

**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

EFFECTIVE DATE: JULY 1, 2008

**TITLE: DOCUMENTATION OF NURSING LICENSE AND CERTIFICATION
CREDENTIALS**

INTRODUCTION:

The public health nursing workforce includes Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Registered Professional Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). Each nurse who works in public health must have complete documentation of meeting Georgia licensure requirements and certification credentials and must practice in accordance with all relevant statutes, rules and regulations of the applicable Board (i.e. Georgia Board of Licensed Practical Nurses or Georgia Board of Registered Professional Nurses) and the requirements of the respective national certification entity.

AUTHORITY:

§ O.C.G.A. 43-26-6. Use of title by licensed registered professional nurse or advanced practice registered nurse.

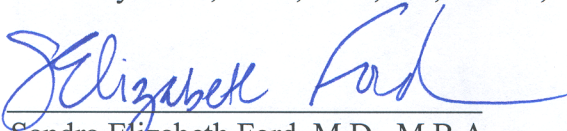
§ O.C.G.A. 43-26-33. Use of title by licensed practical nurse or applicant.

GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- A nurse who is licensed by the Georgia Board of Licensed Practical Nurses as a Licensed Practical Nurse must include the initials "L.P.N." after signing and/or displaying their name while performing duties as an LPN. An example is "Suzy Jones, LPN".
- A nurse who is licensed by the Georgia Board of Registered Professional Nurses as a Registered Professional Nurse must include the initials "R.N." after signing and/or displaying their name while performing duties as an RN. An example is "Suzy Jones, RN".
- A nurse who is licensed by the Georgia Board of Registered Professional Nurses as a Registered Professional Nurse and authorized as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse must include the initials "R.N." and "A.P.R.N." after signing and/or displaying their name while performing duties as an APRN. An example is "Suzy Jones, RN, APRN". Use of additional credentials is not required, but if desired, a nurse who is certified by a national certification entity may sign and/or display their certification credentials in accordance with the guidance provided by the respective national certification entity. An example is "Suzy Jones, RN, APRN, WHNP-BC".
- A nurse who is licensed by the Georgia Board of Registered Professional Nurses as a Registered Professional Nurse and has completed the educational program for an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, but is not certified by a national certification entity, must include "R.N" and may include the educational degree completed, but is not authorized to practice as an APRN and must not use the initials "A.P.R.N." or "F.N.P." or "A.N.P." or "P.N.P." or similar credentials when signing and/or displaying their name. An example is "Suzy Jones, RN, MSN".

- A nurse who is licensed by the Georgia Board of Registered Professional Nurses as a Registered Professional Nurse, has completed the educational program for a Master's degree, and is certified by a national certification entity, such as Nursing Administration, but is neither licensed as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse nor certified in an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse area, must include "R.N." and may include the educational degree completed and may display their certification credentials in accordance with the guidance provided by the respective national certification entity. An example is "Suzy Jones, MPH, BSN, RN, CNAA, BC".

APPROVED:



Sandra Elizabeth Ford, M.D., M.B.A.

Director

Division of Public Health

DATE: 12 June 2008