

Nurse Licensure Guidance

Questions About Nurse Licensure?

Nurse licensure can be complex. NCSBN's Nurse Licensure Guidance tool helps international and U.S.-educated nurses learn about state-specific licensure requirements, based on where they want to live and practice in the U.S.

For registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) educated in the U.S., the tool displays licensure requirements in their state, jurisdiction or territory and points them to helpful resources, such as:

- Direct link to licensure application (or application portal)
- Other relevant application information
- Link to state/jurisdiction's Nurse Practice Act
- Board of nursing (BON) contact information
- Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) links

Both sections of the tool include an interactive U.S. map to illustrate where the nurse would and would not have authorization to practice based on their selections.

For internationally educated RNs and LPN/VNs, the tool displays licensure requirements for where they plan to live and practice. It also gathers important information directly from BONs, such as:

- BON-accepted English proficiency exams
- BON-accepted credentials evaluations services
- Social Security number requirements
- Other relevant application information
- BON contact information



Learn more today
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