Chapter 4723. of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) establishes the Ohio Board of Nursing and sets forth the Board’s statutory authority for its functions and activities. Section 4723.02, ORC, establishes that the Board shall consist of thirteen members and specifies the required qualifications and the terms of the appointments. This summary provides an overview, but readers are encouraged to review the statute.

The Governor, with the advice and consent of the State Senate, appoints members of the Board. Interested individuals are to submit an application to the Governor’s Office. The application can be found at www.governor.ohio.gov. Board members serve a four-year term and may be re-appointed for a second four-year term. The statute requires that members be citizens of the United States and residents of Ohio.

The Board consists of eight registered nurses, four licensed practical nurses, and one consumer member. Nurse members must be a graduate of an approved nursing education program, hold a current, active Ohio license as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse, and have engaged in the practice of nursing for the five years immediately preceding the member’s initial appointment to the Board. One of the registered nurses must hold a valid certificate of authority issued by the Board that authorizes the practice of nursing as a certified registered nurse anesthetist, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner.

The consumer member represents the interests of consumers of health care. Neither the consumer member nor any person in the member’s immediate family, may be a member of, or associated with a health care provider or profession, or have a financial interest in the delivery or financing of health care.

The Board meets in Columbus seven times a year. Two-day meetings are held every other month and an additional meeting is held for the Board Retreat. Generally, the meetings include discussion about legislative and regulatory issues impacting licensure, practice and nursing education and disciplinary deliberations. Board members may serve as the chairpersons of Board Advisory Groups or participate in Board Committees.

Board members are compensated according to division (J) of Section 124.15, ORC, for each day in attendance at board meetings and in the discharge of official duties, and in addition, necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.