STATE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR NURSES

Alabama

Contact: Genell Lee, MSN, JD, RN, Executive Officer
Phone: (334) 242-4060
Fax: (334) 242-4360
E-mail: glee@abn.state.al.us
Web site: www.abn.state.al.us/

Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required; or CNAT for Canadians
CGFNS Certificate required, except certain Canadian nurses; also a full course-by-course evaluation by CGFNS
Endorsement acceptable
SSN required prior to issuance of a license; also required for NCLEX

Education Requirements: Provide proof of completion of secondary school or its equivalent
Be a graduate of a nursing education program approved by the proper authorities in the country where the program is located
Meet the requirements for nursing program content employed as criteria for approval in Alabama at the time of the applicant’s graduation
Make up any educational deficiencies

Alaska

Contact: Dorothy Fulton, MA, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (907) 269-8161
Fax: (907) 269-8196
E-mail: Dorothy_fulton@dced.state.ak.us
Web site: www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/pnur.htm

Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required, if graduate of foreign school other than Canada; CGFNS required effective Oct. 9, 2002
Endorsement acceptable for individuals currently licensed in another state or Canada and who passed NCLEX or SBTPE; or Canadian nurses who passed CNATS before Aug. 1980 with score of at least 350 on each of five parts of exam, or after July 1980 but before July 1992 with score of at least 400. If graduated after July 1992, must pass NCLEX
SSN not required; if taking NCLEX without SSN, must fill out an exemption form

Education Requirements: Graduate of foreign nursing schools accepted

Arizona

Contact: Joey Ridenour, MN, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (602) 889-5200
Fax: (602) 889-5155
E-mail: jridenour@azbn.org
Web site: www.azboardofnursing.org/

Licensing Requirements: Compact state as of July 1, 2002
AZ recognizes some foreign licenses
NCLEX license by exam required, if qualifying by exam
CGFNS Certificate not required; AZ no longer requires CGFNS if the nurse is taking NCLEX
Endorsement acceptable; Canadians will not qualify without NCLEX
SSN not required; has an affidavit for SSN exemption

Arkansas

Contact: Dr. Calbina Thomas, RN, PhD
Phone: (501) 686-2786  
Fax: (501) 686-2714  
E-mail: cthomas@arsbn.org  
Web site: www.state.ar.us/nurse

**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state  
A foreign license may be recognized in AR  
NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate only required from non-English speaking countries  
Endorsement acceptable; foreign-educated nurses licensed in another jurisdiction who can validate that their foreign nursing education program was "substantially similar" to Arkansas nursing programs via an official transcript from their nursing education program and who have passed NCLEX, provided they are otherwise qualified; certain Canadian Registered Nurses licensed by NLN State Board Test Pool Examination  
SSN required  
TOEFL is required  

**Educational Requirements:** Graduated from a nursing program in which the curriculum is "substantially similar" to Arkansas nursing programs

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**California**  
**Contact:** Ruth Ann Terry, MPH, RN, Executive Officer  
Phone: (916) 322-3350  
Fax: (916) 327-4402  
E-mail: ruthann_terry@dca.ca.gov  
Web site: www.rn.ca.gov/

**Licensing Requirements:** Not a compact state  
NCLEX license by exam required, or if CNATS written after 1980  
CGFNS Certificate not required  
Endorsement acceptable for Canada only; if CNATS written prior to 1980  
SSN now required; will delay license until SSN is issued  
TOEFL is required  

**Educational Requirements:** Educational documents must be translated and certified by an official translator  
Education must meet California standards or deficiencies made up  
A foreign MD is not adequate.

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**Colorado**  
**Contact:** Patricia Uris, PhD, RN, Program Administrator  
Phone: (303) 894-2430  
Fax: (303) 894-2821  
E-mail: pat.uris@dora.state.co.us  
Web site: www.dora.state.co.us/nursing/

**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate not required; must have only transcripts evaluation from CGFNS  
Endorsement acceptable  
Canadian nurses: if not applying by endorsement from another state, must have CGFNS first  
SSN required; nurse will have to apply for a SSN

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**Connecticut**  
**Contact:** Jan Wojick, Board Liaison  
Phone: (860) 509-7624  
Fax: (860) 509-7553  
E-mail: janice.wojick@po.state.ct.us  
Web site: www.ct-clic.com
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
Passage of CGFNS exam for foreign-educated nurses; Canadian nurses exempt from CGFNS if licensed in another U.S. state
Endorsement acceptable, if licensing requirements of the other state are similar or higher; foreign license may be accepted
SSN required

Educational Requirements: Canadian licensed nurses may be exempt from educational requirements or NCLEX and admitted if passed the CRNE (Canadian Registered Nurse Exam) in English or French, plus TOEFL.

Delaware
Contact: Iva Boardman, MSN, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (302) 744-4517
Fax: (302) 739-2711
Email: iboardman@state.de.us
Web site: http://professionallicensing.state.de.us/boards/nursing/index.shtml

Licensing Requirements: Compact state
NCLEX license by exam required; not required if Canadian graduated before Aug. 1981 or graduated between Aug. 1981-Aug. 1995 and received 400+ score on exam
CGFNS Certificate required
Endorsement acceptable, with NCLEX results and practice requirements
Practice requirements to be licensed by endorsement: 1000 hours of nurse practice in the last five years; 400 hours in the past two years; or completion of a refresher course during the past two years
SSN required.

District of Columbia
Contact: Karen V. Scipio-Skinner, Executive Director
Phone: (202) 442-4778
Fax: (202) 442-9431
E-mail: kskinner@dchealth.com

Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required
Endorsement acceptable; for Canadians who graduated before 1970. After 1970, CGFNS and NCLEX required
SSN required; if applicant has no SSN, affidavit must be sent stating that fact

Florida
Contact: Kimberly Bolden, Regulatory Supervisor/Consultant
Phone: (850) 245-4125
Fax: (904) 858-6964
E-mail: kimberly_bolden@doh.state.fl.us
Web site: www.doh-mqaservices.com

Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required, unless licensed in another state and applying by endorsement; Canadians without NCLEX accepted unless the score is "pass or fail." If not a numeric score on exam, must take the NCLEX or a course by course evaluation by CGFNS
CGFNS Certificate required
Endorsement acceptable, with NCLEX results and license verification
SSN required

Georgia
Contact: Jacqueline Hightower, JD, Executive Director
Phone: (478) 207-1300
Fax: (478) 207-1633  
E-mail: jahightow@sos.state.ga.us  
Web site: www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/rn

**Licensing Requirements:** Foreign license may be recognized  
NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate required, if not schooled in English. If schooled in English, a course-by-course evaluation may be required  
Endorsement acceptable, with verification of current and original license and NCLEX results  
SSN not required for NCLEX  
TOEFL is required  

**Educational Requirements:** Foreign education equivalent to Georgia; Documentation of three months or 500 hours of experience abroad.

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**Hawaii**  
**Contact:** Kathleen Yokouchi, Executive Officer  
Phone: (808) 586-3000  
Fax: (808) 586-2689  
E-mail: nursing@dcca.state.hi.us  
Web site: www.state.hi.us/dcca/pvl/areas_nurse.html

**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required; must have CGFNS before NCLEX  
CGFNS Certificate required  
Endorsement acceptable, if licensed in another U.S. state through license verification  
SSN required  

**Educational Requirements:** Must meet minimum education requirements of Hawaii  
Must have an educational evaluation

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**Idaho**  
**Contact:** Sandra Evans, MA, Ed., RN, Executive Director  
Phone: (208) 334-3110  
Fax: (208) 334-3262  
E-mail: sevans@state.id.us  
Web site: www.state.id.us/ibn/ibnhome.htm

**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state  
NCLEX license by exam required;  
CGFNS exam first before NCLEX; if licensed in another U.S. state, CGFNS waived  
Endorsement acceptable; must have equivalent credentials  
Foreign license may be recognized, similar to U.S. state endorsement plus credentialing and language requirements and additional tests (test approved by the board for nursing knowledge and English proficiency)  
Canadian nurses can be admitted with NCLEX  
Temporary license may be issued  
SSN not required.

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**Illinois**  
**Contact:** Reid Paxson, Acting (Interim) Assistant Coordinator  
Phone: (312) 814-2715  
Fax: (312) 814-3145  
Web site: www.dpr.state.il.us/

**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required--For temporary license: passing the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation Exam if no CGFNS Certificate  
CGFNS Certificate required only from foreign graduate nurses, unless they have spent two years working under an active license full time in another state; or (1) A letter of explanation of denial by CGFNS; (2) nursing school transcripts and diploma; (3) middle school records; (4) high school records; and (5) proof of foreign licensure
Endorsement acceptable
All documents in a foreign language must be accompanied by original notarized; translation of a person other than the applicant

**Indiana**
**Contact:** Kristen Kelley, Director of Nursing  
Phone: (317) 232-2960  
Fax: (317) 233-4236  
E-mail: kkelley@hpbo.state.in.us  
Web site: www.state.in.us/hpbo/boards/isbn/
**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate required, except certain Canadians (NCLEX required)  
Endorsement acceptable: copy of state license; and (1) nursing school transcripts specifying theory and clinical experience; (2) copy of high school diploma or transcripts  
SSN required.

**Iowa**
**Contact:** Lorinda Inman, MSN, RN, Executive Director  
E-mail: linman@bon.state.ia.us  
Web site: www.state.ia.us/government/nursing/
**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state  
NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate required; CGFNS required if not licensed in another U.S. state  
Endorsement acceptable  
SSN required

**Kansas**
**Contact:** Mary Blubaugh, MSN, RN, Executive Administrator  
Phone: (785) 296-4929  
Fax: (785) 296-3929  
E-mail: mary.blubaugh@ksbn.state.ks.us  
Web site: www.ksbn.org
**Educational Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate required for all foreign nurses  
Endorsement acceptable from jurisdiction using State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE) or the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

**Kentucky**
**Contact:** Sharon Weisenbeck, MS, RN, Executive Director  
Phone: (502) 329-7000  
Fax: (502) 329-7011  
E-mail: sharonm.weisenbeck@ky.gov  
Web site: http://kbn.ky.gov/index-old.htm
**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required; not required of Canadians graduated before 1981 with minimum score of 400  
CGFNS Certificate required; nurses schooled in English must have a course by course evaluation by CGFNS or the exam  
Endorsement acceptable, from jurisdiction using State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE) or the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX)  
No SSN required for NCLEX  
Applicants must hold a Visa Screen certificate.
Louisiana
**Contact:** Ellienne Tate, MN, RN, Credentialing Director  
Phone: (504) 838-5332  
Fax: (504) 838-5349  
E-mail: tatee@lsbn.state.la.us  
Web site: www.lsbn.state.la.us/  
**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required; Canadians without NCLEX accepted with a score above 400 and exam taken in English. RNs with pass or fail score must take NCLEX  
CGFNS Certificate required  
Endorsement acceptable: (1) have a current U.S. license; (2) have written (no more than NCLEX and achieved a minimum score of 350 or a score of "PASS" within three years of graduation from an approved program; (3) have worked as an LPN/LVN for a minimum of six (full-time) months during the four years immediately preceding application (only applies to nurses who have been out of school for at least four years)  
SSN required.

Maine
**Contact:** Myra Broadway, JD, MS, RN, Executive Director  
Phone: (207) 287-1133  
Fax: (207) 287-1149  
E-mail: myra.a.broadway@maine.gov  
Web site: www.state.me.us/boardofnursing/  
**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state  
NCLEX license by exam required; Canadians without NCLEX accepted if exam written in English and have a course by course evaluation from CGFNS  
CGFNS Certificate required; do not need exam if schooled in English (only course by course evaluation)  
Endorsement acceptable  
SSN required; SSN required for NCLEX.  
**Educational Requirements:** For graduates of foreign nursing programs (other than Canada): completion of an approved four-year high school course of study or its equivalent; completion of a course of not less than two years in an approved nursing education program preparing graduates for licensure as registered nurses and hold a diploma therefrom; have met educational requirements in medical, surgical, obstetrical, pediatric, and psychiatric nursing; have been duly licensed by examination in their own countries

Maryland
**Contact:** Pamela Ambush-Burris, State Contact Person: Director of Licensure and Education  
Phone: (410) 585-1900  
Fax: (410) 358-3530  
E-mail: paburris@dhmh.state.md.us  
Web site: www.mbon.org  
**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state  
NCLEX license by exam required; not required from Canadians graduated before 1981 and Canadian exam was in English  
CGFNS Certificate: not a must, but may be required; course-by-course evaluation from CGFNS for foreign nurses required; CGFNS exam may be required after board evaluates credentials  
Endorsement acceptable, with CGFNS certificate or the CES report from CGFNS and must have successfully passed the TSE (Test of Spoken English) or the OPI (Oral Proficiency Examination)  
No SSN required for NCLEX  
**Educational Requirements:** Transcript evaluation first will determine if CGFNS needed
Massachusetts
Contact: Theresa Bonanno, MSN, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (617) 727-9961
Fax: (617) 727-1630
E-mail: theresa.m.bonanno@state.ma.us
Web site: www.state.ma.us/reg/boards/rn/
Licensing Requirements: Not a compact state
NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required, except Canadians graduated after Aug. 1995 and wrote exam in English
Endorsement acceptable
SSN required
Must also have a passing score
At CGFNS English exam portion, need also proof of moral character, U.S. SSN, and payment of licensure and NCLEX fees
TOEFL is required
Educational Requirements: The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing has contracted with Professional Credential Services, Inc. (PCS), Nashville, TN, for the provision of credentials evaluation services. See www.pcshq.com

Michigan
Contact: Diane Lewis, Policy Manager for Licensing Division
Phone: (517) 335-0918
Fax: (517) 373-2179
E-mail: bhsinfo@michigan.gov
Web site: www.michigan.gov/healthlicense
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required; special provisions for Canadians
Endorsement acceptable, with NCLEX results and license verification from any U.S. state
SSN not required if primary address of nurse is a foreign address-- Graduate of a nurse education program located outside the United States, passed NCLEX, and maintained active license for at least five years--not required to obtain CGFNS certification

Minnesota
Contact: Shirley Brekken, MS, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (612) 617-2270
Fax: (612) 617-2190
E-mail: shirley.brekken@state.mn.us
Web site: www.nursingboard.state.mn.us/
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required, except certain Canadian schools
Endorsement acceptable: NCLEX passing score; verification of licensure; and confirmation of nursing employment required
SSN not required.
**Mississippi**

**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state
NCLEX license by exam required, with official nursing program transcript; Canadians may be accepted with NCLEX (CGFNS not required)
CGFNS Certificate required; only records evaluation if schooled in English
Endorsement acceptable, with nurse license and NCLEX results
SSN required

**Educational Requirements:** If nurse is schooled in English, only records evaluation is required by one of the following: CGFNS, ICD (International Consultants of Delaware), or ECE (Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.), and it is not required to have a CGFNS Certification.

**Contact:** Barbara Robinson
Phone: (601) 987-4188
Fax: (601) 364-2352
E-mail: info@msbn.state.ms.us
Web site: www.msbn.state.ms.us/

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**Missouri**

**Contact:** Lori Scheidt, BS, Acting Executive Director
Phone: (573) 751-0681
Fax: (573) 751-0075
E-mail: lscheidt@mail.state.mo.us

**Licensing Requirements:** Not a compact state
NCLEX license by exam required; Canadians accepted without NCLEX if exam taken in English (CGFNS not required)
CGFNS Certificate required
Endorsement acceptable; must include nursing school transcripts if educated outside the U.S. or if licensed in Connecticut, Illinois, Wisconsin, Colorado, Florida, or Pennsylvania
SSN required; not required for NCLEX but required to obtain license
Foreign licenses not recognized
If licensed by exam in another state or territory and received nursing education outside U.S., need to submit copy of nursing school transcript (with course breakdown) and clinical record listing time in each area of nursing (in English or by English translation)

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**Montana**

**Contact:** Jill Caldwell, Office Manager
Phone: (406) 841-2340
Fax: (406) 841-2343
E-mail: jcaldwell@state.mt.us
Web site: www.discoveringmontana.com/dli/bsd/license/bsd_boards/nur_board/board_page.asp

**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required, or another board-approved exam
CGFNS Certificate required, except certain Canadian school graduates who have also passed CNATS in the English language
Endorsement acceptable
SSN required
TOEFL is required
Candidates for licensure as practical nurses will be required to show evidence of having successfully completed an English proficiency examination before admission to the Montana licensing examination
**Educational Requirements:** School official to send official final transcript to the Board verifying graduation from an accredited nursing education program recognized by the Board. Transcript must contain the date of graduation and the credential conferred. Completion of at least an approved four-year high school course of study or equivalent.

**Nebraska**
**Contact:** Sheila Exstrom, RN, PhD, Nursing Education Consultant
Phone: (402) 471-4917
E-mail: sheila.exstrom@hhss.state.ne.us
Web site: www.hhs.state.ne.us/crl/nursing/foreign.htm

**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state
NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required, except certain Canadians
Endorsement acceptable; verification of other state license plus NCLEX and transcript from nursing school
TOEFL is required
**Educational Requirements:** Submit proof of graduation from a nursing program with education comparable to nursing education in the United States
Official transcripts must be submitted directly to the Department by the nursing program or by CGFNS

**Nevada**
**Contact:** Don Rennie, Associate Executive Director for Licensure & Certification
Phone: (702) 486-5800
Fax: (702) 486-5803
E-mail: drennie@nsbn.state.nv.us
Web site: www.nursingboard.state.nv.us

**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required; must have CGFNS before NCLEX
CGFNS Certificate required; CES course-by-course report; CGFNS not required if official language of native country is English
Endorsement acceptable: SBTPE or NCLEX, and transcripts
SSN required
**Educational Requirements:** Foreign educated nurses must have an original (official) transcript (in English) of nursing education sent directly to the Board of Nursing from nursing school; another NCSBN-recognized nursing jurisdiction; or CGFNS

**New Hampshire**
**Contact:** Margaret Walker, MBA, BS, RN, CPN, Executive Director
Phone: (603) 271-2323
Fax: (603) 271-6605
General E-mail: boardquestions@nursing.state.nh.us
Web site: www.state.nh.us/nursing/

**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required; must have SSN and CGFNS before NCLEX
CGFNS Certificate required
Endorsement acceptable
SSN required
**Educational Requirements:** All nurses educated in foreign countries must take CGFNS Certificate exam or NCLEX exam for purposes of immigration; this applies to nurses educated in Canada even if already licensed and practicing in New Hampshire
New Jersey
Contact: George Hebert, MA, RN, APN, Acting Executive Director
Phone: (973) 504-6430
Fax: (973) 648-3481
E-mail: hebertg@dca.lps.state.nj.us
Web site: www.state.nj.us/lps/ca/medical.htm
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required; Canadians accepted if graduated before Sept. 25, 1980 without NCLEX
CGFNS Certificate required, except certain Canadians
Endorsement acceptable
SSN required
Visa required for license
Educational Requirements: Copy of candidate’s license from their country of education must be on file.

New Mexico
Contact: Alison Kozeliski, Executive Director
Phone: (505) 841-8340
Fax: (505) 841-8347
E-mail: boardofnursing@state.nm.us
Web site: www.state.nm.us/clients/nursing
Licensing Requirements: Compact state
NCLEX license by exam required; not required of Canadians writing CNATS after 1970 in English
CGFNS: only course-by-course evaluation
Endorsement acceptable: (a) received initial licensure by passing NCLEX within the past five years, or (b) have been engaged in nursing a minimum of 1,000 hours within the past five years; or pass a board-approved refresher course
SSN required
Educational Requirements: Required evaluation of nursing education credentials sent to the NM board of nursing directly from a board-recognized educational credentialing agency or CGFNS

New York
Contact: Barbara Zittel, PhD, RN, Executive Secretary
Phone: (518) 474-3817, ext. 120
Fax: (518) 474-3706
E-mail: nursebd@mail.nysed.gov
Web site: www.op.nysed.gov/nursing.htm
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS: only credentials evaluation; certification required for limited permit only; not required from certain Canadians
Endorsement acceptable, with CGFNS credential evaluation
SSN not required for license, but required to work
Educational Requirements: Verification of educational credentials required, for nursing program outside the U.S.

North Carolina
Contact: Polly Johnson, MSN, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (919) 782-3211
Fax: (919) 781-9461
E-mail: polly@ncbon.com
Web site: www.ncbon.com/ ne

**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state
NCLEX license by exam required; Canadians without NCLEX accepted
CGFNS Certificate required, except certain Canadians
Endorsement acceptable
SSN required
Credentialing exam must be in English
TOEFL is required

**Educational Requirements:** Verification of educational credentials; transcript review.

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**North Dakota**

**Contact:** Constance Kalanek, PhD, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (701) 328-9777
Fax: (701) 328-9785
E-mail: ckalanek@ndbon.org
Web site: www.ndbon.org

**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state
NCLEX license by exam required; CNATS accepted 1983-1993
NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® examination; State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE); English version of the CNATS (Canadian examination) from 1979-1993
CGFNS Certificate required, unless schooled in English-speaking Canadian schools; not required for license by endorsement, but required for license by examination. Must have transcripts evaluation
Endorsement acceptable if (1) entered nursing program prior to Jan. 1, 1987; (2) completed an associate degree in practical nursing; (3) completed a baccalaureate degree in registered nursing
If nurse entered nursing program after Jan. 1, 1987 and does not have an associate degree in practical nursing or a baccalaureate degree in registered nursing, is eligible to apply for the Transitional License to practice in North Dakota
SSN required

**Educational Requirements:** Nursing education transcript evaluation for compatibility to North Dakota education requirements

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**Ohio**

**Contact:** Karen Scott
Phone: (614) 466-3947
Fax: (614) 466-0388
E-mail: licensure@nur.state.oh.us
Web site: www.nursing.ohio.gov/

**Licensing Requirements:** Not compact state
NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate not required; Credentials evaluation only and Visa Screen verification
Endorsement acceptable
SSN required
There is a proposed rule to eliminate TSE requirement for nurses educated in English from February 2002
TSE must be taken if graduated outside the U.S

**Educational Requirements:** Course-by-course evaluation of foreign nursing program
English proficiency test for foreign-educated nurses.
Oklahoma
Contact: Kimberly Glazier, M.Ed., RN, Executive Director
Phone: (405) 962-1800
Fax: (405) 962-1821
E-mail: kglazier@nursing.state.ok.us
Web site: www.youroklahoma.com/nursing
Educational Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required; CGFNS before NCLEX, except certain Canadians
Endorsement acceptable, with NCLEX results and a U.S. state license
SSN not required
Applicant must present evidence of competence in written and oral English by completion of CGFNS and
TOEFL, Test of Written English, and Test of Spoken English
Successful completion of the licensing examination adopted by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing is required

Oregon
Contact: Joan Bouchard, MN, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (503) 731-4745
Fax: (503) 731-4755
E-mail: joan.bouchard@state.or.us
Web site: www.osbn.state.or.us/
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate not required
Endorsement acceptable
Educational Requirements: Must have credentials evaluated and prove proficiency in English
If educated outside the U.S., must have credentials evaluated and document English proficiency by: (1)
submitting evidence that nursing education and clinical experience was in English, or (2) document practicing
in the U.S. for 960 hours in the past two years, or (3) score of 560 for written exam or 220 for computer exam
of TOEFL, or (4) original CGFNS certificate

Pennsylvania
Contact: Miriam Limo, MS, MSN, RN, Executive Secretary
Phone: (717) 783-7142
Fax: (717) 783-0822
Web site: www.dos.state.pa.us/bpoa/nurbd/mainpage.htm
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required; Canadians accepted without NCLEX
CGFNS Certificate required; except certain Canadians
Endorsement acceptable; with other state NCLEX-based license
J-1 does not need license
SSN required

Rhode Island
Contact: Charles Alexandre, MSN, RN, Executive Officer
Phone: (401) 222-5700
Fax: (401) 222-3352
E-mail: charleya@doh.state.ri.us
Web site: www.health.ri.gov/hsr/professions/nurses.htm
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required
Endorsement acceptable, with evidence of a CGFNS credentials evaluation
SSN not required
All nurses (U.S. and foreign) must take a Criminal Background Check (BCI)
South Carolina

Contact: Martha Bursinger, RN, MSN, Executive Director  
Phone: (803) 896-4550  
Fax: (803) 896-4525  
E-mail: bursingerm@llr.sc.gov  
Web site: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing

Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate required; for credentials evaluation, CGFNS exam may also be required according to credentials  
Endorsement acceptable; with copy of other U.S. state license and practice nursing for minimum 960 hours and nursing competency  
Foreign license may be recognized  
Proving nursing competency may be accomplished by (1) passing a refresher course, or (2) passing the NCLEX

Educational Requirements:  
Official transcript required  
Copy of nursing license from country of original licensure  
CES course by course report

South Dakota

Contact: Gloria Damgaard, Executive Secretary  
Phone: (605) 362-2760  
Fax: (605) 362-2768  
E-mail: gloria.damgaard@state.sd.us  
Web site: www.state.sd.us/dcr/nursing/

Licensing Requirements: Compact state  
NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate required, except certain Canadians  
Endorsement acceptable, with NCLEX  
SSN not required  
Temporary permits (90 days) are available for first time NCLEX testers and endorsing RNs  
TOEFL, except certain Canadians

Educational Requirements: Government-approved four-year high school or equivalent  
Government-approved nursing program meeting South Dakota nursing education requirement  
Official transcript.

Tennessee

Contact: Phone: (615) 532-5166  
Fax: (615) 741-7899  
E-mail: elizabeth.lund@mail.state.tn.us  
Web site: www2.state.tn.us/health/Boards/Nursing/

Licensing Requirements: Compact state  
NCLEX license by exam required; Canadians may be admitted only with NCLEX  
CGFNS Certificate required; also required for endorsement plus school transcripts  
Endorsement acceptable, with NCLEX or SBTPE State Board Test Pool Exam  
SSN not required

Educational Requirements: School transcript  
Contact: Elizabeth Lund, MSN, RN, Executive Director.

Texas

Contact: Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director  
Phone: (512) 305-7400  
Fax: (512) 305-7401  
E-mail: webmaster@bne.state.tx.us
Licensing Requirements: Compact state
NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required, or CES
Endorsement acceptable
SSN not required
Work affidavit must be submitted showing all periods of employment for last ten years
Must request Fingerprint Card Packet (two FBI cards)
Passport photos
Educational Requirements: Affidavit of Graduation form
Verification of Licensure form (from all countries, territories, states where have held license)
Foreign applicant must demonstrate working in nursing for period of two years at anytime after graduation from nursing program.

Utah
Contact: Laura Poe, MS, RN, Executive Administrator
Phone: (801) 530-6628
Fax: (801) 530-6511
E-mail: lpoe@utah.gov
Web site: www.commerce.state.ut.us/
Licensing Requirements: Compact state
NCLEX license by exam required
Endorsement acceptable, if licensed in another U.S. state; if licensed in compact state does not need UT license; verification of licensure
SSN required; temporary licenses may be issued without SSN, but SSN is required to renew RN licensure
CGFNS credentials evaluation will determine if nurse will have to obtain CGFNS certificate prior to NCLEX
Three fingerprint cards
Educational Requirements: Official transcript
Must take only credentials evaluation by either CGFNS or Foundation for International Services, Inc.

Vermont
Contact: Anita Ristau, MS, RN, Executive Director
Phone: (802) 828-2396
Fax: (802) 828-2484
Web site: http://vtprofessionals.org/nurses/
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required, if not licensed in U.S.
Endorsement acceptable
SSN not required
If licensed in another U.S. state, can be admitted without CGFNS
Foreign license may be recognized.

Virginia
Contact: Jay P. Douglas, Executive Director
Phone: (804) 662-9909
Fax: (804) 662-9512
E-mail: nursebd@dhp.state.va.us
Web site: www.dhp.state.va.us/nursing/default.htm
Licensing Requirements: NCLEX license by exam required
CGFNS Certificate required
Endorsement acceptable (but if educated outside of the U.S. (other than Canada) and not licensed in another U.S. state by examination, contact the Virginia board for requirements)
SSN not required for NCLEX, but required for licensure
Passport photos Official transcript
License verification.

**Washington**

**Contact:** Paula Meyer, MSN, RN, Executive Director  
Phone: (360) 236-4740  
Fax: (360) 236-4738  
E-mail: paula.meyer@doh.wa.gov  
Web site: https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/hpqa1/HPS6/Nursing/default.htm  

**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate required; or 4000 hours of licensed practice in one state  
Endorsement acceptable  
SSN required  
Foreign license may be recognized  
Photo  
License verification  

**Educational Requirements:** Verification of completion of seven hours of HIV/AIDS education requirement  
Nursing school transcript in English.

**West Virginia**

**Contact:** aura Rhodes, MSN, RN, Executive Director  
Phone: (304) 558-3596  
Fax: (304) 558-3666  
E-mail: westvirginiarn@ncsbn.org  
Web site: www.wvrnboard.com  

**Licensing Requirements:** NCLEX license by exam required  
CGFNS Certificate required  
Endorsement acceptable  
SSN not required  
Two passport photos

**Wisconsin**

**Contact:** Amy Williamson, Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Phone: (608) 266-0145  
Fax: (608) 261-7083  
E-mail: amy.williamson@drl.state.wi.us  
Web site: http://drl.wi.gov/index.htm  

**Licensing Requirements:** Compact state  
NCLEX license by exam required; Canadian or foreign nurses without NCLEX accepted if they have current active license in another state  
CGFNS Certificate required; only credentials evaluation required if schooled in English. If nurse not schooled in English, exam required also  
Endorsement acceptable  
SSN required  
TOEFL before NCLEX may be required  

**Educational Requirements:** High school or its equivalent  
Diploma from accredited school of nursing  
Graduates of non-U.S. schools: successful completion of a qualifying examination  
Statement of Foreign Nursing Education.
Wyoming

Contact: Cheryl Lynn Koski, MS, RN, CS, Executive Director
Phone: (307) 777-7601
Fax: (307) 777-3519
E-mail: ckoski@state.wy.us
Web site: http://nursing.state.wy.us/

Licensing Requirements: Not compact state
NCLEX license by exam required; need CGFNS credentialing before taking NCLEX
CGFNS Certificate required, and also passage of NCLEX
Endorsement acceptable, with CGFNS certificate
SSN required
Nursing application not available online; background checks/fingerprint cards required

Educational Requirements: Notarized copy of current license (endorsement applicant); or notarized letter from school stating completion of nursing school requirements or official transcript (exam applicant), for temporary permit