



Did you know there are serious consequences for providing false information when applying or renewing your registration to NANB?

As Health professionals, Registered Nurses (RNs) have certain expectations and rules to follow. These rules include the annual renewal of their license for registration, completing continuing competence and good character. (NANB by-laws 1.03C and NANB Rule 1.01) RNs are required to answer questions truthfully and conscientiously upon application and renewal to NANB and to engage in continuing competence is by participating in NANB's [Continuing Competence Program - NANB](#) throughout the registration year.

Truthful reporting is a fundamental part of professional ethics. RNs, are bound by [Standards of Practice](#), [Code of Ethics](#), rules and by-laws that regulate their practice. They are accountable for providing accurate and truthful documentations that meet NANB's [Standards for Documentation](#);

Colleges and regulatory bodies in the health sector have a self-regulatory mandate to protect the public. Registrants and members are required to answer questions truthfully during renewal, and to report any charges or convictions, so that the college or regulatory body can determine what regulatory action to take and update its public registry to inform the public.

If you have been charged with or convicted of a criminal offence during the practice year or since your last active registration, you must provide details of the criminal charge/conviction to NANB.

Consequences of lying to your professional body:

If an RN is found guilty of providing falsified information during the renewal process, it will impact their integrity as a health care professional and can lead to serious consequences, including charges of professional misconducts, denial, suspension and in some situations, revocation of their registration certificate.

It is your duty as a member to report any RN practicing in an unsafe or unethical manner. [Practice Guidelines: Duty to report](#). As noted above, complaints related to concerns that a nurse practiced inappropriately and/or failed to meet the requirements of the [Standards of Practice](#) or the [Code of Ethics](#); concerns that a nurse is unfit, incapable or unsafe to practise nursing; and/or concerns that a nurse is a risk to the public as a result of poor nursing practice; should be reported to NANB.

Examples of certain conducts that must be reported to NANB:

- any nurse is obligated to file a complaint with NANB if he/she has reason to believe that another nurse is unable to function safely to such an extent that the welfare of patients is jeopardized;
- any nurse is obligated to file a complaint with NANB if he/she has reason to believe that another health professional has sexually abused a patient or client; and
- employers who dismiss a nurse for reasons of incompetence or incapacity are obligated by law to report such dismissal to NANB.



Failure by a nurse to report these matters to NANB is considered professional misconduct.
<https://nanb.nb.ca/en/complaints/complaints-process/>

Case Study in the health care sector:

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario v. Thomas., was charged with dangerous driving. When he renewed his certificate of practice, Dr. Thomas failed to report his criminal offence and answered negatively to being charged with any criminal offenses during the year. This led to the suspension of their certificate of registration and a financial penalty.

Conclusion

To avoid any potential consequences related to misleading reporting, RNs and NPs should adhere to the CNA Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses (867) and NANB's Standards for Documentation. RNs must always provide accurate and truthful information in reports and not omit any crucial information.

If you need assistance filing a report, self-reporting or understanding your obligations during renewal, please contact NANB

- For inquiries regarding your application, registration or renewing your registration to practice as an RN or NP in New Brunswick. nanbregistration@nanb.nb.ca
- For support in navigating nursing legislation and regulations, understanding the scope of nursing practice, meeting the standards of practice and for questions on the standards for nursing education. practiceconsultation@nanb.nb.ca
- For complaints about a NANB registrant's professional competence and/or professional conduct. complaints@nanb.nb.ca
- For all inquiries about the Discipline Committee and Fitness to Practice Committee Rules of Procedure. tribunalsoffice@nanb.nb.ca

References:

Feferman, Sari, 2024 Lying on Annual Reports Could Lead to Professional Misconduct (Sept 10, 2024) https://www.rosensunshine.com/blog/lying-on-annual-reports-could-lead-to-professional-misconduct#_ftn1

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Nurses Association of New Brunswick, Standards of Practice, 2019 [Standards of Practice](#).

Nurses Association of New Brunswick, Rules Revised June 9th, 2020 [NANB Rules](#)

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Nurses Association of New Brunswick, Standards.for.Documentation, May 2020, [Standards for Documentation](#)

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Nurses Association of New Brunswick, Practice.Guidelines;Duty.to.Report , March 2021
<https://nanb.nb.ca/en/library/document/practice-guideline-duty-to-report/>

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario v Thomas, 2024 ONPSDT 8 (Feb 27, 2024) [2024 ONPSDT 8 \(CanLII\)](#) | [College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario v. Thomas | CanLII](#)