PRACTICE OUESTION: Licensure Requirements for Out of State School Nurses

Question:

We do many out of state field trips and I would like to know if you could supply me with information on your state nursing laws relating to nurses from (NON-COMPACT STATE) traveling to or thru your state. Information needed: do our nurses have to do anything to be able to complete their job as the school nurse on a field trip to your state? Example: contact the State board of Nursing? Apply for a temporary license? Or is there an exemption for travel if less than a specific amount of time?

Response:

Thank you for contacting the Maryland Board of Nursing with a question about school nurses from a non-compact state traveling through Maryland.

Please see the portion of the Nurse Practice Act that addresses your inquiry below. I have highlighted in red what you may want to focus on. You can view the full Annotated Code of Maryland (COMAR) online. This does not pertain to a nurse who is administering nursing care to a patient who is a Maryland resident unless the nurse was licensed in another Compact state (the National Licensure Compact provides a privilege to practice in all of the participating states.

HO section 8-301(c) and COMAR 10.27.01.03:

HO section 8-301:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be licensed by the Board before the individual may practice registered nursing in this State.
- (c) This section does not apply to:
- (3) An individual permitted to practice registered nursing or licensed practical nursing under rules and regulations adopted by the Board, if the individual:
- (i) Otherwise has qualified to practice registered nursing or licensed practical nursing in any other state or country and is in this State temporarily;

<u>COMAR 10.27.01.03A</u>. Registered nurses or licensed practical nurses who hold a current active license in any other state or jurisdiction may render nursing care:

- (1) For not more than 30 days, to an individual who is visiting the State for medical or personal reasons;
- (2) For the purpose of the interstate transport and care of patients traveling to and from Maryland; and
- (3) During an emergency situation.

Thank you contacting us and best wishes in your field trip experience.