



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Health Professions Licensure  
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MARYLOU SUDDERS  
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MARGRET R. COOKE  
Acting Commissioner

October 15, 2021

Via Electronic Mail

Austin Fast  
National Public Radio  
[afast@npr.org](mailto:afast@npr.org)

**Re: Your Public Records Request BHPL-2021-631**

Dear Mr. Fast:

This letter is in regard to the above referenced public record request received by the Department of Public Health (DPH), Bureau of Health Professions Licensure (BHPL) on September 23, 2021. This request has been assigned a tracking number: BHPL-2021-631. Specifically, you requested:

**The following public records from Massachusetts' board of nursing pertaining to all applicants for RN and LPN licenses from Jan. 1, 2019, until the date this request is processed:**

In electronic spreadsheet format (.csv, Excel, .txt, etc.) records containing but not limited to the following information:

- Name of applicant (first, middle, last)
- City of residence
- State of residence
- License type: RN or LPN
- License duration: Temporary or permanent
- Application type, e.g.:
  - o Initial licensure by examination
  - o Initial licensure by reciprocity/endorsement
  - o Renewal of license
  - o Reactivation of license
  - o Reinstatement of license, etc.
- Date of initial application submission
- Date when all required application documents received, if later than initial application date
- License/application status as of date this request is processed (e.g., active, pending, denied, etc.)

- License issue date (if approved as of date this request is processed)
- License expiration date (if approved as of date this request is processed)

In an email exchange with Charlena Christiansen, Public Records Liaison for BHPL on October 5, 2021, you agreed to a time extension of October 13, 2021.

The information you seek does not exist as a single record or segregable portion of a larger record within the custody and control of DPH. Generation of such would require specialized technical skill and programming expertise, beyond simple data extraction. An agency is not required to create a new record in order to respond to a public record request. G.L. c. 66, § 6A(d).

While not required to do so, an agency may create information where it is in the public interest and resources permit. Please note that any such effort would not be subject to the provisions of the Public Record Law, G.L. c. 66. As a courtesy, the Department has enclosed a spreadsheet of information responsive to your request, the production of which completes DPH's response to your request. DPH has not withheld or redacted any documents from this response.

Attached is a report of all applications since 1/1/2019 through the date of this request. What we do not have available in reports for applications is the following:

- Date when all required application documents received, if later than initial application date
- License issue date (if approved as of date this request is processed)
- License expiration date (if approved as of date this request is processed)

The list of licenses issued can be pulled from Check a License with real time information. You can search the parameters you are concerned with, then download the results and filter for date ranges of your choosing. From Check a License, the following requested fields may be obtained in the data download process:

- Name
- License type
- License status
- Address city & state
- Issue date
- Expiration date

The date when the application documentation was all received is also not available for issued licenses as well.

The link for Check A License is: <https://madph.mylicense.com/verification/>

The link to the manual that provides directions on how to download data is:

<https://madph.mylicense.com/verification/Custom/verification.htm>

DPH reserves the right to retrieve any exempted, privileged, or otherwise protected materials inadvertently included in this production. Any such production is not, and shall not be considered or deemed, a waiver of any applicable privileges or protections from disclosure.

DPH now considers this PRR closed. If you wish to challenge this response, and your request was received in writing, you may appeal to the Supervisor of Records following the procedure set forth in 950 CMR 32.08, a copy of which is attached. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 66, § 10A, you may also seek judicial review by commencing a civil action in Suffolk Superior Court.

Please contact Ann Scales, Media Relations Manager, at 617-624-5253 with any questions. In any communication regarding this request, please reference the assigned tracking number BHPL-2021-631.

Sincerely,



Helen Rush-Lloyd  
Records Access Officer

Cc: Ann Scales, Media Relations Manager