

March 2012

The 2011 Uniform Licensure Requirements

Applicant Responsibility	Board Responsibility
A. Initial Licensure	
1.A Nursing Education Requirements: RN	
Graduation or eligibility for graduation from a Member Board approved RN prelicensure program.*	Verification of graduation or eligibility for graduation from a Member Board approved prelicensure RN program.
2.A Nursing Education Requirements: LPN/VN	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Graduation or eligibility for graduation from a Member Board approved LPN/VN prelicensure program.* ▪ Graduates from RN prelicensure programs who wish to take the NCLEX-PN® must have successfully completed a Member Board approved LPN/VN role delineation course. 	Verification of graduation or eligibility for graduation from a Member Board approved LPN/VN prelicensure program.
3.A Nursing Education Requirements of International Candidates: RN	
Graduation from a nursing program comparable to a Member Board approved RN prelicensure program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Verification by a credentials review agency of graduation from a nursing program comparable to a Member Board approved RN prelicensure program. ▪ Graduation from a nursing program comparable to a member board approved RN program. This program should be approved by an accrediting body or other authority whose role it is to approve nursing programs in that country.
4.A Nursing Education Requirements of International Candidates: LPN/VN	
Graduation from a nursing program comparable to a Member Board approved prelicensure LPN/VN program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Verification by a credentials review agency of graduation from a nursing program comparable to a Member Board approved prelicensure LPN/VN program. ▪ Graduation from a nursing program comparable to a member board approved LPN/VN program. This program should be approved by an accrediting body or other authority whose role it is to approve nursing programs in that country.
5.A NCLEX Requirements	
Successful completion of the NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN exam.	Verification that applicant successfully completed NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN exam.

*Member Board approved also applies to states in which the nursing program approval is done through another state agency such as the Commission on Higher Learning.

Applicant Responsibility	Board Responsibility
6.A Additional Requirements for International Candidates	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self disclosure of nursing licensure status in country of origin, if applicable. ▪ Successful passage of an English proficiency exam that includes the components of reading, speaking, writing and listening, except for applicants from countries where English is the native language, and the nursing program where the applicant attended was taught in English and used English textbooks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Verification of nursing licensure status and/or authorization to practice if applicable in country of origin. ▪ Verification of successful passage of an English proficiency exam that includes the components of reading, speaking, writing and listening, except for applicants from countries where English is the native language, and the nursing program where the applicant attended was taught in English and used English textbooks.
7.A Additional Public Protection Requirements: Criminal Background Check	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self disclosure of all misdemeanors, felonies, and plea agreements (even if adjudication was withheld). ▪ Submit state and federal finger print checks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of all misdemeanors, felonies and plea agreements (even if adjudication was withheld) of all individuals applying for licensure on a case by case basis to determine board action. ▪ Require psychological evaluation for all individuals convicted of a sexual offense involving a minor or performing a sexual act against the will of another person. This evaluation should be performed by a qualified expert approved by the board. If the evaluation identifies sexual behaviors of a predatory nature the board of nursing should deny licensure.
8.A Additional Public Protection Requirements: Substance Use Disorders	
Self disclosure of any substance use disorder in the last 5 years.	Require a substance use disorder evaluation to verify the applicant is capable of practicing nursing safely.
9.A Additional Public Protection Requirements: Other licenses, certifications, registrations	
Self disclosure of any actions taken or initiated against a professional or occupational license, registration or certification.	Assessment of any actions taken or initiated against a professional or occupational license, registration or certification and consideration of the individual's ability to practice nursing safely.
B. Renewal/Reinstatement Requirements	
1.B Criminal Background Check	
Self disclosure of all misdemeanors, felonies and plea agreements (even if adjudication was withheld) not previously reported to the board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of all misdemeanors, felonies and plea agreements (even if adjudication was withheld) not previously reported to the board for determination of eligibility for renewal or reinstatement of licensure. ▪ State and federal fingerprint checks using automatic criminal background feedback system (such as Rap-Back). ▪ Require psychological evaluation for all individuals convicted of a sexual offense involving a minor or performing a sexual act against the will of another person. This evaluation should be performed by a qualified expert approved by the board. If the evaluation identifies sexual behaviors of a predatory nature the board of nursing should deny licensure. Examine all other cases on an individual basis.

Applicant Responsibility	Board Responsibility
2.B Substance Use Disorders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self disclosure of any substance use disorder since last renewal. ▪ Self disclosure of current participation in an alternative to discipline program in any jurisdiction. 	<p>Require a substance use disorder evaluation to verify the applicant is capable of practicing nursing safely.</p>
3.B Nursing Disciplinary Actions	
<p>Self disclosure of any Member Board action taken on a nursing license or current/pending investigation by a Member Board.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of any Member Board action taken on a nursing license or current/pending investigation by a Member Board. ▪ Check Nursys for discipline in other jurisdictions.
4.B Other licenses, certifications, registrations	
<p>Self disclosure of any actions taken or initiated against a professional or occupational license, registration or certification not previously reported to the board.</p>	<p>Assessment of any actions taken or initiated against a professional or occupational license, registration or certification not previously reported to the board and consideration of the individual's ability to practice nursing safely.</p>
C. Endorsement Requirements	
1.C Education, Exam, and Licensure Verification	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completion of a Member Board approved RN or LPN/VN prelicensure education program. ▪ Successful passage of the NCLEX/State Board Test Pool Exam. ▪ Self disclosure of status of all nursing licenses (includes any board actions taken or any current or pending investigations by a Member Board). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Verification of education. ▪ Verification of successful passage of the NCLEX/State Board Test Pool Exam. ▪ Verification of all nursing licenses.
2.C Criminal Background Check	
<p>Self disclosure of all misdemeanors, felonies and plea agreements (even if adjudication was withheld).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of all misdemeanors, felonies and plea agreements (even if adjudication was withheld) of all individuals applying for licensure. ▪ State and federal fingerprint checks. ▪ Require psychological evaluation for all individuals convicted of a sexual offense involving a minor or performing a sexual act against the will of another person. This evaluation should be performed by a qualified expert approved by the board. If the evaluation identifies sexual behaviors of a predatory nature the board of nursing should deny licensure. ▪ All other convictions should be determined on a case by case basis.
3.C Substance Use Disorders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self disclosure of any substance use disorder in the last 5 years. ▪ Self disclosure of current participation in an alternative to discipline program in any jurisdiction. 	<p>Require a substance use disorder evaluation to verify the applicant is capable of practicing nursing safely.</p>

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4.C Nursing Disciplinary Actions	
Self disclosure of any Member Board action taken on a nursing license or current/pending investigation by a Member Board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment of any Member Board action taken on a nursing license or current/pending investigation by a Member Board. ▪ Check Nursys for discipline in other jurisdictions
5.C Other licenses, certifications, registrations	
Self disclosure of any actions taken or initiated against a professional or occupational license, registration or certification not previously reported to the board.	Assessment of any actions taken or initiated against a professional or occupational license, registration or certification and consideration of the individual's ability to practice nursing safely.

Administrative code regulations such as child support, payment of taxes, school loans, etc. are not included in these licensure requirements as these are state specific and do not solely apply to the board of nursing.

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