



State board of nursing requirements

Whether by exam or through an endorsement, the requirements for obtaining a license to practice as a nurse differs in each U.S. state and may change without notice. Therefore, we suggest that you contact the board of nursing in the state where you wish to practice to verify their licensure requirements. You can go to each state board of nursing's website by clicking on the state name in the table. This table contains information available as of November 2011.

CGFNS services required or accepted for licensure by examination

KEY

CP = Certification Program

VS = VisaScreen®

CVS = Credential Verification Service for New York State

CES = Credentials Evaluation Service

English = English language proficiency report

RN = Registered (first-level, general) nurse

LPN = Licensed practical (second-level) nurse

LVN = Licensed vocational nurse

State Board of Nursing	CGFNS services required or accepted for REGISTERED NURSES	CGFNS services required or accepted for LICENSED PRACTICAL OR VOCATIONAL NURSES	Secondary school evaluation required for CES report
Alabama	CP and CES	CES	Yes
Alaska	CES or CP	CES	No
American Samoa	No CGFNS requirements	No CGFNS requirements	—
Arizona	CES, VS or CP	CES or VS	No
Arkansas	CES and English, CP or VS	CES	Yes
California – RN	CES may be accepted	—	—
California – LPN, LVN	—	CES may be accepted	—
Colorado	CES and English or CP	CES and English	No
Connecticut	CP	CES	No
Delaware	CP	CES may be accepted	Yes
Florida	CES	CES	Yes
Georgia – RN	CES or CP	—	Yes
Georgia – LPN	—	CES	Yes
Guam	CP, CES may be accepted	—	Yes
Hawaii	CES or CP	CES	No
Idaho	CES or CP	CES may be accepted	No
Illinois	CES, VS or CP	CES or VS	Yes
Indiana	CP	—	Yes
Iowa	CES and English or CP	CES and English	No
Kansas	CES	CES	No
Kentucky	VS	VS	Yes
Louisiana – RN	CP	—	No
Louisiana – LPN	—	No CGFNS requirement	—
Maine	CES or CP	CES	Yes
Maryland	CES	CES	LPN only
Massachusetts	CES, CP or VS	CES or VS	No
Michigan	CES and English or CP	CES and English	No
Minnesota	CES or CP	CES	No
Mississippi	CP or CES	CES	No

Missouri	CES or CP	CES	No
Montana	CP	CES	No
Nebraska	CP	CES	Yes
Nevada	CES	CES	LPN only
New Hampshire	CP or CES	CES	No
New Jersey	CES and English, or CP	CES and English	Yes
New Mexico	CES	CES	No
New York	CVS	CVS	No
North Carolina	CES or VS	CES or VS	No
North Dakota	CP, CES may be accepted	CES may be accepted	No
Northern Marianas Islands	No CGFNS requirement, CES may be accepted	No CGFNS requirement	Yes
Ohio	CES	CES	No
Oklahoma	CES, VS, or CP and transcripts	CES	LPN only
Oregon	CES, CP or VS	CES or VS	No
Pennsylvania	CP and transcripts	CES may be accepted	LPN only
Puerto Rico	No CGFNS requirement	No CGFNS requirement	—
Rhode Island	CP	CES	No
South Carolina	CES	CES	Yes
South Dakota	CP	CES	Yes
Tennessee	CP	CES	Yes
Texas	CES	CES	No
Utah	CP and CES	CES	No
Vermont	CES, CP may also be required	CES	Yes
Virgin Islands	CP	No CGFNS requirement	Yes
Virginia	CES and English, or CP	CES and English	Yes
Washington	CES or CP	No CGFNS requirement	No
Washington DC (District of Columbia)	CP, CES may be accepted	—	LPN only
West Virginia – RN	CP	—	Yes
West Virginia – LPN	—	CES may be accepted	Yes
Wisconsin	CP	CES and English	Yes
Wyoming	CP	CES	No