**Graduate Nurse Guide to Licensing and NCLEX-RN Exam**

**Temporary License**
Prior to joining NSHA as a Graduate Nurse, you will be required to submit proof of Temporary license and proof that you have applied to write the NCLEX-RN within two (2) months of your start date. It is your responsibility to inform your Manager and People Services of the date of writing and advise the Manager and People Services immediately of your results. Continued employment with NSHA is dependent upon successfully passing the NCLEX-RN exam within the timeline outlined by NSHA.

Temporary license (TL) holders can engage in the practice of nursing in the province of Nova Scotia while waiting to take the NCLEX-RN. Here is all the information you should need to apply for a TL ([https://crnns.ca/registration/licences/temporary-licence-2/](https://crnns.ca/registration/licences/temporary-licence-2/)). Included on this page are average timelines for the processing of your application.

Once you have reviewed the above website and you still have questions, you may want to check out our [Q&A](https://crnns.ca/publication/updated-new-graduate-and-internationally-educated-nurses-qa-temporary-licence/).

Once CRNNS receives all of your application documents it will take five business days to process your application and issue you a temporary license. The required documents are listed here: [https://crnns.ca/registration/licences/temporary-licence-2/](https://crnns.ca/registration/licences/temporary-licence-2/).

You can find information about fees [here](https://crnns.ca/registration/fees/).

**Active Practicing License**
Prior to joining NSHA as a Registered Nurse in an ICU, ER, OR, or NICU unit, you will be required to submit proof of Active Practicing license (AP) as a condition of your employment.

You can find information about fees [here](https://crnns.ca/registration/fees/).

Once CRNNS receives all of your application documents it will take five business days to receive your eligibility to take the exam. The required documents are listed here: [https://crnns.ca/registration/licences/temporary-licence-2/#](https://crnns.ca/registration/licences/temporary-licence-2/#)

**Preparing for the NCLEX-RN**
**NCLEX Candidate Bulletin**: For more information about the NCLEX-RN exam, you can also visit the
CRNNS website to locate the most up-to-date NCLEX Candidate Bulletin which contains useful information on taking the NCLEX-RN, including the application process with Pearson Vue.

**NCLEX-RN Preparation Guide:** There you will also find a resource tool called the CRNNS NCLEX-RN Preparation Guide ([https://crnns.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/NCLEX-RN-Preparation-Guide.pdf](https://crnns.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/NCLEX-RN-Preparation-Guide.pdf), developed to help you prepare to take the NCLEX-RN exam. There are links in this document including:

- **NCLEX-RN Tutorial:** [https://www.ncsbn.org/1213.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/1213.htm)
- **NCLEX-RN Examination Candidate Bulletin:** [https://www.ncsbn.org/1213.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/1213.htm)
- **Test Plans & Detailed Test Plans:** [https://www.ncsbn.org/testplans.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/testplans.htm)
- Computerized Adaptive Test (CAT) educational [video](https://www.ncsbn.org/1216.htm) and presentations
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) [https://www.ncsbn.org/9009.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/9009.htm)
- How to apply: [https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex-application-and-registration.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex-application-and-registration.htm)

The NCSBN rewrite policy allows candidates to rewrite their exam no earlier than 45 days after last write. However, you can apply for the exam and book your appointment at any time. This means submitting a new application and paying the exam fees to both CRNNS and NCSBN. Note: the CRNNS fee is reduced by 50% after the first attempt.

**NCLEX-RN Exam**

There is no limit on the number of times you can write the NCLEX-RN but before you write the exam, ensure you feel emotionally and physically ready and able to write it.

You must apply and pay an exam fee to both CRNNS and Pearson Vue for eligibility to write the NCLEX.

- To apply to CRNNS to take the exam click [here](https://members.crnns.ca/pages/afia/nsnewgrad.aspx)
- To apply to Pearson Vue click [here](http://www.pearsonvue.com/nclex/?REDIRECT_TIMESTAMP=1524590641450).

Once you pass the exam, you will be required to meet all other registration and licensure requirements, which can be found [here](https://www.crnns.ca)

If you still have questions after reviewing the above information, feel free to contact CRNNS at registration@crnns.ca or by phone at 902-491-9744 ext. 249 or 221.

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