



The Voluntary Disciplinary Alternative Program (VDAP) offers nurses in the State of Alabama an alternative to discipline for issues relating to substance use, mental health, or physical ailments that may inhibit their ability to provide safe nursing care.

The ABN utilizes a self-report and online application to apply for entry into the VDAP program. Once eligibility criteria are determined, the nurse is allowed to enter into an alternative to discipline agreement while receiving the professional help they need to overcome disease or disability. Please explore the VDAP Program at <http://www.abn.alabama.gov/vdap/> or go to My Profile to submit a self-report.

Company Name  
Street Address  
City, ST ZIP Code

Recipient Name  
Address  
City, ST ZIP Code



## Image

### VDAP Eligibility Criteria

- See [ABN Administrative Code 610-X-13-.02](#) - Criteria for Eligibility.

### Requirements for Program participation

- See [ABN Administrative Code 610-X-13-.03](#) - Requirements for Participation in Program



### What is VDAP?

The Voluntary Disciplinary Alternative Program (VDAP) created in 1994, is a program authorized by the Alabama legislature to promote early identification, intervention, treatment and rehabilitation of nurses in Alabama whose competence is found to be impaired or compromised because of the use or abuse of drugs, alcohol, controlled substances, chemicals, or other substances or as a result of a physical or mental condition rendering the person unable to meet the standards of the nursing profession.

One major eligibility factor is that the nurse must cease nursing practice until he or she has been deemed safe to provide patient care by a Board recognized treatment provider with a healthcare professionals track.

### Additional requirements for SUD monitoring agreements include:

- Cease nursing practice until deemed safe by an ABN board recognized treatment program.
- Abstain from all unauthorized use of alcohol and drugs for the duration of the Agreement.
- Monitoring period is 5 years (60 months) for most nurses, with an option to complete after 3 years (36 months) if deemed applicable by the Agreement.
- Monitoring fee as detailed in the Agreement
- Comply with treatment team's recommendation to include counseling, aftercare/continuing care, restricted access to controlled substances for a period of time, and or treatment as indicated.
- Attendance at a minimum of three (3) abstinence-oriented support meetings each week.
- Work in nursing practice a minimum of 24 months, an average of 96 hours per month, to complete.
- Random drug screens for the duration of the Agreement.
- Prescription Verifications for ALL medications for the duration of the Agreement.
- Submit all required reports to the Board.
- Comprehensive mental health evaluations /cognitive testing at the beginning and end of the program.
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### Compliance Monitoring:

The ABN conducts compliance monitoring to ensure the accountability required for nurses with substance use or mental health issues to safely return to practice. It is important to note that the ABN does not perform addiction counseling or recovery services, which is the role of independent treatment providers. The ABN's role is to monitor the licensee's compliance with the agreement.

ABN compliance monitoring curates and preserves external evidence of recovery. Simply put, we've designed post agreement compliance monitoring services to ensure that our licensees are following through on recovery and meeting the requirements stipulated upon entering the VDAP program.

Note: Monitoring requirements for nurses with Mental Illness or Physical Illness Agreements are determined on an individual basis

### Learn More

<http://www.abn.alabama.gov/vdap/>.