

## Licensure

### Licensure for Graduates Choosing to Practice Nursing in the United States

All students, who have successfully completed the BSN program and have graduated from a U.S. partner school, and who wish to practice in the U.S. must first pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Students, who have successfully completed the BSN program and have graduated from a U.S. or Canadian partner school are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN examination.

Each state has its own regulations pertaining to licensure. As a result, students should be made aware that the requirements for licensure vary from state to state. The nursing board of each state publishes detailed information on licensure. A listing of each state nursing board may be obtained on the web site of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

A comprehensive NCLEX-RN prep program is in place, to insure high pass rates. To accomplish this, IUON has contracted with Educational Resources Incorporated to provide ongoing computerized competency testing throughout the curriculum, inclusive of simulated NCLEX exam-type questions. This step testing program is self-paced and available to IUON students on-line or in the learning resource center. All of our U.S. affiliates incorporate step testing into their curriculum to measure basic competency and ensure success on the NCLEX.

Upon passing the NCLEX-RN, graduates are eligible for licensure as a Registered Nurse (RN) in the state where the U.S. affiliate is located. Graduates can apply for licensure in other states through reciprocity, if that exists between each state's Board of Nursing, or through an application process. Based on current workforce needs, IUON graduates should not have any issues with locating positions in the nursing field.

### Licensure for Graduates Choosing to Practice Nursing in Canada

Students, who have successfully completed the BSN program, and have graduated from a Canadian partner school, are eligible to apply to sit for the Canadian Registered Nurse Exam (CRNE), the nursing entrance test for the nursing profession in Canada. The exam must be written in the province of the partner school. Successful passing of the exam licenses

the nurse to practice in that province.

There are no testing offices outside of Canada and the exam is only offered three times per year.

If the Canadian students want to sit for the NCLEX, they can apply for that exam. The NCLEX exam is offered in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.

### Professional Opportunities

Professional nurse opportunities exist in public health, hospitals, managed care organizations, pharmaceutical companies, schools, and other health care facilities. Nurses may specialize in acute care areas such as surgery, critical care, pediatrics, geriatrics, labor and delivery.

### Pursuing an Advanced Degree

For many individuals, a BSN is an excellent way to begin a career in nursing. Successful completion of these degrees qualifies one to sit for the nursing licensing examination to become a Registered Nurse (RN).

However, many individuals choose to continue their education after completing their respective program. The BSN qualifies graduates to enroll in a master's degree program. Some graduates may choose to advance their education by continuing on for a doctoral degree in nursing.

Advanced academic degrees widen career possibilities. These degrees provide those, with a love of knowledge, a deeper understanding and appreciation of the field of nursing. Advanced degrees are required for credentialing in advanced practice.