

---

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

NONRULE POLICY DOCUMENT

**TITLE:** Flexible Treatment Options for Substance Abuse Disorder

**DATE ADOPTED:** April 21, 2022

**ADOPTED BY:** Indiana State Board of Nursing

**NOTICE:** Under [IC 4-22-7-7](#), this document is required to be published in the Indiana Register and is effective on its date of publication. It shall remain in effect until the date it is superseded or deleted by the publication of a new document in the Indiana Register. The publication of this document will provide the public with information about the Board's official position concerning a specific issue.

**DISCLAIMER:** This nonrule policy document is intended to supplement applicable rules and laws. It does not replace applicable rules and laws and, if it conflicts with these rules or laws, the rules or laws shall control. Decisions made under this nonrule policy document are not subject to review unless such review is separately granted by statute.

**Overview**

To provide interpretation of the abstinence based program requirements of the Indiana State Nurses Assistance Program (ISNAP) contained in [848 IAC 7-1](#).

**Background**

Registered and licensed practical nurses who have been affected by the personal use or abuse of alcohol or other drugs may voluntarily enroll or be involuntarily enrolled in ISNAP. Under [848 IAC 7-1](#), ISNAP means an "abstinence based" program. Neither the Indiana Code nor the Indiana Administrative Code define "abstinence based". To aid in the operation of ISNAP, this policy provides the board's official interpretation of "abstinence based".

**Policy**

"A nurse who has been affected by the personal use or abuse of alcohol or other drugs is eligible for participation in ISNAP[.]. [848 IAC 7-1-2](#). "In order to participate in ISNAP, the nurse must sign an abstinence based RMA with ISNAP.". *Id.* "RMA" means a "written document establishing the terms for an individual registered nurse's or licensed practical nurse's participation in the abstinence based rehabilitation monitoring program.". [848 IAC 7-1-1\(5\)](#). "Treatment program" means an abstinence based program or facility that is accredited . . .". [848 IAC 7-1-1\(6\)](#).

For the purposes of [848 IAC 7-1](#) et seq., an abstinence based program requires:

- (1) a participating nurse to abstain from drugs and alcohol; or
- (2) a participating nurse to abstain from all addictive or mind-altering substances, except those prescribed by a licensed practitioner as a part of a medically necessary treatment plan that is reviewed by the Board and incorporated into an RMA.

*Posted: 05/11/2022 by Legislative Services Agency*

An [html](#) version of this document.