Eligibility Requirements for RN Licensure in the State of Texas

These requirements listed here are not exclusive. It is the student’s responsibility to update themselves with all requirements for RN licensure in the State of Texas. Please see the Texas State Board of Nursing Website.
http://www.bne.state.tx.us/

First Time Test Takers (USA and US Territories)

- Application by NCLEX-RN® Examination
- Report on the Criminal Background Check (based on fingerprints submitted to MorphoTrust)
- Fee of $125.00 made payable to the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) in the form of a personal check, cashier’s check or money order.
- Affidavit of Graduation from Nursing Program (Form must be completed by the Dean/Director and will not be accepted if signed prior to completion of program or graduation).
- Registration with NCS Pearson/VUE to take NCLEX-RN® examination. (DO NOT SEND $200.00 NCLEXRN ® FEE TO THE BOARD)
- Pass the Nursing Jurisprudence Examination (required before Texas licensure will be issued)

Eligibility Questions

1) [ ] No [ ] Yes *For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:
1. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
2. been convicted of a felony?
3. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
4. received deferred adjudication?
5. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
6. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
7. been granted pre-trial diversion?
8. been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
9. been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
10. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/ punishment/action?

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)

NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses: While expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is your responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that you submit a copy of the Court Order expunging or sealing the record in question to our office with your application. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that is not in fact expunged or sealed may subject your license to a disciplinary order and fine. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions related to truthfulness and character. (See 22 TAC §21.3.27)

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure: Pursuant to Tex. Gov’t Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure you are not required to reveal those criminal matters on this form. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to Gov’t Code chapter 411, the Texas Nursing Board is entitled to access criminal history record information that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure. If the Board discovers a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure, even if you properly did not reveal that matter, the Board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character and fitness.

2) [ ] No [ ] Yes *Are you currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation?
3) [ ] No [ ] Yes Has any licensing authority ever refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a professional license, certificate or multi-state privilege held by you now or previously, or ever fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?

4) [ ] No [ ] Yes *Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder? If “YES” indicate the condition:
[ ] schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, [ ] bipolar disorder, [ ] paranoid personality disorder, [ ] antisocial personality disorder, [ ] borderline personality disorder

5) [ ] No [ ] Yes *Within the past five (5) years have you been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?

*Pursuant to the Texas Occupations Code §301.207, information, including diagnosis and treatment, regarding an individual’s physical or mental condition, intemperate use of drugs or alcohol, or chemical dependency and information regarding an individual’s criminal history is confidential to the same extent that information collected as part of an investigation is confidential under the Texas Occupations Code §301.466. If you are licensed as an LVN in the State of Texas and are currently participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses you may answer “NO” to questions #4 and #5.

NOTE: IF YOU ANSWERED “YES” TO #1-5 PLEASE REFER TO THE ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS INSTRUCTIONS
**ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS**

*If you answered yes to questions 1-5 of the Eligibility Questions on page 2, you must provide the Board with the following information:*

*QUESTION #1.* The Board has determined that criminal behavior is highly relevant to an individual's fitness to practice nursing. Therefore, all criminal convictions or deferred orders, prosecution, or adjudication-a determination by a court that is withheld or delayed for a specific time period, must be reported to the Board. This question includes offenses under the law of another state, federal law, or the Uniform Code of Military Justice that contains elements of criminal conduct. SUBMIT a personal letter of explanation describing each incident, the behavior that led up to the criminal order and your conduct since the order, and any rehabilitative efforts that have been performed since the order. The document must be signed and dated. In addition, SUBMIT the following documentation for **all** felonies, **all** misdemeanors, and all military actions:

Certified copies of:

1. charges (indictment, information, or complaint);
2. disposition of charges (Judgment, Order of Probation, Sentence, and/or Deferred orders); and
3. evidence that the conditions of the court have been met.

(To obtain this documentation, contact the county clerk in the jurisdiction where the order was issued for misdemeanors; district court clerk for felonies. If the record does not exist, you must obtain a statement from that court that the document has been destroyed or could not be located.)

You may answer "NO" to the question of prior convictions only if you: (a) received a pardon; or (b) were adjudicated as a minor without a finding of “delinquent conduct”. If you were ever required to register as a sex offender, you must answer “YES”.

If you have questions regarding the outcome of any criminal matter, consult your attorney.

*QUESTION #2.* The Nursing Practice Act provides that a person’s conduct in violation of the Nursing Practice Act or rules of the Board may be considered as a factor in its deliberations regarding fitness to practice nursing. Therefore, if a licensee or applicant is the subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation, the information regarding conduct or behavior giving rise to the investigation may be relevant in determining a violation of the Nursing Practice Act or lead to the admissibility of relevant evidence of such violation. If you are the subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation, please SUBMIT the name and address of the investigating entity and an explanation as to the basis of the investigation.

*QUESTION #3.* The Board has determined that if any licensing authority has taken disciplinary action against a person for any reason, then those actions are highly relevant to an individual’s current ability to practice nursing in the state of Texas. If any licensing authority has refused to issue a license, revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a license, certificate, or multi state privilege held by you or previously fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you, SUBMIT the names and address of the licensing authority who has taken action and a letter explaining the background of the action. Additionally, SUBMIT certified copies of

1. formal charges or allegations supporting the licensure action;
2. final disposition of the licensing authority regarding those formal charges or allegations; and
3. evidence that the conditions of the licensing authority’s order or requirements have been met.
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Name: ________________________________

Date: ____________________________