



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. I am presently licensed as a practical nurse and would like to further my nursing education. What nursing programs does the Board accept for the education requirement for registered nurse licensure?**

Requirements for licensure as a registered nurse in South Carolina (SC) include completing all requirements for graduation from an **approved** nursing education program.

Registered nursing education programs approved by the SC Board of Nursing are listed on our website. Please select education and then nursing programs.

Programs approved by other State Boards of Nursing may be found on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) web site at www.ncsbn.org. When you arrive on the NCSBN home page, select NLCEX Candidates and then Program Codes. This listing includes programs approved by other State Boards of Nursing.

We recommend that you contact any school that you are interested in directly regarding admission requirements and enrollment plans. Also, SC licensure requirements may be found on our website under applications/ forms. When you apply for licensure with the Board, education documents (transcript, certificate of endorsement/ nurse administrator endorsement, etc.) must be from an approved nursing program and must be mailed directly from the school to the Board of Nursing.

Also, please refer to question #3 below.

- 2. I am interested in RN to BSN programs. What should I be looking for?**

The South Carolina (SC) Board of Nursing does not regulate RN to BSN programs as they do not lead to initial licensure as a registered nurse.

Also, you may find it helpful to check with the national accrediting agencies, e.g. the Accreditation Commission for Nursing Education (ACEN) www.acenursing.org or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) at www.aacn.nche.edu or with the State Board of Nursing in the state where the program is located at www.ncsbn.org (please choose Boards of Nursing from the home page and then contacts).

- 3. I am interested in a nursing program leading to initial licensure that includes classes that will be offered online.**

First, check to see if the program is approved by one of the State Boards of Nursing (please refer to question #1 for more information). Then ask yourself if you have the discipline to stay on track with the assignments. This method of study may be more convenient, however, will require motivation and self-discipline for completing the course. We do suggest that you contact the school directly regarding enrollment plans.

Also, we recommend that you make contact with the school and the clinical facility regarding procedures and availability for clinical experiences. Please be advised that a nursing

program whose parent institution is located in another state which conducts clinical experiences preparing students for initial licensure in South Carolina (SC) shall obtain SC Board approval prior to conducting clinical experiences in our state.

4. I am interested in the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) passing rates for the SC schools.

The NCLEX pass rates for nursing education programs located in South Carolina (SC) are listed on this web site. Please select education and then nursing programs.

5. Are students who are already registered nurses, required to have a current, active South Carolina (SC) registered nursing license if they are enrolled in a Master's Degree in Nursing Program and are taking clinical nursing courses in South Carolina?

Yes, students who are already registered nurses are required to have an active, current license in South Carolina (SC) or another Compact state when enrolled in a Master's Degree in Nursing Program and taking clinical courses in this state. The requirements for licensure as a registered nurse in SC may be found on this web site under applications and forms.