Arkansas Department of Health

Full Independent Practice Credentialing Committee
4815 W. Markham St., Slot 75 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Jennifer Dillaha, MD, Director
Renee Mallory, RN, Secretary of Health

FULL INDEPENDENT PRACTICE CREDENTIALING COMMITTEE
January 28, 2025

The meeting of the Full Independent Practice Credentialing Committee was called to order by Julia Ponder, DNP, APRN, Chairperson of the Full Independent Practice Credentialing Committee at 9:01 a.m.

Members present:

Julia Ponder, DNP, APRN, Chair
Mark Foster, DNP, APRN, Vice-Chair
Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN
Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN
William Hawkins, MD
Mitzi Scotten, MD
Sue Tedford, Director ASBN
Amy Embry, Director ASMB

Members Absent: Donna Shipley, MD- resigned

Also attending this meeting:

Sarah DeBusk-Griffith, Attorney, Arkansas Attorney General's Office
Shannon McKinney, DNP, APRN, ASBN Assistant Director
Christine Lewis, ASBN Executive Assistant
David Dawson, ASBN General Counsel
Crystal Price, UA Monticello Graduate Student

Additions to the agenda – There were no additions to the agenda.

Approval of Agenda – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to accept the minutes. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Investigations and Complaints Update

Shannon McKinney, DNP, APRN, ASBN Assistant Director updated the committee on the five new complaints received since the last meeting:
ORBS ID 111285 – has three complaints related to prescribing practices
ORBS ID 98790 – the complaint is related to unethical prescribing practices
ORBS ID 94188 – the complaint is related to providing IV infusions and delegation to a paramedic.

ORBS ID 74949 – the complaint is related to using the title of Dr. in the clinical setting and prescribing weight loss medications.
ORBS ID – 110291 – the complaint states the licensee does not have a medical director and is compounding drugs

The investigation on ORBS ID 96339 has been completed by ASBN and a Letter of Warning was issued. The complaint alleges the APRN is fraudulently billing for services.

Consent Agreement
Sarah DeBusk-Griffith, Attorney, with the Arkansas Attorney General's Office presented the consent agreement for Teddy Phillips, A003572. Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to ratify the consent agreement. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Review of Applications

Ronda Clements, A001031 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Inja Brown, A004852 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Sarah Reyna, A004658 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Birtha Hartness, A001567 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Charity Lane, CNP 121536 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Candy Ward, CNP 215202 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Marie Pham-Russell, A001764 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Tara Moore, CNP 125106 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Melody McGuire, A004554 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Gail Darby, A004038 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Kizzie Houston, CNP 214809 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Tara Norris, A003653 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Meaghan Kingston, A004313 - Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Savannah Tart, CNP 213328 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Diana Muckler, CNP 230780 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Helen Rivera, CNP 229147 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Christie Skinner, A003087 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Nicole Nugent, CNP 229452 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Melisa Swearingen, CNP 124029 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Allison Tiner, A004690 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Staci Gathright, A003219 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Justin Dubois, A005146 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Emily Christensen, CNP 214647 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Shannan Souza, CNP 121735 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Heather Porterfield, CNS126246 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Brandi Mays, A005942 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Debbie Wade, A001264 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Whitney Reed, A004458 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Jessica Berry, A005714 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Dr. Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Mireille Dziuk, CNP 219407 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed. .

Charissa McVay, A005335 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Cassandra Brown, A003865 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Tesa Ivey, A003357 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Porsche Craft, CNP 227617 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by William Hawkins, MD. The motion passed .

Aimee Burrous, A004709 – Mitzi Scotten, MD moved to grant a full independent practice certificate as a Family Nurse Practitioner. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Necole Hughes, A004389 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to defer the application and request an updated CV to include employment history. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed .

Kimberly Blake, A003482 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Kellie Cox, A003575 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for family independent practice only. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Brent Rush, A004751 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Dahlia Distin, A004973 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Chastity Campbell, CNP 123035 – Mitzi Scotten, MD moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for family practice only. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Angela Anderson, A004789 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Sara Brown, A003095 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for family practice and geriatric care. It was seconded by William Hawkins, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Alisha Ashley, A003936 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Kirsten Burks, A005620 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Genevieve D'Amato, CNP 215866 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Rickey Mack, A005608 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for acute care only. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Julie Calvery Carman, A003243 – Mitzi Scotten, MD moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Skyler Arnold, CNP 229256 – Mitzi Scotten, MD moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for family practice only and defer his request for acute care until additional information regarding his acute care experience is received. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Jenna Bryant, A004106 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Fiser, CNP 123157 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Felicia Coopwood, CNP 225035 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to defer her application for additional information to include a patient log including the number of patients seen on a daily basis and the amount of time spent with each patient. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Michelle Schivers, CNP 230537 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to defer this application until additional information and new affidavits are received. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Nichole Smith, CNP 213327 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed with Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN opposing.

Stipends

Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to pay stipends to the FIPCC as authorized by laws. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting – April 2025

The next scheduled meeting is April 8, 2025.

Other Business

The Committee was reminded to submit the Statement of Financial Interest to the Secretary of State by January 31, 2025.

Sue Tedford reported that renewals for independent practice will begin in September 2025. She reported on what is being drafted and more information will be presented to the Committee at a later date.

HB1244 – Julia Ponder and Sue Tedford reported on HB1244 related to the requirements for full independent practice for APRNs. Darlene Byrd moved to request Sue Tedford to include in the Impact Statement the concerns of the Committee regarding the proposed legislation. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten. The motion failed. Another motion was made by Darlene Byrd to include in the Impact Statement to the Committee being against changing the language regarding collaborative agreements. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk. The motion passed.

Darlene Byrd stated that she would like the Committee to consider methods for using FIPCC funds for scholarships. Sue Tedford stated that any expenses would require an appropriation from the Legislature.

Adjournment

Darlene Byrd moved to adjourn. It was seconded by William Hawkins, MD. The vote passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Julia Ponder, Chair

Amy E. Embry

Amy Embry, Recording Secretary