



NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Past Event: 2021 NCSBN REx-PN Conference - Candidate Registration Process **Transcript**

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Event

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More info: <https://www.ncsbn.org/16034.htm>

Presenter

NCLEX Examinations Operations Team

- [Jacklyn] Hello, my name is Jacklyn Currier. And for this presentation, the exams ops team and I will be discussing the REx-PN candidate registration process. To help illustrate the full candidate registration experience, the team will roleplay three different scenarios.

One, before the exam. Two, exam day. And three, after the exam. At the end of our presentation, we will also share some helpful resources. Firstly, during the before the exam portion, the team will acknowledge the three separate entities candidates will work with, how candidates can start the registration process, the authorization to test, as well as how, when, and where candidates can schedule an appointment.

- [Operator] NCSBN exams, may I have your first and last name, please?

- [Thy] Hi, my name is Thy Cao. As a first-time test taker, I'm completely lost on how this whole process works. Where do I even begin? Please help me, I'm really worried. I'm sorry, but who am I speaking with right now?

- Hi, Thy, I'm happy to help you today. And don't worry, we'll get you through this. So this is NCSBN. We manage and develop the REx-PN, but there are two other entities that you're going to be working with through this process. So first is Pearson VUE. They administer the exam, and this is where you register and take the exam. Then there's your nursing regulatory body, they're also known as your NRB.

So it's where you wish to be licensed, think of it that way, either British Columbia or Ontario. They determine your eligibility and then they release your results.

- Wow, that is a lot of different entities. But I think I understand.

- Great. Please stop me at any time if you have questions. So what I want to do is go through that two-step registration process. The first thing you want to do is submit an application to the NRB where you

want to be licensed. It's really important to do this first. They're going to give you the green light to register with Pearson VUE. So, it's really important for candidates to reach out to their NRB to see if they qualify to test before even registering with Pearson VUE.

Those registrations are non-refundable. Second, register with Pearson VUE. You have a pen and paper handy? All right, here's the number. It's 866-496-2539. You can also go to pearsonvue.com. Your Pearson VUE registration will stay open for 365 days while you await eligibility.

Once your NRB makes you eligible, you'll receive your authorization to test email including validity dates. Candidates must test within that time frame.

- Thank you for clearing that up. I was told the first step was to register with Pearson VUE. Once I have submitted my application to my NRB and register with Pearson VUE, I heard that it could take weeks to receive my authorization to test. Do you know how long the process takes?

- Your NRB will need to make you eligible in order to receive your authorization to test and to receive your ATT email from Pearson VUE. If it's been longer than two weeks, you definitely want to contact your NRB to make sure that everything's okay on their end.

- Oh, okay. That makes sense now. When I receive my ATT, do I have to test in the province where I apply for licensure?

- You can test at any Pearson VUE location as long as they offer the REx-PN examination. Just contact Pearson VUE and inform them where you want to test. So let's say you're going on a trip, you could schedule your exam where you're traveling. You can even schedule an appointment in an International Test Center. Just be mindful that there is an additional non-refundable fee to schedule international appointments.

- Okay. If I have received my ATT email, where should I go to schedule my exam appointment? Can I do it online?

- Absolutely. You can schedule online through your candidate profile or call Pearson VUE.

- As exam day approaches quickly, candidates may be curious to know what they need to do to prepare for their appointment. For the exam appointment, candidates should dress comfortably and arrive early at the test center. They will be asked to check in with their acceptable ID, provide biometrics, and will receive an erasable note board as well as earplugs.

Candidates should set the pace while taking the exam until the exam completes. If you'd like to know what the test centers look like, Pearson VUE offers a tour on their website that includes photos of the physical layout, including the lobby, lockers, ID check-in station, as well as the testing room, and proctor station. In this scenario, the team will describe the REx-PN exam day process, including a discussion about the check-in, what is an acceptable ID, and break procedures.

- NCSBN exams, may I have your first and last name, please?

- Hi, my name is THY Cao. Can you explain to me what I should expect when I arrive at the test center for my REx-PN testing appointment? I'm confused about how the check-in process works.

- Hi, Thy So here's an idea of what to expect. When you arrive at the Pearson VUE test center, the test administrator will confirm your appointment and exam, and then you'll be asked to read the candidate rules along with the candidate statement and provide an electronic signature. You're also going to be required to present an acceptable ID form, provide your biometrics such as a palm vein scan, digital signature, and have your photograph taken.

Remember, biometrics are required for all candidates taking the exam.

- Thank you for bringing that to my attention. I also want to check with you on the ID requirements for test admissions.

- Sure. Let me break it down and explain it to you. For test admission, you need to bring an acceptable form of ID such as your driver's license or a passport. All IDs must be government-issued, valid, have your name in Roman characters, and then contain a recent photograph and your signature. Keep in mind if you plan to take the exam in an International Test Center, the only acceptable forms of ID are passport books or cards.

If you don't have an acceptable ID, unfortunately, you'll be turned away and have to repay another exam fee.

- Thanks. That's helpful to know. I recently got married and got my new ID and the last name is different on it. Will I be allowed for testing with my new last name?

- So policy states that your first and last names presented on your ID must match exactly as they're shown on your registration or ATT email. In the event the name with which you registered is different from the name on your identification, you must bring legal name change documentation to the test center on the day of the test. For instance, your original marriage license.

In other instances, a divorce decree or a court action legal name change document.

- Well, okay. Thanks for that info. I will bring my original marriage license with me on the testing day. Another question just crossed my mind. If I get tired from looking at the computer for so long while taking my test, can I take a break?

- Absolutely. Throughout the duration of your exam, you'll be given two opportunities to take scheduled breaks. You're going to see the break alerts pop up on your computer. If at any time you need to take an unscheduled break, just raise your hand and wait for the TA to escort you out of the testing room.

- How many breaks can I take throughout my exam?

- You can take as many unscheduled breaks as you'd like. You'll also be given two pre-programmed optional breaks during your exam. Just remember though, the clock keeps running during your breaks.

- Got it. Thank you.

- You're very welcome. Feel free to let us know if you have any other questions. We're happy to help.

- Thus far, we have gone over two initial aspects of the REx-PN candidate experience. For this last segment, let's take a look at what happens after the exam. More specifically, result processing, the candidate performance report, and the retake policy.

- NCSBN exams, can I have your first and last name, please?

- Hello, my name is THY Cao. I just finished my test today. Unfortunately, I have the feeling that I did not do well at all and failed the exam. I want to re-register as soon as possible.

Should I start now?

- Oh, well have you received your results yet? If not, I would suggest just waiting until you receive them.

- Not yet. Actually, I just left the test center a couple of hours ago.

- Okay. So, I'd recommend just to be patient at this point. Your official results will be sent to you from your nursing regulatory body and time can vary in receiving results. It may take up to six weeks.

- Six weeks? But if I failed, I want to retake the exam as quickly as possible so I don't forget any of the material I learned.

- Well, keep in mind that candidates need to wait at least 60 days before retaking the exam. Your NRB will also provide you with your Candidate Performance Report that's also known as your CPR.

- What is a Candidate Performance Report?

- That's a great question. A CPR is an individualized two-page document. It's going to be sent to you by your NRB in a case where you've failed. The front side of that CPR gives you a brief explanation of how Computerized Adaptive Testing works. It'll also tell you how many items you answered. The backside of that CPR provides information regarding your performance.

- Oh, okay. Will it tell me about information on the retake requirements? Will I need to resubmit my application to my NRB?

- The CPR does not provide retake requirements. To retake the REx-PN, you'll want to follow the same process you went through the first time. The retake policy states the candidates will need to wait at least 60 days between each examination attempt. Contact your NRB and notify them that you plan to retake the exam. They can also assist with questions regarding testing limits, resubmitting materials, and additional licensing registration fees, things like that.

When you receive the okay to test again, you'll re-register with Pearson VUE and pay the exam fee. Once the NRB makes you eligible, you'll receive a new authorization to test to schedule your exam date.

- What? I have to wait 60 days before I can register?

- Nope, not at all. Once you receive your results, you can start the retake process right away by contacting your NRB.

- Thanks.

- No problem. Is there anything else I can help you with today?

- That will do it. Thank you.

- Great. Well, if you have additional questions, please give us a ring back.

- Now that we've learned about the candidate registration process, including what to expect before, during, and after the REx-PN, let's go over some very helpful resources to prepare for the exam. The candidate bulletin serves as a start-to-finish guide for the entire exam process, including information on how to register, the candidate rules, and results processing.

The REx-PN Test Plan is a highly recommended resource for candidates to review in preparation for the exam. The test plan serves as a blueprint outlining the content areas on the REx-PN. A candidate tutorial is also available to help candidates become familiar with the computer exam software.

Candidates may be able to answer their questions by reviewing our FAQ page for the REx-PN. These questions have helped candidates, nursing regulatory bodies, and the public gain a better understanding of the REx-PN exam. Lastly, for any and all questions, comments, or concerns, please note our contact information. Thank you again for your time and we hope you learned more about the REx-PN registration process.

Take care.