

# Indiana State Nursing Assistance Program (ISNAP)

## Frequently Asked Questions

The ISNAP program changed providers on July 1, 2018. Since that time there have been questions that are common among employers, treatment providers and monitoring participants. Here are the answers to the most common questions we receive.

### **What happened to ISNAP? Did it go away?**

No! The monitoring program is still called ISNAP or the Indiana State Nursing Assistance Program. The program is still under the auspices of the Board of Nursing and the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency. The only difference is who manages the monitoring program. The new provider for ISNAP is IPRP or Indiana Professionals Recovery program.

### **Who is ISNAP for?**

If you are a nurse who is struggling with substance abuse, you are not alone! In fact, the American Journal of Nursing estimates that 3-6 percent of nurses are currently engaged in active drug or alcohol use and addiction. Being impaired can feel isolating, overwhelming and hopeless, but there is hope. As a health care professional, successfully engaging our program:

- Allows you to continue working as a nurse in the field you love
- Provides you the support and encouragement you need to find the appropriate resources for your recovery
- Equips you with the skills to help you return to work and remain abstinent from substance abuse

### **What are the costs?**

The evaluation with ISNAP, the case management services are free of charge. If monitoring is required the participant pays for any substance abuse treatment services from an outside provider and any drug screening that is required.

### **How do I contact ISNAP?**

The best way to contact us is by phone. Our toll-free number is 844-687-7309. If you want to get familiar with our staff and program feel free to visit us at [www.inprp.org](http://www.inprp.org) If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter email us at [info@INPRP.org](mailto:info@INPRP.org)

### **What is the difference between a self-referral and regulatory referral?**

- **Self-Referral or Voluntary Admission**  
Often those struggling with substance use disorder seek help on their own. Many contact ISNAP for assistance. Confidential help is available if you are proactive and voluntarily self-report your situation to ISNAP. Higher levels of confidentiality can be offered, which leads to little or no effect on your licensing status and career path. But this can only happen if you reach out for help before you are terminated from work due to intoxication, testing positive on a drug screen with your employer or someone files a consumer complaint against your license. During voluntary admission or self-referral, you will be able to remain active in your health care profession while being monitored, as long as you remain compliant in the program.

- **Regulatory or Mandatory Admission**

Too often nurses struggling with an addiction deny they have a problem until it's too late to be proactive. Good meaning nurses wait until they encounter legal problems such as: caught being impaired at work, testing positive on a drug screen, being accused of diverting medication or have had a consumer complaint filed against their license. In these cases, the matter gains the attention of either the Board of Nursing or the Office of the Attorney General. At that point, a mandatory referral to ISNAP is made and you will be considered a regulatory referral. Depending upon the nature of your case, the board and the Attorney General may place your license on probation, suspend or revoke your nursing license, thus preventing you from working as a nurse.

## **I was arrested and convicted of a DUI. Do I have to report this to the board?**

Yes, you must report this to the board. Every two years nursing professionals are required to renew their license. On the renewal application you are required to answer the following six questions.

1. Since you last renewed, has any health professional license, certificate, registration or permit you hold or have held been disciplined or are formal charges pending?
2. Since you last renewed, have you been denied a license, certificate, registration, or permit in any state?
3. Since you last renewed, and except for minor violations of traffic laws resulting in fines and arrests or convictions that have been expunged by a court, have you been arrested, entered into a diversion agreement, been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled nolo contendere to any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state?
4. Since you last renewed have you had a malpractice judgment against you or settled a malpractice action?
5. Have you been reprimanded, disciplined, demoted or terminated in the scope of your practice or as another health care professional?
6. Since you last renewed have you been excluded from being a Medicare or Medicaid provider?

Answering “yes” to any question or giving false information to any question will require a personal appearance before the Board of Nursing. The result may be a mandatory or regulatory referral to ISNAP. If you know you will answer “yes” on any of these questions in advance of your actual renewal, it is best to contact ISNAP and seek help before matters get worse.

## **I've heard I will be placed on a 3 Year RMA. Is that always true?**

First what is an RMA? RMA stands for Recovery Monitoring Agreement. This is the agreement you make with ISNAP that outlines what is required of you. Once you are evaluated by one of our master's level case managers, they will work with you to develop a practical plan to help you maintain your recovery and the profession you love. Depending upon the severity of the problem, an RMA can range anywhere from one to three years.