

Welcoming Licensed Practical Nurses into NJSNA: An Historical Moment

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At the Annual Business Meeting on October 17, 2025, the New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA) approved the inclusion of Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) as official members of the association with a unanimous vote of 89-0. This vote reflects a shared mission of unity and the advancement of nursing practice in New Jersey.

NJSNA is one of the leading professional nursing organizations in the state representing nurses across many roles and specialties. Welcoming LPNs with membership recognizes the vital contributions LPNs make to patient care and communities alongside their practicing peers.

The two-year pilot program beginning on January 1, 2026, is designed to thoughtfully integrate LPNs into NJSNA.

LPN members have access to professional resources, continuing education opportunities, advocacy initiatives, and networking. They also hold dual membership in NJSNA and the Forum of Licensed Practical Nurses (FLPN). The forum provides additional opportunities for mentoring and professional support. LPNs have a voice in the association and a vote at annual business meetings, reinforcing the importance of collaboration and shared leadership in nursing advocacy.

The decision to welcome LPNs follows years of dialogue, research, public outreach, and engagement with nursing leaders. Throughout the process, the FLPN's executive board collaborated with peer state associations, including the Texas Nurses Association (TNA). TNA's ex-

perience with the inclusive membership model provided valuable insight and guidance. States that have adopted the model demonstrate that including LPNs has strengthened professional development and legislative influence.

By opening its doors to LPNs, NJSNA is investing in a stronger and more representative nursing community that values every nurse's role in advancing care and shaping the profession. The Association looks forward to the opportunities this pilot program will bring and remains committed to continued progress for nursing in New Jersey.

LPNs interested in joining NJSNA and the FLPN can do so by filling out a membership application and paying the annual dues here: <https://njsna.org/forum-of-lpns/>. ■

The FLPN's Executive Board



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