NCLEX and Licensure Information Session
March 23, 2015
NCLEX and Licensure Process

• Graduate from UW-Madison, School of Nursing
• Apply for a license with a State Board of Nursing
• Register with Pearson VUE; take and pass the NCLEX
Timeline

- Up to 6 weeks before graduation, can start to fill out State Board applications (must pay fee to complete application).
- Up to 6 weeks before graduation: register for NCLEX with Pearson VUE (must pay fee at time of registration).
- If applying in a state that needs academic programs to fill out your education verification form, turn that in to Academic Programs.
- Graduation: May 16-17, 2015
- Last day that grades are due: May 22, 2014
- Education verification done in the Academic Programs office: May 26-29, 2015
- Education verification sent in to State Boards or returned to students: June 1-5, 2015
- State Boards complete review of your application once they have received your education verification
- State Boards notify Pearson VUE that you are eligible to sit for the NCLEX
- Pearson VUE sends you your Authorization to Test (ATT)
- Once you receive that, you schedule your testing time
- Take the NCLEX
- Pass the NCLEX
- Pearson VUE notifies State Boards of pass/fail
- State Boards issue you your license, if passed.
- If you fail, wait period to re-take is 45-90 days. Each State Board has their own rule.
Timeline

April
- Application to State Board of Nursing
- Register for NCLEX

May
- Graduate
- Education Verification completed by SON

June
- Education Verification sent to State Board of Nursing or given to student
- State Board notifies Pearson VUE that you are eligible to take the NCLEX
- You will get your ATT from Pearson VUE
- Schedule your NCLEX testing time (usually within 90 days)
What Can You Do Now

• Be sure that you have indicated your graduation term in your MyUW account. This will put you “on the list” of those that intend to graduate this Spring or Summer. This list is used for things like graduation ceremony information and final graduation checks at the end of the semester.

• Meet with your advisor to complete a final graduation check or you can run your own DARS through your MyUW. Details are on the StudentNet.
• http://academic.son.wisc.edu/studentnet/undergrad/advising/degree_chk_bs.php
What Can Delay Your Graduation?

• Courses/Credits not yet posted to your record (Transfer, Study Abroad, Extension).

• We recommend that you meet with an Advisor to make sure the credits are posted. If they are not posted, they need to be posted to your record through the Office of Admissions. It can take 4-6 weeks to finalize getting your credits posted.

• All courses must be completed and posted to your record before we can verify graduation.
Key Players and Roles

- **NCSBN**
  - Ensure the fair and secure delivery of the exam

- **Pearson VUE**
  - Administer the exam according to rules and accommodations

- **Board of Nursing**
  - Make candidates eligible, complete accommodations requests, grant license to qualified candidates
Licensure

• Must apply to a State Board of Nursing
• Can only have an active application with one state
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Number of Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California-RN</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Graduates</strong></td>
<td><strong>142</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>California-RN</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington D.C.</td>
<td>1</td>
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Licensure Information

After a student has completed their nursing degree, the next step is to sit for the NCLEX. Undergraduate students must apply for licensure in a specific state and complete the NCLEX exam to become a Registered Nurse.

Licensure information pertains to current undergraduate students who are in their last semester and will graduate in May 2014. Students should be sure that they have indicated their graduation term in their MyUW account. This will put students on the list of those that intend to graduate this Spring or Summer. This list is used for things like graduation ceremony information and final graduation checks at the end of the semester.

If you are uncertain as to whether or not you will be a May graduate, please contact your advisor via email, or run a DARS report through your MyUW account. You can also meet with your advisor to complete a Senior Graduation Check. The degree date for May graduates will be May 18, 2014. This is the date that will be printed on your official transcript.

Academic Programs then has to verify all requirements (after final grades are submitted and posted) for all students that have indicated graduation. This process takes about 2 weeks. Academic Programs then sends final lists to both the Registrar and the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) and final lists will be confirmed the first week of June.

We will send education certification information to the WI DSPS the first week of June. It could take 15-20 days (or more) for the WI DSPS to complete your application. If you plan on working right after the semester, we encourage you to speak with your employer about the positions (Student Nurse, etc) that are available to you until you receive your temporary license.

What can delay your education verification?

One of the most frequent reasons that might delay a student’s education verification is the posting of credits to their record. Students should make sure that all off campus (Transfer, Study Abroad, Extension) credits have been posted to their record. All courses must be completed and posted to your record before we can verify graduation.

We recommend that students meet with an Advisor to make sure the credits are posted. If they are not posted, they need to be posted to the student’s record through the Office of Admissions. It can take 4-6 weeks to finalize getting your credits posted.
WI State Board of Nursing
Department of Safety and Professional Services

- [http://dsps.wi.gov/Default.aspx?Page=cde452e1-4b52-4946-b31a-6b9463f0b4de](http://dsps.wi.gov/Default.aspx?Page=cde452e1-4b52-4946-b31a-6b9463f0b4de)
Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

http://www.idfpr.com/profs/info/Nursing.asp
Minnesota Board of Nursing

- http://mn.gov/health-licensing-boards/nursing/
Info on compact states:
https://www.ncsbn.org/nurse-licensure-compact.htm
• I am graduating from a nursing program this year. Can I take the NCLEX® in a different state?

The NCLEX® can be taken in any jurisdiction.

However, graduates applying for a license who legally reside in a compact state can only apply to their home state board of nursing.

This means that the applicant cannot apply for a compact license in a compact state other than the one in which he/she is declaring as their primary state of residence.
Compact States

• I am not sure what is required for a state to be my home state of residency for compact privileges. What is the requirement?

• If you live in a compact state, you must have at least one of the following to declare that state your home state of residency:
  – a driver license in that state, or;
  – an address from the state that you hold a voters registration, or;
  – an address in that state by which you file your federal income taxes.

• Most compact states require some type of formal declaration. You cannot assume you have the compact privilege just because you have one or more of the items above.
The Nurse Licensure Compact Explained

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KgYXULIGoa8

• This video overview of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) explains the difference between single state and multistate licensure. Learn what states are compact states and registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) that are eligible for a multistate nursing license. Please visit http://www.ncsbn.org/nlc for further information about the NLC. Copyright ©2011 National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.
Licensure

• Any questions on licensure?
NCLEX

National Council Licensure Examination

- Passing demonstrates that you have the minimal level of knowledge or competency
- A legal requirement
- Allows you to be registered as a professional nurse
- Is a CAT exam – Computerized Adaptive Test
Registration process for the NCLEX is as follows:

1. Meet all of the board of nursing’s eligibility requirements to take the NCLEX.
2. Submit an application for licensure to the board of nursing where you wish to be licensed.
3. Register for the NCLEX with Pearson VUE.
4. Receive Acknowledgement of Receipt of Registration from Pearson VUE.
5. The board of nursing makes the candidate eligible to take the NCLEX.
6. Receive Authorization to Test (ATT) letter from Pearson VUE.
7. Schedule your exam with Pearson VUE.

Check out this resource: Eight Steps to the NCLEX
Registration process for the NCLEX is as follows:

1. **Candidate**
   - Apply for licensure/eligibility to the board of nursing
   - Register and pay the $200 fee for the NCLEX Examination with Pearson VUE

2. **Eligibility Granted**

3. **Acknowledgement of Registration**

4. **Authorization to Test (ATT)**
NCLEX Administration

• Registration
• Eligibility
• ATT (Authorization to Test)
• Scheduling
NCLEX Registration

• Register for the NCLEX exam with Pearson VUE: www.pearsonvue.com/nclex
• 1-866-496-2539
• https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm
NCLEX Registration

- Candidate Name - must match exactly with the valid ID and the ATT letter
- Fees
- Educational program code
- Candidate contact information
- Receive confirmation of registration from Pearson VUE
NCLEX Eligibility

• The Board of Nursing issues eligibility
• Authorization to Test (ATT) letter sent by Pearson VUE
NCLEX ATT

• Candidate should review ATT from Pearson VUE for:
  – Name matching on ID and ATT
  – ATT expiration date
  – Appointment scheduling information
NCLEX Scheduling

• Schedule online-www.pearsonvue.com/nclex
• Rescheduling must be done 24 hours prior to appointment
• No refunds
• Request accommodations through Pearson VUE

• https://www.ncsbn.org/1217.htm
NCLEX Administration

• Exam day
  – Pearson VUE Professional Center (PPC)
  – Admissions
  – Candidate rules
  – Exam components
Pearson VUE Professional Test Centers
Admissions

• Rules
• ID
• Personal Items
NCLEX Exam Appointment

• Candidate rules and expectations
  – Example: You may not bring or access any educational, test preparation or study materials to the testing center at any time during your examination

• Any misconduct and/or irregularities are immediately reported
During the Exam

• Erasable note boards

• Breaks
  – Scheduled
  – Unscheduled
Exam Components

• 6 hours to complete
• Exam includes:
  – NCLEX tutorial
  – NCLEX examination items
  – Two preprogrammed optional breaks
  – Survey
Exam Day Tips

• Acceptable ID
• Read the candidate rules
• Do not access cell phones or bring study notes
Getting your results

• Preliminary results verified at Pearson VUE: 6-12 hours
• Results available to Board of Nursing: 12-48 hours
• Official results sent to candidates by Board of Nursing: 4 weeks
• NCLEX retake policy: 45 days between exams
NCLEX Quick Results Service

- Your "unofficial" results will be available two business days after taking your examination.
  - Via the web ($7.95) - Go to www.pearsonvue.com/nclex

- Examination results are available ONLY from a candidate's board of nursing and will be mailed approximately one month after taking the examination. DO NOT CALL the board of nursing, NCLEX Candidate Services, the Pearson Professional Centers or NCSBN for examination results.

- You’ve completed the NCLEX, but still have questions:
  https://www.ncsbn.org/14_Youve_Completed_NCLEXFAQs_0614.pdf
NCLEX Passing Standard

• Standard setting
  – A point on the ability continuum that the candidate must EXCEED in order to pass
  – Minimum ability required to safely and effectively practice nursing at the entry-level
  – Determines the minimal amount of knowledge, skill or ability that is required for certification/licensure
  – Passing standard is reviewed and reconsidered every 3 years
NCLEX Passing Standard

• A new NCLEX-RN passing standard was implemented on April 1, 2013.

• This standard will be in effect until March 31, 2016.
NCLEX® PROGRAM REPORTS
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - BS

RANK OF YOUR PROGRAM BASED ON PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES PASSING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>APR-SEP 2013</th>
<th>APR-SEP 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Programs in Your Jurisdiction</td>
<td>11 of 35</td>
<td>18 of 38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Similar Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</td>
<td>173 of 704</td>
<td>356 of 725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</td>
<td>401 of 1844</td>
<td>828 of 1904</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The rankings are based on the percentage of your graduates passing the NCLEX-RN® examination compared to other programs with at least ten graduates who took the NCLEX-RN examination during the same reporting period.

Notes: All nursing programs with the same percentage of graduates passing the NCLEX-RN examination will have the same rank.
### PERCENTAGE OF YOUR GRADUATES PASSING THE NCLEX-RN* EXAMINATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Your</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduates Tested</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number Passing</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Passing</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Notes**
The numbers in the second and third rows tell you how many (and what percent) of your first-time candidates who tested during this time period passed.

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**School of Nursing**
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON
PERCENTAGE OF YOUR GRADUATES PASSING

Compared to Previous Periods

- APR-SEP 2012: 92%
- OCT-MAR 2013: 71%
- APR-SEP 2013: 91%
- OCT-MAR 2014: 100%
- APR-SEP 2014: 86%

Compared to Other Groups

- APR-SEP 2014:
  - Your Graduates: 86%
  - Jurisdiction: 85%
  - Similar Programs: 85%
  - National: 82%
CAT- Computerized Adaptive Test

How does it work?

• Every time the examinee answers a question, the computer re-estimates the examinee’s ability.

• With every additional answer, the ability estimate gets more precise.

• Based upon the most recent, revised ability estimate, the computer selects the next item to be presented, such that the examinee will find it challenging. (Not too hard, Not too easy)
CAT

- This way an adaptive test presents the examinee with the items that will be the most informative for measuring ability.
- Each test is tailored to the examinee.
- Reduces the number of easy items that high-ability examinees receive.
  - Easy items tell little about a high performer’s ability
- Reduces the number of difficult items that low-ability people receive.
  - People guess on items that are too difficult for them.
Everyone will receive a different, tailored exam

• As a direct result of the exam being a CAT, your exam will be different in both content and length

• The NCLEX has a minimum and maximum number of items that can be asked.
  – RN: 75 – 265
  – The test ends in 3 different ways:
    • when the computer determines with 95% certainty that the examinee’s ability is either above or below the passing standard
    • when the maximum time ends (6 hours)
    • when all 265 questions are asked.

• A message appears on the candidate’s computer screen “Examination is ended”.

School of Nursing
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON
Everyone will receive a **different**, tailored exam

- In more than 90% of cases, it is the 95% certainty rule that applies.
- That is, very few test takers run out of time or answer all 265 questions.
  - For UW – Madison students, the average test time was 133 minutes (remember, you are allowed 360 minutes)
  - For UW – Madison students, the average number of questions was 121 (out of 265)
  - Speed of answering is not really a concern, **so take your time, but do not get “stuck” on one question.**
## Test Duration Report

### Average Number of Questions Taken

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Graduates from Your Program</th>
<th>Graduates from Your Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Graduates from Similar Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Graduates from All Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Passers</strong></td>
<td>111</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Failing</strong></td>
<td>182</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Candidates</strong></td>
<td>121</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>129</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Average Test Time in Minutes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Graduates from Your Program</th>
<th>Graduates from Your Jurisdiction</th>
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<th>Graduates from All Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Passers</strong></td>
<td>125</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Failing</strong></td>
<td>184</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Candidates</strong></td>
<td>133</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Percentage of Candidates Taking Minimum Number of Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Graduates from Your Program</th>
<th>Graduates from Your Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Graduates from Similar Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Graduates from All Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Passers</strong></td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Failing</strong></td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Candidates</strong></td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Percentage of Candidates Taking Maximum Number of Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Graduates from Your Program</th>
<th>Graduates from Your Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Graduates from Similar Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Graduates from All Programs Across Every Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Passers</strong></td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Failing</strong></td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Candidates</strong></td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
2013 NCLEX-RN Test Plan

Safe and Effective Care Environment
  Management of Care  17-23%
  Safety and Infection Control  9-15%

Health Promotion and Maintenance  6-12%

Psychosocial Integrity  6-12%

Physiological Integrity
  Basic Care and Comfort  6-12%
  Pharmacological & Parenteral Therapies  12-18%
  Reduction of Risk Potential  9-15%
  Physiological Adaptation  11-17%

https://www.ncsbn.org/1287.htm
NCLEX Resources

• https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm
• www.facebook.com/NCSBNNNCLEX
• twitter.com/NCLEXInfo
Featured Content

CANDIDATE BULLETIN
This resource serves as your guide from before to after the NCLEX, including important contact information, details on how to register, the NCLEX Candidate Rules and results processing.

THE CANDIDATE PROCESS
Learn the application and registration process.

NCLEX TEST PLANS
The NCLEX test plans outline the content to be tested and guide the item writing process.

NCLEX USING CAT VIDEO
This video explains why CAT is used for NCLEX and how it works.
What Can I Do Now to prep for the NCLEX?

• Organize Files
• Make a plan
• Begin answering questions/studying (cards, books, CD’s...)
• Take NCLEX within a short time of graduation
• Get Information: [https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm)
REVIEW 2000 questions...
NCLEX Study References

• Saunders Comprehensive Review for the NCLEX-RN Examination. Text with CD-ROM for Macintosh and Windows Silvestri, Linda Anne MSN  List Price:$56.95

• Lippincott's Q&A Review for NCLEX-RN. Text with CD-ROM for Windows Billings, Diane M. RN, EdD, FAAN  List Price:$42.95

• Mosby's Comprehensive Review of Nursing for the NCLEX-RN Examination Package. Includes Textbook and Internet Access Code for eBook Download Saxton, Dolores F. RN List Price: $78.95

• NCLEX-RN Review Made Incredibly Easy. Text with  CD-ROM for Windows Springhouse List Price:$42.95

• NCLEX-RN: Medications You Need to Know for the Exam Kaplan List Price: $16.95

• HESI Comprehensive Review for the NCLEX-PN® Examination, 3rd Edition, List Price: $63.95
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Questions?

- **Career Services Support**
  - [http://academic.son.wisc.edu/studentnet/cs_g/career_services/](http://academic.son.wisc.edu/studentnet/cs_g/career_services/)

- **Scheduled Appointments**
  - Students can schedule an appointment with Mary by stopping by the Academic Programs main office or calling 263-5202

- Students are welcome to email questions to [mlrussell@wisc.edu](mailto:mlrussell@wisc.edu).