

NEBRASKA LICENSEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A SERVICE OF BEST CARE EAP

The NE LAP Pre-Licensure Alcohol/Drug Assessment

The Nebraska Licensee Assistance Program (NE LAP) provides professional alcohol/drug assessments for individuals applying for a professional license, certification or registration in the State of Nebraska. The NE LAP classifies these as pre-licensure cases. The Nebraska Department of Public Health Licensure Unit generally refers these individuals to the NE LAP when there are past alcohol/drug problems or offenses reported on their applications. These may be initial licensure applications, reapplications after a license has been inactive, surrendered or revoked, or applications from a health service professional moving into Nebraska from another state.

There are a variety of past alcohol/drug related problems or offenses that may prompt the referral to the NE LAP. The applicant may have incurred MIP's or DUI's. There may have been misdemeanor or felony convictions for other alcohol or drug-related offenses or treatment for alcohol or drug addiction. Generally, a probation, surrender or revocation of a license in another state due to alcohol/drug issues will also lead to the referral to the NE LAP.

The NE LAP provides comprehensive alcohol/drug assessments in cases where no assessment has previously been completed. When there has been a prior comprehensive assessment, the NE LAP will conduct a treatment or recovery assessment of the alcohol/drug abuse issues. In all cases, the NE LAP obtains the information necessary to make a valid and reliable determination of the nature and extent of the alcohol/drug abuse problem, and if anything remaining needs to be done to solve these problems. It is important for the pre-licensuree to have taken responsibility for past alcohol or drug problems or offenses and to have completed the steps necessary to have satisfactorily resolved these issues. The NE LAP provides appropriate treatment recommendations designed to resolve any alcohol/drug abuse problems which continue for a pre-licensuree.

Health service college students request the assistance of the NE LAP regarding their licensure application's questions on alcohol/drug abuse problems. We encourage pre-licensurees to be forthright on the application. We also encourage them to provide the Licensure Unit with documentation of their completion of any legal probation or treatment requirements which will show they have taken these problems seriously and have already satisfactorily resolved them. Some applicants are resistant to list their relevant alcohol/drug abuse history on their application because they did not complete these recommendations or their alcohol/drug problems continue. We encourage these future applicants to take the steps necessary to get these problems resolved before their licensure application whenever possible.

Nebraska health service licensure applicants can contact the NE LAP for assistance with determining the steps they may need to take regarding their alcohol/drug issues to ensure they will have a successful result on their application for a professional health service license.

If you are a licensed health or health-related service professional wanting more information about alcohol/drug abuse or addiction, please contact the NE LAP at (800) 851-2336 or (402)354-8055 or visit our web site at www.lapne.org. If you would like to consult with the NE LAP or schedule an assessment or an educational presentation, please ask for Judi Leibrock, NE LAP Coordinator or Michelle Hruska, NE LAP Counselor.

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