions. The Board agrees with IRRC's suggestion as to pending criminal charges and amended §§ 21.29a(a), 21.156b(a) and 21.723a(b) accordingly. However, section 11.1 of the RN Act and section 13.2 of the PN Act specifically authorize the Board to require the reporting of disciplinary actions taken in other states within 90 days of final disposition and do not extend to pending disciplinary actions. For that reason, the Board did not add a requirement to report pending disciplinary actions to the final-form rulemaking.

§ 21.131. Continuing education

Subsection (b) formerly exempted applicants for licensure by examination and endorsement from completing the continuation education requirements for the first renewal immediately following licensure. IRRC questioned the Board's rationale and statutory basis for the amendment which deleted the phrase "by examination." IRRC asked whether this amendment was intended to allow applicants for initial licensure by reciprocity to be exempt from the continuing education requirements for the first renewal immediately following licensure. In addition, IRRC asked for the statutory authority for an exemption, and an explanation of why the Board believes this is reasonable.

In revising its continuing education regulations, the Board wished to make its procedures identical to the other licensing boards within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs that require continuing education. Each of those boards exempt applicants for both licensure by examination and endorsement/reciprocity. The Board's statutory authority is in section 12.1(c) of the RN Law which exempts all individuals "applying for the first time for licensure in this Commonwealth" from the continuing education requirement for the first renewal immediately following licensure. This provision is not limited to those applying for licensure by examination. Therefore, the Board believes the exemption must be applied to all applicants applying for the first time for licensure in this Commonwealth, whether by examination or by endorsement. Had the statutory provision not included the modifier "in this Commonwealth," the Board would have retained the limitation to those applying for licensure for the first time by examination.

Paula Bussard noted HAP's appreciation for the Board's implementation of a continuing education procedure identical to that applied by other boards.

IRRC also recommended that the Board add the Purdon's citation to the cross-reference to section 14(a)(4)(i) of the RN Law in subsection (h)(4). The Board made this amendment to the final-form rulemaking. However, as section 14 of the RN Law is cited in subsection (h)(1), an additional Purdon's citation is not necessary.

§ 21.132. Continuing education hours

Margaret Cybularz expressed agreement with the Board's replacement of "course" for "units" in subsection (b).

Description of Amendments to the Final-Form Rulemaking

The Board amended the final-form rulemaking to include the duty to report pending criminal charges in §§ 21.29a, 21.156b and 21.723a as requested by IRRC. In § 21.131(d) (relating to continuing education) the Board deleted "renewal" which was inadvertently added to the proposed rulemaking. The inclusion of "renewal" in the phrase "biennial renewal period" changes the intended meaning of the provision. The Board intends that nurses who are seeking reinstatement of a lapsed license or reactivation of an inactive license complete 30 hours of continuing education within the biennial (2-year) period immediately preceding application for reinstatement or reactivation.

Fiscal Impact and Paperwork Requirements

The Board and registered nurses should have a reduced fiscal and paperwork impact by the amendment regarding continuing education because registered nurses will only be able to renew after completing continuing education, thereby eliminating licensees' submission and the Board's dual review of renewal applications and documentation evidencing completion. Should an audit reveal deficiencies, the final-form rulemaking retains the requirement that deficiencies be made up within 6 months.

There is not additional fiscal or paperwork impact associated with the audit requirement or mandatory designated continuing education course as audits are currently occurring and the designated course can be completed as part of the 30 hours of continuing education that registered nurses shall complete each biennium.

The requirement that registered nurses, practical nurses and licensed dietitian-nutritionists report criminal actions and disciplinary sanctions to the Board within 30 and 90 days, respectively, should have a slight fiscal and paperwork impact on the Board and licensees. Under this final-form rulemaking, licensees shall report this information sooner, triggering additional paperwork responsibilities for licensees. The Board anticipates that it will see an increase in reports as licensees comply with the regulatory requirement thereby incurring additional enforcement costs.

Sunset Date

The Board continuously monitors the effectiveness of its regulations. Therefore, a sunset date has not been assigned.

Regulatory Review

Under section 5(a) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P. S. § 745.5(a)), on January 17, 2014, the Board submitted a copy of the notice of proposed rulemaking, published at 44 Pa.B. 648, to IRRC and the Chairpersons of the HPLC and the SCP/PLC for review and comment.

Under section 5(c) of the Regulatory Review Act, IRRC, the HPLC and the SCP/PLC were provided with copies of the comments received during the public comment period, as well as other documents when requested. In preparing the final-form rulemaking, the Board has considered all comments from IRRC, the HPLC, the SCP/PLC and the public.

Under section 5.1(j.2) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P. S. § 745.5a(j.2)), on May 27, 2015, the final-form rulemaking was deemed approved by the HPLC and the SCP/PLC. Under section 5.1(e) of the Regulatory Review Act, IRRC met on May 28, 2015, and approved the final-form rulemaking.

Additional Information

Additional information may be obtained by writing to Cynthia Miller, Board Administrator, State Board of Nursing, P. O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649.

Findings

The Board finds that:

- (1) Public notice of proposed rulemaking was given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P. L. 769, No. 240) (45 P. S. §§ 1201 and 1202) and the regulations promulgated thereunder, 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2.
- (2) A public comment period was provided as required by law and the comments were considered in drafting this final-form rulemaking.
- (3) The amendments made to the final-form rule-making do not enlarge the original purpose of the proposed rulemaking published at 44 Pa.B. 648.
- (4) These amendments to the regulations of the Board are necessary and appropriate for the regulation of the practice of professional nurses, practical nurses and licensed dietitian-nutritionists in this Commonwealth.

Order

The Board therefore orders that:

- (a) The regulations of the Board, 49 Pa. Code Chapter 21, are amended by adding §§ 21.29a, 21.156b and 21.723a and amending §§ 21.29, 21.131—21.134, 21.156, 21.332 and 21.723 to read as set forth in Annex A, with ellipses referring to the existing text of the regulations.
- (b) The Board shall submit a copy of Annex A to the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of General Counsel for approval as required by law.
- (c) The Board shall certify this order and Annex A and shall deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.
- (d) The regulations shall take effect upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

KRISTIN MALADY, BSN, RN, Chairperson

(*Editor's Note*: For the text of the order of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission relating to this document, see 45 Pa.B. 2961 (June 13, 2015).)

Fiscal Note: Fiscal Note 16A-5126 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulations.

Annex A

TITLE 49. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS

PART I. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Subpart A. PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 21. STATE BOARD OF NURSING Subchapter A. REGISTERED NURSES LICENSES

§ 21.29. Expiration and renewal of license.

- (a) The Board will assign registered nurses to one of the following license expiration dates:
 - (1) April 30 in the even-numbered years.
 - (2) October 31 in the even-numbered years.
 - (3) April 30 in the odd-numbered years.

- (4) October 31 in the odd-numbered years.
- (b) Notice of the renewal period of a license will be sent to each active licensee prior to the expiration date of the licensee's license.
- (c) The applicant for license renewal may complete and submit an application online or may mail a completed application form to the Board's administrative office. When applying for licensure renewal, a registered nurse shall:
- (1) Complete and submit the renewal application form, including disclosing any license to practice nursing or any allied health profession in any other state, territory, possession or country.
- (2) Pay the biennial renewal of licensure fee in § 21.5 (relating to fees).
- (3) Beginning with the license period commencing on July 12, 2010, verify that the professional nurse has complied with the continuing education requirements mandated by section 12.1 of the act (63 P.S. § 222) during the biennial period immediately preceding the application for renewal in accordance with §§ 21.131—21.134 (relating to continuing education). School nurses, who as certified education specialists are required to obtain continuing professional education under the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P.S. §§ 1-101—27-2702), shall verify by signed statement that the school nurse has complied with the continuing education requirements for certification by the Department of Education.
- (4) Disclose any discipline imposed by a state licensing board on any nursing or allied health profession license or certificate in the previous biennial period and any criminal charges pending or criminal conviction, plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or admission into a probation without verdict or accelerated rehabilitative disposition during the previous biennial period unless prior notification has been made under § 21.29a (relating to reporting of crimes and disciplinary action).
- (d) When communicating with the Board, licensees shall identify themselves by full name, current address and license number.

§ 21.29a. Reporting of crimes and disciplinary action.

- (a) A registered nurse shall notify the Board of pending criminal charges within 30 days of the filing of the criminal charges or on the biennial renewal application under $\S 21.29(c)(4)$ (relating to expiration and renewal of license), whichever is sooner.
- (b) A registered nurse shall notify the Board of a criminal conviction, plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or an admission into a probation without verdict or accelerated rehabilitative disposition program within 30 days of the disposition or on the biennial renewal application under § 21.29(c)(4), whichever is sooner.
- (c) A registered nurse shall notify the Board of disciplinary action in the nature of a final order taken against the registered nurse by the licensing authority of another state, territory or country within 90 days of receiving notice of the disciplinary action, or on the biennial renewal application under § 21.29(c)(4), whichever is sooner.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

§ 21.131. Continuing education.

(a) Requirement of continuing education. A registered nurse seeking licensure renewal shall complete 30 hours

of continuing education approved by the Board during the biennial renewal period immediately preceding the application for renewal in accordance with section 12.1 of the act (63 P. S. § 222) and this subchapter. The Board will not renew a license of a registered nurse who fails to verify compliance with the continuing education requirement. A registered nurse whose license is not renewed by the expiration of the biennial renewal period may not engage in the practice of professional nursing until the continuing education requirements are satisfied and the license has been renewed, reinstated or reactivated.

- (b) Exception. An applicant applying for initial licensure in this Commonwealth will not be required to meet the continuing education requirement on the first renewal immediately following licensure.
- (c) Board audits; proof of completion. The Board may perform audits on registered nurses to determine compliance with the continuing education requirements. A registered nurse shall retain documentation of the registered nurse's completion of continuing education for at least 5 years. A registered nurse shall comply with a request for submission of documents verifying the registered nurse's completion of continuing education. The following documents shall be retained and submitted upon request:
- (1) For attendance at continuing education programs or courses, the registered nurse shall retain the certificate of attendance provided by the program or course provider.
- (2) For academic courses taken from an accredited college or university, the registered nurse shall retain the transcript issued by the educational institution.
- (3) For publication of a textbook or article, the registered nurse shall retain a copy of the published item, including the date of publication.
- (4) For a research project, the registered nurse shall retain a copy of the research abstract, letter from the institutional review board granting approval for the research project and list of primary and co-investigators.
- (5) For school nurses, evidence that the nurse's certification by the Department of Education is current.
- (d) Reinstatement of lapsed license or reactivation of inactive license. A registered nurse seeking to reinstate a lapsed license or reactivate an inactive license shall file an application for reinstatement or reactivation and submit documentation to demonstrate that the registered nurse completed 30 hours of continuing education within the biennial period immediately preceding application.
- (e) Reinstatement of suspended license. A registered nurse seeking to reinstate a suspended license shall submit documentation to demonstrate that the registered nurse completed 30 hours of continuing education within the biennial period immediately preceding application for reinstatement.
- (f) Carry over. Continuing education hours may not be carried over from one biennial renewal period to the next.
- (g) Waiver. A registered nurse may request a waiver of the continuing education requirement because of serious illness, military service or other demonstrated hardship. The registered nurse shall submit the request and any supporting documentation to the Board in writing at least 90 days prior to the registered nurse's license expiration date unless an emergency or hardship occurs within the 90-day period. The Board will grant, deny or grant in part the request for waiver.

- (h) Disciplinary action authorized.
- (1) Failure to complete a minimum of 30 hours of continuing education in a biennial period in accordance with subsection (a) will subject the registered nurse to discipline under section 13(b) of the act (63 P. S. § 223(b)) in accordance with the schedule of civil penalties in § 43b.18 (relating to schedule of civil penalties—nurses). A second or subsequent violation will subject the registered nurse to discipline under section 14(a)(3) of the act (63 P. S. § 224(a)(3)).
- (2) A registered nurse who has not completed a minimum of 30 hours of continuing education shall make up the deficiency within 6 months of receiving notice of the deficiency.
- (3) Notwithstanding any civil penalty assessed under paragraph (1), failure to provide the Board with documentation demonstrating the completion of 30 hours of approved continuing education within 6 months after receiving notice of a deficiency will subject the registered nurse to discipline under section 14(a)(3) of the act.
- (4) Failure to comply with an audit request for continuing education documentation may subject a registered nurse to additional discipline under section 14(a)(4)(i) of the act.

§ 21.132. Continuing education hours.

- (a) The Board will accept hours of continuing education as designated by an approved provider, so long as each hour is at least 50 minutes of activity and each 1/2 hour is at least 30 minutes of activity.
- (b) For purposes of determining acceptable hours of continuing education for academic coursework, the following apply:
- (1) One academic trimester course is equivalent to 12 continuing education hours.
- (2) One academic quarter course is equivalent to 10 continuing education hours.
- (3) One academic semester course is equivalent to 15 continuing education hours.

§ 21.133. Continuing education content.

- (a) Continuing education must be relevant to patient care or professional nursing in a general or specialty area and enhance the knowledge and application of the physical, social, biological and behavioral sciences.
- (b) The Board may, for any given biennial license period and with adequate notice to registered nurses, require that up to 4 hours of continuing education be completed in designated topics.
- (c) Courses in areas related to the practice of professional nursing such as the following are acceptable:
 - (1) Human sexuality.
 - (2) Death, dying and grief.
 - (3) Foreign language relevant to health care.
 - (4) Therapeutic interpersonal relationship skills.
 - (5) Patient rights.
 - (6) Pharmacology.
- (d) Courses in areas impacting the practice of professional nursing, such as nursing administration, management, education, and diagnostic and procedural coding are acceptable.
- (e) Group or individual research, as the principal or co-principal investigator, if approved by the institutional

review board of the sponsoring institution, is acceptable and will be credited in the year completed as 15 hours of continuing education.

(f) Nonprofessional course content not directly related to patient care, such as courses in self-improvement, changes in attitude, financial gain, courses designed for lay people, basic life support or cardiopulmonary resuscitation, mandatory annual education on facility specific policies unrelated to the practice of professional nursing (such as facility leave policies) and employment orientation programs are not acceptable for meeting requirements for license renewal.

§ 21.134. Continuing education sources.

- (a) The following continuing education activities that meet the requirements of § 21.133 (relating to continuing education content) for registered nurses are approved:
- (1) Activities sponsored by a Board-approved practical or professional nursing program or a Nationally accredited graduate nursing program.

* * * * *

(b) The Board may approve other sources of continuing education on a case-by-case basis after the provider or registered nurse seeking approval submits the following:

Subchapter B. PRACTICAL NURSES LICENSURE

§ 21.156. Renewal of license.

- (a) Licenses for practical nurses expire on June 30 of each biennium in the even-numbered years.
- (b) Notice of the renewal period of a license will be forwarded biennially to each active licensee prior to the expiration date of the current renewal biennium.
- (c) The applicant for license renewal may complete and submit an application in a form acceptable to the Board. When applying for licensure renewal, an LPN shall:
- (1) Complete and submit the renewal application, including disclosing a license to practice nursing or an allied health profession in another state, territory, possession or country.
- (2) Pay the biennial renewal of license fee in § 21.147(b) (relating to fees).
- (3) Disclose discipline imposed by a state licensing board in the previous biennial period and criminal charges pending or criminal conviction, plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or admission into a probation without verdict or accelerated rehabilitative disposition program during the previous biennial period, unless prior notification has been made under § 21.156b (relating to reporting of crimes and disciplinary action).
- (d) When communicating with the Board, LPNs shall identify themselves by their full name, current address and license number.

§ 21.156b. Reporting of crimes and disciplinary action.

- (a) An LPN shall notify the Board of pending criminal charges within 30 days of the filing of the criminal charges or on the biennial renewal application under § 21.156 (relating to renewal of license), whichever is sooner.
- (b) An LPN shall notify the Board of a criminal conviction, plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or admission into a probation without verdict or accelerated rehabilita-

tive disposition program within 30 days of the disposition or on the biennial renewal application under § 21.156, whichever is sooner.

(c) An LPN shall notify the Board of disciplinary action in the nature of a final order taken against the LPN by the licensing authority of another state, territory or country within 90 days of receiving notice of the disciplinary action or on the biennial renewal application under § 21.156, whichever is sooner.

Subchapter C. CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONERS

MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION

§ 21.332. Requirement of continuing education.

- (a) A CRNP shall comply with this section and §§ 21.332a—21.337.
- (b) Continuing education requirements shall be completed each biennial renewal cycle.
- (1) A CRNP who does not meet the continuing education requirements for a biennial period will be subject to formal disciplinary action under section 14(a)(3) of the act (63 P. S. \$ 244(a)(3)).
- (2) The Board may waive the requirements of continuing education in cases of illness or undue hardship. It is the duty of each CRNP who seeks a waiver to notify the Board in writing and request the waiver at least 90 days prior to the end of the renewal period unless an emergency or hardship occurs within the 90-day period. The Board will grant, deny or grant in part the request for waiver.
- (3) A CRNP who requests a waiver may not prescribe or dispense drugs after the expiration of his current prescriptive authority until the Board grants the waiver request or the prescriptive authority approval has been renewed.

Subchapter G. DIETITIAN-NUTRITIONISTS LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

§ 21.723. License renewal.

- (a) A license issued under section 5(e) of the act (63 P. S. § 215(e)) or under this subchapter will be valid from the date of issuance through September 30, 2006, following the issuance of the license. Each subsequent license renewal will be valid for 2 years from October 1 through September 30.
- (b) When applying for renewal of licensure, an LDN shall:
- (1) Complete the renewal application, including disclosing a license to practice dietetics-nutrition in any other state, territory, possession or country.
- (2) Pay the required fee as set forth in § 21.705 (relating to fees).
- (3) Submit proof to the Board that the LDN has satisfactorily completed a minimum of 30 hours of CPE approved by the Board in accordance with § 21.724 (relating to continuing education) during the 2 calendar years immediately preceding the application for renewal.

(4) Disclose any discipline imposed by a state licensing board in the previous biennial period or any criminal charges pending or criminal conviction, plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or admission into a probation without verdict or accelerated rehabilitative disposition program during the previous biennial period unless prior notification has been made under § 21.723a (relating to reporting of crimes and disciplinary action).

§ 21.723a. Reporting of crimes and disciplinary action.

- (a) An LDN shall notify the Board of pending criminal charges within 30 days of the filing of the criminal charges or on the biennial renewal application under § 21.723 (relating to license renewal), whichever is sooner
- (b) An LDN shall notify the Board of a criminal conviction, plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or admission into a probation without verdict or accelerated rehabilitative disposition program within 30 days of the disposition or on the biennial renewal application under § 21.723, whichever is sooner.
- (c) An LDN shall notify the Board of disciplinary action in the nature of a final order taken against the LDN's license by the licensing authority of another state, territory or country within 90 days of receiving notice of the disciplinary action or on the biennial renewal application under § 21.723, whichever is sooner.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 15-1827. Filed for public inspection October 16, 2015, 9:00 a.m.]