

Board of Nursing Professional Licensure Requirements for RNs

As of July 1, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education implemented new regulations that professional nursing programs (PN, RN, and APRN) must adhere to if they participate in Title IV HEA funding, and if the program is:

- designed to meet educational requirements for a specific professional license or certification that is required for employment in an occupation; or
- is advertised as meeting such requirements.

This new regulation applies to programs using all modalities, including online, in-person, or a combination of both. Regulation 34 CFR 668.43 (a) (5) (v) will require the nursing program to provide:

1. a list of all states/jurisdictions where the institution's curriculum meets state educational requirements for professional licensure or certification,
2. a list of all states/jurisdictions where the institution's curriculum does not meet state educational requirements for professional licensure or certification, and
3. a list of all states/jurisdictions where the institution has not made a determination of whether the curriculum meets educational requirements.

Additionally, a direct disclosure to the student in writing is required in regulation 34 CFR 668.43(c) by the education institution if the program leading to professional licensure or certification falls in one of the latter two categories above.

STATE/TERRITORY	STATE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR RNs	DOES FMU MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR RN LICENSURE
1. Alabama	Must graduate from a board-approved program, which <i>substantially meets the same educational criteria</i> as Alabama nursing programs.	Yes
2. Alaska	Must graduate from a board-approved program All RN applicants are required to have graduated from a program that is nationally nursing accredited.	Yes
3. Arizona	RN applicants hold a Diploma, Associate Degree or Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from an approved program.	Yes
4. Arkansas	Must graduate from a board-approved program; Eligibility for licensure as a practical or registered nurse is considered after successful completion of a Board approved nursing education program; however, completion of a nursing program does not guarantee the Arkansas State Board of Nursing's approval to take the licensure examination. All applicants for licensure shall complete a criminal background check per ACA §17-87-312 . No person shall be eligible to receive or hold a license issued by the Board if that person has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or been found guilty by any court in the State of Arkansas, or of any similar offense by a court in another state, or of any similar offense by a federal court of any offense listed in ACA §17-3-102.	Yes
5. California	All applicants must have completed an educational program meeting all California requirements. If you are lacking any educational requirements, you must successfully complete an approved course prior to taking the examination.	Yes
6. Colorado	Must graduate from a board-approved program.	Yes
7. Connecticut	Successfully complete a nursing program that meets the requirements outlined in the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.	Yes
8. Delaware	Graduate from a board approved nursing program in the state where the program is located. Have completed at least 400 clinical hours for a RN program	Yes
9. District of Columbia	Must graduate from a board-approved program;	Yes
10. Florida	Must graduate from a program approved by the Board of Nursing in the state/jurisdiction that the program is located in.	Yes
11. Georgia	Must graduate from a board-approved program.	Yes
12. Guam	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes

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13. Hawaii	Must graduate from an approved program.	Yes
14. Idaho	Graduate from a RN program that is approved by the Board of Nursing in the home state. The program must meet substantially the same basic educational requirements as graduates of Idaho nursing education programs.	Yes
15. Illinois	Proof of graduation from a nursing education program	Yes
16. Indiana	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
17. Iowa	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
18. Kansas	Must graduate from a board-approved program RN Education regulations found in K.A.R. 60-2-104 and contain the following requirements: Content in biological, physical, social and behavioral sciences – must have A&P Content in growth & development / developmental psychology A minimum of 30 credit hours in nursing courses Nursing courses must have theory and direct clinical experience across the lifespan	Yes
19. Kentucky	An applicant for a KY RN license must have completed the basic curriculum for preparing registered nurses in an approved school of nursing and have completed the school's requirements for graduation; ... [Ref: KRS 314.041 (a)]. The Kentucky Board of Nursing does recognize graduates from pre-licensure nursing education programs that are approved/accredited by other state boards of nursing as eligible for licensure in Kentucky.	Yes
20. Louisiana	Must graduate from a board-approved program For RN licensure: The LA criteria for licensure are found in RS37:920.A.1.a-g as follows: §920. Licensure; qualifications; examination; renewal; temporary permits (1) The board shall issue a license to each applicant who applies for licensure as a registered nurse who files an application upon a form and in such manner as the board prescribes, accompanied by such fee as required in R.S. 37:927, and who furnishes evidence to the board that he: (a) Is of good moral character. (b) Has completed the requirements of a nursing education program approved by the board which prepares an applicant for initial licensure as a registered nurse. (c) Passes an	Yes

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	examination to the satisfaction of the board. (d) Has completed certain course work as required by the board. (e) Is not in violation of this Part and the rules and regulations. (f) Has committed no acts or omissions which constitute grounds for disciplinary action as defined in R.S. 37:921, or if found guilty of committing such acts or omissions, the board finds, after investigation, that sufficient restitution, rehabilitation, and education have occurred. (g) Is proficient in the English language if he graduated from a nursing education program offered in a foreign country.	
21. Maine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program must be approved by BON if a student transfers from another approved board school. When Maine reviews applications from individuals that graduated from another state, the program must be equitable to a program approved in Maine. • National nursing program accreditation has been required for Maine programs since January 1, 2015. The Board defines “National Nursing Accreditation” as accreditation by Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) or Commission for Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or other agency approved by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accreditation agency. • Resident of another compact state cannot apply RN licensure by endorsement. • The RN applicant must also have completed a course of study of not less than 2 years in an approved program in professional nursing and holds a degree, diploma or certificate. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p>
22. Maryland	<p>Effective October 1, 2012, any Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) applying for licensure and living in a member state of the Multistate Licensure Compact must take the NCLEX exam in their home state. The Maryland Board of Nursing is required by the Nurse Practice Act (Health Occupations, Title 8, Annotated Code of Maryland), to abide by the below regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • § 8-301(d) - A Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) can hold a license in only one party state at a time and that license has to be issued from the home state of the licensee; 	No – Administration of the Child Support Enforcement Program

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • § 8-304(2)(iv)- An applicant for licensure by examination in Maryland must submit satisfactory evidence to the Board that the applicant’s primary state of residence is Maryland or a state that is not a party to the compact; and • § 8-305(b) An applicant whose primary state of residence is a party state, other than Maryland, is not entitled to be examined for a license as an RN or LPN in Maryland. <p>Effective January 27, 2012: The Board is required by federal and Maryland law to collect this information for the following purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verification of identity with respect to final adverse actions related to your license or certificate (42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7e(b)) • Administration of the Child Support Enforcement Program (Md. Family Law Code Ann., § 10-119.3) <p>Identification by the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation of new businesses in Maryland (Md. Health Occ. Code Ann., § 1-210)</p>	
23. Massachusetts	Must graduate from a board-approved program; Are of Good Moral Character, as defined by state law	Yes
24. Michigan	Human Trafficking – Beginning January 6, 2022, completion of training to identify victims of human trafficking is required for initial licensure.	No – Human Trafficking Training
25. Minnesota	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
26. Mississippi	You must have graduated from a nursing program (RN or LPN) which substantially meets the same educational criteria as Mississippi nursing programs.	Yes
27. Missouri	Official Transcripts:	Yes
28. Montana	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
29. Nebraska	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
30. Nevada	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
31. New Hampshire	(1) Graduated from a board approved nursing education program in the United States or Canada that meets the requirements set forth in Nur 600, including the NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN course requirements; or (2) Graduated from a nursing	Yes

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	<p>program outside the United States or Canada OR Nur 602.12 Curricular Requirements</p> <p>(a) The curriculum shall be derived from the program’s written philosophy and organizing framework and shall demonstrate logical sequencing and internal consistency.</p> <p>(b) To promote health and prevent disease, registered nurse programs shall provide a minimum of 1080 hours of nursing classroom instruction and concurrent clinical practice offering students the opportunity to care for individuals, families, groups and communities during various developmental stages who are experiencing physiological, or psychosocial, or environmental disruptions.</p> <p>(c) To promote health and prevent disease practical nurse programs shall provide a minimum of 600 hours of nursing classroom instruction and concurrent clinical practice offering students the opportunity to care for individual, families, groups and communities during various developmental stages that shall be considered to be in physiologically or psychosocially, noncomplex, stable situations.</p> <p>(d) Curricular content related to nursing courses shall include concurrent theoretical and clinical components designed to provide instructional activities benefiting individuals, families, and groups across the life span. (e) Curriculum components shall include:</p> <p>(1) Experiences that promote clinical judgment, clinical management, and commitment to improving quality and safety of the health care system; and</p> <p>(2) Evidence-based learning experiences and methods of instruction, including distance education methods, which are consistent with the curriculum, provided that:</p> <p>a. Faculty supervised clinical practice shall provide clinical hours consistent with Nur 602.12 (b), (c) and (d);</p> <p>b. Simulation may be utilized as a teaching strategy in laboratory and clinical settings to meet objectives for purpose of calculating the hours in the curriculum;</p> <p>c. Simulation will not be in lieu of an entire clinical experience; and</p> <p>d. Clinical experiences, including those with preceptors, shall be directed by readily available nurse-educator faculty members; and</p>	

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32. New Jersey	A written certification from the registrar, or program administrator authorized by the registrar, attesting that the applicant has successfully completed all requirements for graduation from a registered professional nursing program accredited by the Board or a board of nursing in another state or a licensed practical nursing program accredited by the Board or by a board of nursing in another state. The certification shall indicate the date of graduation or the date the degree or diploma was conferred.	Yes
33. New Mexico	Successful completion of a Board approved program. If the state does not approve pre-licensure nursing programs, national programmatic accreditation (i.e. ACEN, CCNE, CNEA) is required.	Yes
34. New York	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
35. North Carolina	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
36. North Dakota	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
37. Ohio	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
38. Oklahoma	Must graduate from a board-approved program; official transcripts; must have theory and clinical experience in care of the adult, children, maternal-newborn, and psychiatric mental health nursing	Yes
39. Oregon	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
40. Pennsylvania	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
41. Puerto Rico	Must apply to the board of nursing for licensure	Yes
42. Rhode Island	Have successfully completed the prescribed curriculum in a Board-approved basic professional nursing education program and holds a diploma from the program, Are of good moral character	Yes
43. South Carolina	Has completed all requirements for graduation from an approved school of nursing or nursing education program approved by the state or jurisdiction in this country or territory or dependency of the United States in which the program is located.	Yes
44. South Dakota	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
45. Tennessee	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
46. Texas	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
47. U.S. Virgin Islands	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
48. Utah	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes

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49. Vermont	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
50. Virginia	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
51. Washington	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
52. West Virginia	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
53. Wisconsin	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes
54. Wyoming	Must graduate from a board-approved program	Yes