

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE FOR

# NURSES

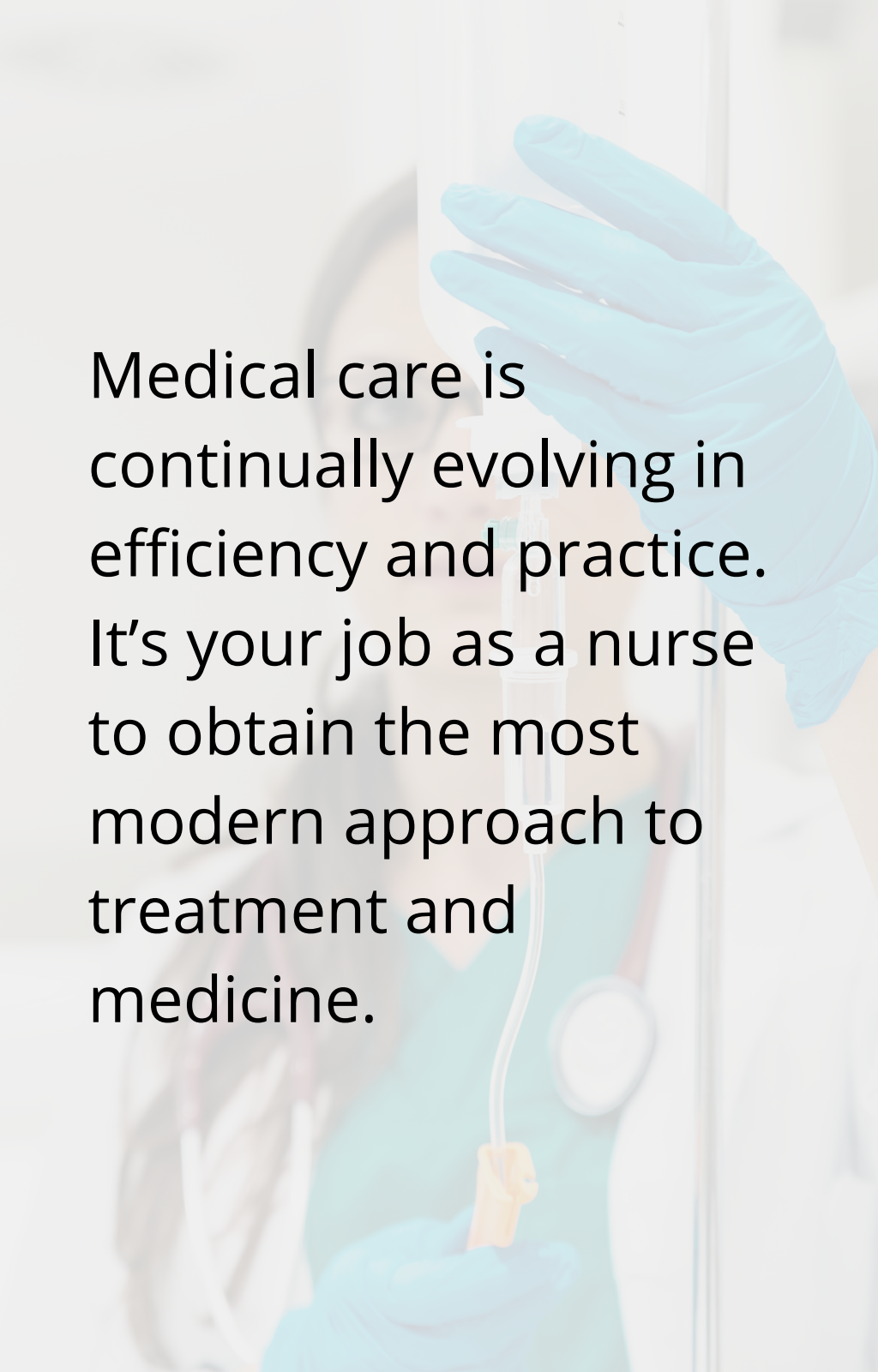
How to Renew Your Registered  
Nurse (RN) License



# Congratulations!

You've decided to further your career as an RN. Nurses are our lifeline in the healthcare industry. They hold our hands during the best and worst times of our lives. However, it's not easy to be a nurse—not only because of the physical, mental, and emotional stress of the job, but also the educational requirements to practice nursing.



A nurse wearing blue scrubs and blue gloves is holding a white IV drip chamber. The nurse's face is partially visible in the background, looking down at the device. The background is blurred, showing a patient lying in a hospital bed. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Medical care is continually evolving in efficiency and practice. It's your job as a nurse to obtain the most modern approach to treatment and medicine.

# We'll discuss:

- Finding Employment
- When to renew your RN license
- What it takes to restore your RN license
- How to renew your RN license



Let's get started with why maintaining an active RN license is critical to your career....



# Section 1:

## When to Apply for a License Renewal



It is **illegal** to practice nursing without an active license. Working without renewing these credentials is considered practicing without the benefit of licensure (BON). BON can lead to hefty fines, probation, suspension, or legal disciplinary action.

Typically, your nursing license will expire two years after the date you received the license. The Board of Nursing in Pennsylvania will send out biennial reminders to renew. Complete the nursing license renewal application before the expiration date to avoid a default status.

# Section 2:

## Requirements for an RN License Renewal



In Pennsylvania, nurses are also considered mandatory reporters for child abuse and neglect. Therefore, a nurse must complete additional CEUs on identifying and responding to child abuse during every renewal period.

Every state has its own requirements for obtaining an RN license renewal. Normally, you will have to complete continuing education units (CEUs). To determine whether you will need to complete nursing CEUs, research the state guidelines in the state where you received your nursing licensure.

Make sure to complete your CEUs from board-approved providers. Nonprofessional courses will not be accepted. You can find a comprehensive list of board-approved activities on your State Board of Nursing's website.

# Section 3:

## How to Renew Your License



**Ensure** that you complete the CEUs with enough time for the proper paperwork to reach the Board of Nursing—before your expiration date. Without the paperwork, your credentials could default.

The renewal application for an RN nursing licensure is a seamless online process, which you can find on your State Boarding of Nursing's webpage. Your license will be renewed when you complete the continuing education courses, pass a background check, and pay the appropriate fees. It generally only takes three working days to receive your renewal approval!

To conclude the process of an RN licensure renewal, it's essential to know that, even if you have let your license lapse, it is still not too late to reactivate your licensure. If your license has not been inactive or delinquent for longer than five years, you can simply complete a reactivation application and satisfy the standard requirements for renewal.

If it has been longer than five years since you have maintained an active RN license or retired, you can easily renew your RN licensure by providing proof of competency. After renewing your RN license and demonstrating that you are competent in nursing, you are legally able to continue working.



# Section 4:

## Finding Employment



There are many approaches to finding nursing careers, especially because nurses are infamously high demand across the nation. You can spend several days searching for “RN jobs near me” on Google, or just reach out to professionals trained in hiring and staffing nurses. CynaMed is a top-rated healthcare staffing agency that only works with reputable healthcare institutions—those that offer friendly environments and competitive wages. Speak to a CynaMed representative to connect with your dream nursing position based on your availability, experience, and skill set.



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