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# THE NURSE AGENCY INK

Winter, 2006

[www.thenurseagency.com](http://www.thenurseagency.com)

The Agency That Cares

## Joint Commission is Coming!

We are pleased to announce that we have completed our application for the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations Health Care Services Certification and are waiting to hear when our review will occur. JCAHO accreditation gives agencies a "seal of approval" which can help attract potential clients as well as RNs. It demonstrates and validates what we have been doing since our inception: running an exceptional agency that respects its RNs and Hospital clients, as well as the laws and regulations that govern our industry.

In order for us to obtain certification, we will need your help! The first step involves the annual quality controls we require for your file. JCAHO and the hospital clients we service count on us to staff only fully credentialed RNs. Even though the OSHA exam or HIPPA statement may not seem very important or necessary for you to work, the hospitals are relying on us to provide these items on request.

Please be aware that during our review a Joint Commission representative will be calling a sample of our nurses to obtain feedback about The Nurse Agency. We appreciate any information you would be willing to share.

### We need your help!!

If you have not already completed the American Staffing Associations 2005 Staffing Survey please go online to [www.synovatestaffingsurvey.com](http://www.synovatestaffingsurvey.com), enter employer number 11083, and complete the survey. You could win one of 100 \$50.00 cash prizes. The survey is open until February 17, 2006. We need at least 30 employees to participate and to date, only 13 employees have completed the survey. The results will be published in May and we will post our individual results on our website if we receive the required number of responses.



### Education Information



Need an ACLS Class? Acute Care Education Specialists holds them at local hospitals or at their office in Hoffman Estates. Please see below for renewal classes being offered in February. Be sure to check out their website, [www.cardiosave.com](http://www.cardiosave.com), for all of their class listings or to register. Their phone number is 1-800-229-2171.

2/21	8am-12:00 pm	Rush Copley Medical Center
2/25	8am-1:30 pm	UIC Medical Center
3/22	8:30am-1:30 pm	Northwestern Memorial Hospital
3/25	8am-1:30 pm	UIC Medical Center

### Illinois RN License Renewal Information:

Don't forget that Illinois RN licenses expire on May 31, 2006. The state will soon start the renewal process for RNs. Make sure to periodically check their website at:

[www.idpr.com/dpr/RENEWAL/default.asp](http://www.idpr.com/dpr/RENEWAL/default.asp)

for updates about the renewal process.

If you have moved please visit the Illinois Department of Professional Regulations website to quickly and easily update your address information. Their website is: [www.ildpr.com](http://www.ildpr.com)

You can renew your license with your credit card on line or by calling 1-800-823-6100. There is a \$3.00 convenience fee for renewing with your credit card.

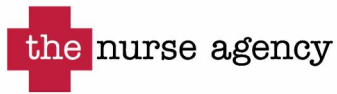
Don't forget to send us a copy after you renew it!! You may fax, email or mail a copy to us. You will not be permitted to work if we do not have a copy in our office.



### RN of the First Quarter 2006!

Jeffrey Grosse, RN has been selected as the RN of the Quarter for the First Quarter of 2006! Jeffrey travels a great distance to work shifts through us and is very flexible with the hospitals he will staff—even on very short notice! He is also quickly becoming a favorite of the hospitals to which we send him and they are starting to request him by name! Jeffrey will receive a \$100.00 Lettuce Entertain You Gift Certificate and a Certificate of Appreciation. Thank you, Jeffrey, for your hard work—we appreciate all that you do!

The Nurse Agency is Certified by Cook County as a Women Business Enterprise!!



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## Free TB Testing and CPR Renewal In Our Office

Don't forget that you may renew your CPR card and get your annual TB testing done in our office at no charge if you are an active employee. The CPR renewal class only takes about an hour and a half and you receive your card the same day.



## Looking For Continuing Education Units?

Check out [www.thenurseagency.com](http://www.thenurseagency.com)! We now have a continuing education page that links you to various online resources offering CEU's for RNs. Some even offer free CEU's! Let us know if you know of a good online resource for RNs and we'll link to them on our website.

Quality Control notices are sent weekly to RNs who have credentials that will expire within 45 days. Please return the requested items as soon as possible. You will not be able to work if your file is not kept up to date. All QC's are available on our website, [www.thenurseagency.com](http://www.thenurseagency.com), for downloading or give us a call and we will mail them to you.

## NEWS AND NOTES...

- We recently updated our office! We have new computers and a newly remodeled conference room with internet testing stations. We are now utilizing nationally validated exams which are administered via the internet to screen new employees. Stop by and see us sometime!
- New on the Web: Check out our website, [www.thenurseagency.com](http://www.thenurseagency.com), for updates, annual credentials, and industry news. We currently have a link on our home page to a study the American Staffing Association helped fund regarding the *relationship between the use of temporary nurses and patient outcomes*.
- Have an Idea, Comment or Question? We Want Your Feedback! We are always searching for new ways to improve the service we provide our nurses and our hospital clients. Please don't hesitate to call us with any feedback you may have. We won't know if you are satisfied with the service we provide you unless you tell us! Comments or questions can also be sent to us via our website [www.thenurseagency.com](http://www.thenurseagency.com). Simply go to the [Contact Us](#) page and send us an email.