



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation

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Governor

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Secretary

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Director
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Regulation

IMPORTANT NOTICE

**To: Licensed Advanced Practice Nurses, Physicians
and other Licensed Health Care Professionals**

From: Division of Professional Regulation

Date: November 16, 2007

**Re: Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) Controlled
Substance/Schedule II**

On October 5, 2007, Governor Rod R. Blagojevich signed into the law P.A. 95-0639, which amended the Illinois Nurse Practice Act and the Illinois Controlled Substance Act to allow for the delegation of prescriptive authority for schedule II controlled substances to Advanced Practice Nurses (APNs) by their collaborating physician.

While this law was effective on the day of signing, APNs are not currently authorized to write and issue prescriptions for schedule II controlled substances.

After reviewing the changes to the Nurse Practice Act and the Illinois Controlled Substance Act, the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has expressed concerns that the changes to the Illinois Controlled Substances Act do not grant statutory authority to the Department to issue schedule II registrations to APNs. Legislation and other changes are currently being prepared which would provide the authority for APNs to write and issue prescriptions for schedule II controlled substances; however, those changes are not complete and/or final.

In order to issue and write prescriptions for schedule II controlled substances, APNs will have to apply in writing for a revised Illinois Controlled Substance Registration. The Department is currently working to update the relevant forms and a new application and instruction sheet will be available on the Department's website in the near future.

Once the APN has obtained a revised IL Controlled Substance Registration, they will then need to apply for a revised or updated DEA registration. DEA will not issue a new or updated DEA registration until the APN has received a revised IL Controlled Substance Registration.

Once again, until the APN has schedule II controlled substance registrations from both the Department and the DEA, APNs may not issue prescriptions for schedule II substances. Applications will become available upon resolution of the above issue. Please check our web site for additional information.