

I am seeking the position of Treasurer-Elect of the Illinois State Council ENA. Through my involvement in the Illinois ENA, professional experience and educational background, I have developed many attributes required to be a successful leader with fiduciary responsibility. My intent to be the Treasurer-Elect and eventually Treasurer is based on my desire to promote the emergency nursing profession and advance our State Council in relation to our unique financial needs.

For the past year and a half, I have been an active member of the Illinois State Council ENA. I presently serve on the Spring Symposium, Communications and Finance Committees. As the co-chair of Symposium exhibits, I work to recruit exhibitors, facilitate the exhibit hall during the event, and develop satisfaction surveys for the organizations that make our conference possible. I have contributed to significant financial savings by developing and publishing many State Council promotional publications, which have also increased awareness and accessibility of information. I also assist our Cvent coordinator to improve communication with members and enhance event management with our online system. More recently, I abetted the Newsletter Committee Chair and Editor by developing the new, all-digital format for the CounterShock newsletter—a move which coincides with our State Council's goal of becoming green to save physical and fiscal resources. On the Communications Committee, I collaborate to implement changes in our policies, procedures, and Web site to enhance awareness of our State Council activities, attract new members, and promote active involvement. In addition, I have attended State Council budget meetings and assisted the past Treasurer to learn more about the financial aspect of our organization.

Before entering the nursing profession, I was actively involved in EMS. For the past six years, I have been a licensed paramedic; during that time I've worked in the pre-hospital setting for a county ambulance service and in several emergency departments, including a level I, II and III trauma centers and a critical access hospital. I completed my nursing degree from Harper College, a bachelor's degree from Roosevelt University and a Master of Science degree in Healthcare Administration and Management from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. As a graduate student, I studied leadership and financial management related to healthcare organizations, including not-for-profit entities. I have also been accepted into the acute care and pediatric nurse practitioner tracks in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at UIC, which I will begin this fall.

I have truly enjoyed being an active member of the Illinois State Council and fully intend on remaining so. I am a firm believer that involvement in professional organizations is a responsibility and obligation, as they are the mechanisms by which we promote what we do and strive to better our profession. As Treasurer-Elect and later Treasurer, I will put forth my full attention and complete effort to maintain our monetary resources and improve our financial standing in our uncertain economy. In addition, I will represent the Illinois State Council and national ENA in a proud and professional manner to advance the emergency nursing profession.

Nicholas Nelson