



NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS BOARD OF NURSING

Fiscal Year 2022
Citizen-Centric Report
Pursuant to PL 20-83

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. WHO ARE WE](#)
2. PERFORMANCE
3. FINANCES
4. CHALLENGES

Governance

Board Members

Roca Q. Sablan
Chairperson
(NP, Saipan
Representative)

Evita A. Kawai
Vice Chairperson
(RN, Saipan
Representative)

Anna V. Diaz
Secretary
(Technician
Representative)

Rafaela O. Perry
Board Member
(Public Community Rep.)

Milescelyn R. Guerrero
Board Member
(RN, Saipan
Representative)

Shirley L. Villanueva
Board Member
(LPN, Rota Representative)



ABOUT US

The Northern Mariana Islands Board of Nursing (NMI BON), formerly as Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners, was created within the Department of Public Health and established for the purpose of regulating the practice of Nursing. Pursuant to public No. 18-25, was re-establish as an autonomous public agency. The Board is comprised of seven (7) board members, having at least one representative from each island (Saipan, Tinian and Rota) and representing all nursing professions and technicians, respectively.

The purpose of the NMI BON is to provide for the regulation of the practice of nursing affecting the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by regulating the practice of nursing and defining its powers and duties, including licensure of practitioners of nursing, establishing standards for educational programs preparing students for nursing practice, and prescribing penalties for violations of the provisions of the Nurse Practice Act (NPA).

OUR MISSION

To protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth by regulating the practice of nursing through licensing of practitioners of nursing, establishing standards for educational programs preparing students for nursing practice, and prescribing penalties for violations of the provisions of the Nurse Practice Act.

OUR GOALS

1. Protect the integrity of quality care by nursing professions.
2. Regulate and enforce the adopted rules & regulation in accordance with the law.
3. Continue to evaluate prelicensure nursing education requirement and monitor providers licensed under the NMI BON.
4. Implement quality service and standard compliance.
5. Open and consistent communication.



PURPOSE: To provide for the regulation of the practice of nursing in health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by regulating the practice of nursing.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. WHO WE ARE
- 2. PERFORMANCE**
3. FINANCES
4. FUTURE OUTLOOK

PERFORMANCE

LICENSE REPORT

In Fiscal Year 2022 (“FY 2022”), the NMI BON issued 1,123 licenses in the following profession, as regulated:

- Advance Practice Registered Nursing (APRN): **3**
- Registered Nurse (RN): **1,064**
- Licensed Practical Nurse (PN/LPN): **10**
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA): **28**
- Graduate Nurse (GN): **13**
- Hemodialysis Technician (HT): **5**
- Surgical/Psychiatric Technician (ST/PT): **0**

Additionally, the thousands of license renewal and reinstatement have increased during this fiscal year.

WEBSITE (UPGRADE)

During FY 2022, the NMI BON has updated and upgraded its website to comply with the standards of the National Council State Boards of Nursing (“NCSBN”) and to coincide with the implementation of the upcoming online application program. The website provides numerous resources to the public, most especially to interested nursing applicants. The NMI BON website is continuously being updated but valuable information available for the public at www.nmibon.info.

LICENSE (UPGRADE)

NMI BON has upgraded its license cards to a plastic credit card type that includes the licensee’s photo as the main identification, date of birth expiration and update notice provided in the back of the license card.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Due to the demand of work hours of nurses and healthcare practitioners, locally and worldwide, there is also an increase of substance use disorder / drug abuse. During FY-2022, the NMI BON had no reports or incidents of such violation. However, to ensure that all NMI BON licensed nurses are aware of this addiction, the Board approved to require all nurses to complete this continuing education (“CE”) when renewing license.

In addition to this, all applicants who have completed their nursing program more than ten (10) years ago, an applicant is required to submit an employment certification with a minimum of five (5) years in a nursing related field. However, if an applicant is unable to provide this requirement, the application must complete a refresher course in nursing or complete a set number of continuing education approved by the NMI BON. CE courses continue to change with the demands of the workforce.

OUR MISSION: To protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by regulating the practice of nursing and practitioners.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. WHO WE ARE
2. PERFORMANCE
- 3. FINANCES**
4. FUTURE OUTLOOK

FINANCES

The budget for FY 2022 is derived from the NMI BON application fees and renewals/reinstatements. The revenue and expenditures are shown in Table 1 and Table 2, respectively.

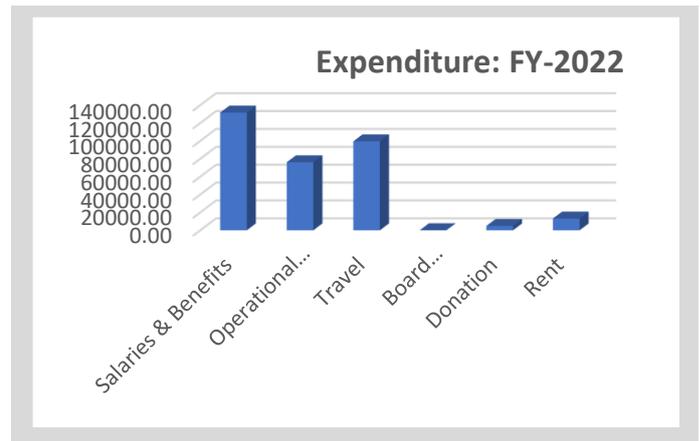
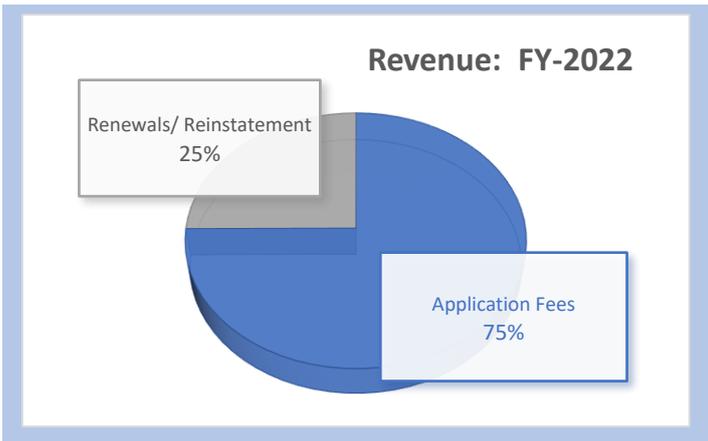


TABLE 1: REVENUE RESOURCES

1. Application Fee:	\$419,585.00
2. Renewal/Reinstatement:	\$140,377.00
TOTAL:	\$559,962.00

TABLE 2: EXPENDITURES

1. Salaries & Benefits:	\$131,768.55
2. Operational Expenses:	\$76,191.32
3. Travel:	\$99,593.63
4. Board Compensation:	\$210.00
5. Donation:	\$5,000.00
6. Rent:	\$13,200.00
TOTAL:	\$325,963.50

In the beginning of year 2022, the sudden high influx of applications, including application for license verification, illustrates an overwhelming increase in the NMI BON's revenue as illustrated in Table 1. Thereby, having to employ staff to counterbalance the voluminous paper works.

Dormant for almost two (2) years, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing ("NCSBN"), with its significant assistance to the NMI BON, commenced face to face trainings and conference which allowed all state boards to attend. This allows personal interaction and made networking more convenient. Membership with NCSBN allows all state boards to meet several times a year to discuss and adopt updated standards of nursing practice. These meetings are vital to improve the quality of care in the nursing profession.

With the decreasing numbers of COVID-19 worldwide, Board staff and management were able to attend face to face professional trainings and attend conferences as shown in the expenditure chart of FY 2022.





FUTURE OUTLOOK: The Board strives to ensure quality education of the nursing program in the Commonwealth and protect the integrity of quality care by nursing professions

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. WHO WE ARE
2. PERFORMANCE
3. FINANCES
- 4. FUTURE OUTLOOK**

FUTURE OUTLOOK

The NMI BON will be implementing its online application system with the assistance of the NCSBN program, the Optimal Regulatory Board System (“ORBS”).

During FY 2022, the IT team of the NMI BON attended the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (“NCSBN”) IT/Operations Conference wherein ORBS were presented and discussed. Additionally, the IT Team met with members of the Nevada Board of Nursing for hands-on demonstration and technical training of the ORBS.

The NMI BON ORBS is expected to go live on or by October 30, 2023, respectively. Prior to the launch of this program, equipment and internet upgrades using fiber optics have been contracted and is currently underway with an expected start date in early December 2022. This is crucial to the initiation of data migration on April 5th, 2023, is on schedule. Furthermore, as the NMI BON gradually enters this technological phase to improve services to nurses, the Board has granted to extend its office extension has been approved by the Board and will soon be undergoing renovation.

Once launched, nurses will no longer be issued a license card after passing the NCLEX. Like other Boards, license will be issued digitally and license numbers will be automated.

The NMI BON staff and team will continue to attend both live and virtual trainings hosted by NCSBN beginning December 2022 until August 2023.

While the transition is intricate, the NMI BON is one step closer to becoming digitally in line with other nursing boards.

The NMI BON is legally the authorized body in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to approve nursing programs including nursing assistant program offered in high school. Therefore, as the nursing profession evolves, the NMI BON will continue to oversee and provide guidance to the nursing programs in the CNMI. Moving forward, the Northern Marianas College is also expected to be offering the Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing (“BSN”) program.



NMI Board of Nursing

CEDA Bldg., suite 207
PO Box 501458
Saipan, MP 96950
(670)233-2263