



Wyoming State Board of Nursing
 130 Hobbs Avenue, Suite B
 Cheyenne, WY 82002
 Phone (307) 777-7601 Fax (307) 777-3519
 E-Mail: wsbn-info-licensing@wyo.gov
 Home Page: <https://nursing-online.state.wy.us/>

OPINION: CNAS IN OTHER ROLES

APPROVED DATE: July 2006

REVIEWED DATE: June 2016

REVISED DATE: July 2014

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:

Practice & Education Committee

An advisory opinion adopted by WSBN is an interpretation of what the law requires. While an advisory opinion is not law, it is more than a recommendation. In other words, an advisory opinion is an official opinion of WSBN regarding the practice of nursing as it relates to the functions of nursing. Facility policies may restrict practice further in their setting and/or require additional expectations related to competency, validation, training and supervision to assure the safety of their patient population and/or decrease risk.

Within the Scope of Practice/Role of ___APRN ___RN ___LPN XCNA

**ADVISORY OPINION
 CNAS IN OTHER ROLES**

In accordance with Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 33-21-122(c)(iii) of the Wyoming Nursing Practice Act (NPA), the Wyoming State Board of Nursing (WSBN) has approved the following Advisory Opinion on CNAs in Other Roles.

The NPA provides the following definition:

“Practice of a certified nursing assistant/nurse aide” means, regardless of title or care setting, the performance of nursing related tasks and services delegated by a licensed nurse. The nursing assistant/nurse aide shall complete a specified course of study approved by the Board, meet minimum competency requirements and be certified by the Board.

Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 33-21-120(a)(xii); *See also Rules Wyo. Dept. of Admin. & Info., Bd. of Nursing, Ch. 3, §6(a)* (Dec. 2013). A CNA shall work under the direction of an APRN, RN or LPN. A CNA is not an independent role. In this setting, WSBN has purview over the CNA role.

An individual with a CNA certificate may be employed in a healthcare facility in another ancillary healthcare field. However, they must only function in the role in which they are employed by the healthcare facility. In order to maintain a clear delineation of the roles, the CNA may not use the title CNA or function in the role of a CNA at any time the individual is working in another ancillary healthcare field. In addition, the individual may not use the hours worked in the other ancillary healthcare field towards the practice requirements for renewal of their nursing assistant certification.

An individual with a CNA certification who accepts employment working in another ancillary healthcare role does not meet the definition of CNA as outlined in the NPA. As such, the working hours will not be counted towards continued competency for certification renewal of the CNA. WSBN does not have jurisdiction over the ancillary healthcare role.