

5. Suggestions for hiring an LVN or PT for Home Care or Private Duty:

- Follow Steps #1 through #4 (listed inside this brochure)
- Ask the licensee for references (i.e., a list of prior employers, dates of employment, daytime telephone numbers and email address).
- Call prior employers to determine the licensee's:
  - Professional attitude
  - Ethical and honest behavior
  - Quality of care
  - Timeliness in adhering to the established work schedule
  - Communication skills
  - Respectful demeanor

6. Remember that the LVN or PT must receive client care orders from your physician.

**LVN Scope of Practice for Home Care or Private Duty:**

- ✓ Provide **basic bedside nursing care** to clients under the direction of a physician or registered nurse.
- ✓ Utilize scientific and technical expertise in performing manual skills.
- ✓ LVNs may perform the following:
  - Provide basic hygiene and nursing care;
  - Measure vital signs;
  - Perform basic client physical assessment;
  - Document patient care information;
  - Perform of prescribed medical treatments;
  - Administer prescribed medications; and
  - Perform non-medicated intravenous therapy and blood withdrawal, if certified by Board.

**PT Scope of Practice for Home Care or Private Duty:**

- ✓ Provide **care for mentally disordered or developmentally disabled clients** under the supervision of the director of services. The director may be a physician, psychologist, rehabilitation therapist, social worker, registered nurse or other professional person.
- ✓ Utilize scientific and technical expertise in performing manual skills in the care and training of clients with mental disorders and developmental disabilities.
- ✓ May perform the following with clients who have mental disorders or developmental disabilities:
  - Provide basic hygiene and nursing care;
  - Measure vital signs;
  - Perform prescribed medical treatments;
  - Administer prescribed medications;
  - Implement behavioral management techniques;
  - Perform crisis intervention;
  - Assess sensory and perceptual development;
  - Assist with social and vocational training;
  - Facilitate individual and group therapeutic activities;
  - Perform blood withdrawal, if certified by Board

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For further information, consumers and licensees may contact:

**Board of Vocational Nursing and  
Psychiatric Technicians**  
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205  
Sacramento, CA 95833-2945  
Telephone (916) 263-7800  
Fax (916) 263-7859  
<http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov>

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**Consumer Guide  
for Hiring  
Licensed Vocational  
Nurses  
and  
Psychiatric Technicians**  
**Informational Series #5**



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***“Consumer Protection...  
Our Primary Mission”***



## Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BOARD)

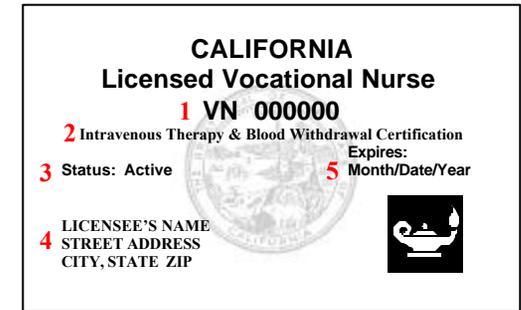
The Bqctf regulates the education, practice and discipline of licensed vocational nurses (LVN) and psychiatric technicians (PT). Consumer welfare is protected by ensuring that only qualified and competent persons are licensed as LVNs or PTs.



## Before You Hire an LVN or PT:

1. Ask to see the vocational nurse or psychiatric technician license and current photo identification.
2. Check the actual license and write down the licensee's full name, license number and expiration date (see sample licenses at right.)
3. Check on the validity of the license and obtain any information on disciplinary action against the licensee by:
  - Calling the Board at (916) 263-7800; or
  - Sending an email inquiry to [bnpt@dca.ca.gov](mailto:bnpt@dca.ca.gov); or
  - Verifying the license and disciplinary information on the Board's web site at <http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov>
4. When contacting the Board, be prepared to provide the licensee's full name, license number and any other information that will help identify the licensee.

## LVN Sample License

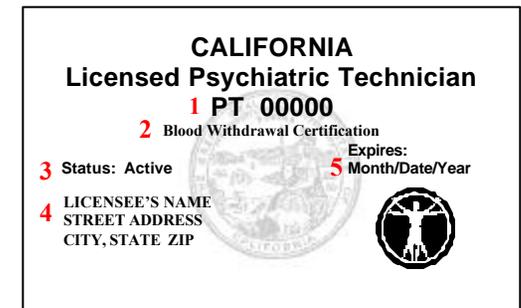


### Legend

(These numbers do not appear on the actual license.)

1. License Number
2. Certification for Intravenous Therapy and/or Blood Withdrawal (these are post-licensure certifications that are optional)
3. Status of License
4. Name/Address of Licensee
5. License Expiration Date

## PT Sample License



**Note: An LVN or a PT cannot work with an inactive or expired license.**



## LVNs



Licensed vocational nurses work under the supervision of registered nurses (RN) or licensed physicians. LVNs' skillset in medical-surgical, maternity and pediatric nursing.



## PTs



Psychiatric Technicians work under the supervision of the director of a facility. PTs' skillset is caring for clients experiencing mental disorders or illness, or developmental disabilities.