

Tennessee law requires an applicant for licensure by examination to be either a graduate of an approved professional (RN) school of nursing or an approved practical nursing (LPN) program in order to be eligible to take the licensure examination (NCLEX RN or PN). Please contact the Board of Nursing to request an exam application.

Phone: 1-800-778-4123 or 615-532-5166

The NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN examination applications are made available to the Tennessee Schools of Nursing and are not available through the internet. Graduates of schools outside of Tennessee must contact the board office for an examination packet. Effective June 1, 2006 applicants for initial licensure by examination must obtain a criminal background check.

Before an examination packet is mailed to an out of state graduate we would need the following information.

1. Applicants name and mailing address.
2. Contact Number
3. Exam Requested – RN or LPN?
4. Name and Location (city and state) of school of nursing.
5. Date of graduation from nursing program
6. Have you taken the NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-LPN before? If yes, which exam, state where seeking licensure and number of times taken.

Availability of Results

The licensure examination is scored and verified by Pearson Vue. Candidates may expect to be licensed within one day. Results for the nursing licensure examination are reported as pass/fail. We do not post pass/fail to the website you can only check to see if you have been licensed.

Once again the information available is licensure status. Application in process means the individual has applied for licensure and has not yet been licensed.

Candidates passing the examination will receive original license and wallet certificate within 2 weeks.

Those candidates who fail the licensure examination are notified by mail and receive an enhanced candidate performance report to assist in identifying areas of weakness along with the materials to reapply to repeat the licensure examination.