



Washington State Board of Nursing

NURSING ASSISTANT TRANSITION TO WABON

WABON to Assume Regulatory Authority for Nursing Assistants Beginning July 1, 2026

In 2025, [Senate Bill 5051](#) was enacted to streamline oversight of the Nursing Assistant (NA) profession by consolidating regulatory authority. Effective July 1, 2026, responsibility for credentialing and disciplinary actions will transfer from the Washington State Secretary of Health to the Washington State Board of Nursing (WABON).

This change means that WABON will serve as the primary point of contact for NA credentialing and discipline matters beginning July 1, 2026.

What does this mean for you

- Beginning July 1, 2026, please reach out to WABON with any questions related to nursing assistant credentials (NAR, NAC, or Medication Assistant Endorsements) at 360-236-4703 or nursing@doh.wa.gov.
- Continue to use the Department of Health's [Provider Credential Search](#) to verify credentials.
- Applications, renewals, and complaints related to nursing assistant credentials will still need to be submitted through the Department of Health's HELMS Online System.
- Information related to nursing assistant credentials will now be accessible on the WABON [website](#).

We encourage you to review the full details and consider how these changes may apply to your specific situation. Additional information and resources are available on the [WABON website](#).

If you have questions or need support, please contact nursing@doh.wa.gov or call 360-236-4703.

Thank you for staying informed. There may be some delays as we undergo this transition. We ask for your patience as we take on this large body of work to our regulatory authority to comply with our processes while still adjusting to our new database.

