

# NCLEX<sup>®</sup> *Communiqué*



## Transitional NCLEX<sup>®</sup> Examination Candidate Bulletin For Canadian NCLEX Candidates

SUMMER 2014

## *The Transitional NCLEX<sup>®</sup> Candidate Bulletin for Canadian Candidates Now Available*

### **Who is it for?**

The Transitional Candidate Bulletin provides interim information about the process of taking the NCLEX to candidates seeking licensure/registration in Canada and who will be registering for the NCLEX with Pearson VUE between Nov. 3, 2014 and Dec. 31, 2014. The Canadian candidates registering during this period will be able to schedule appointments on or after Jan. 5, 2015.

### **Is the information different than the yearly candidate bulletin?**

The information in this bulletin is consistent with that provided in the yearly NCLEX<sup>®</sup> Candidate Bulletin, which applies to all NCLEX candidates seeking licensure/registration in the U.S. and Canada. Information and processes that apply to Canadian NCLEX candidates have been included in this version of the bulletin.

 **NCSBN**  
*National Council of State Boards of Nursing*



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## Will there always be a separate bulletin for Canadian candidates?

No. The 2015 NCLEX® Candidate Bulletin will be made available in December 2014 and will include the information applicable to all candidates taking the NCLEX in 2015.

## Where can I find the Transitional NCLEX® Candidate Bulletin?

The bulletin can be found on ncsbn.org on the [Candidate Bulletin & Information](#) page.

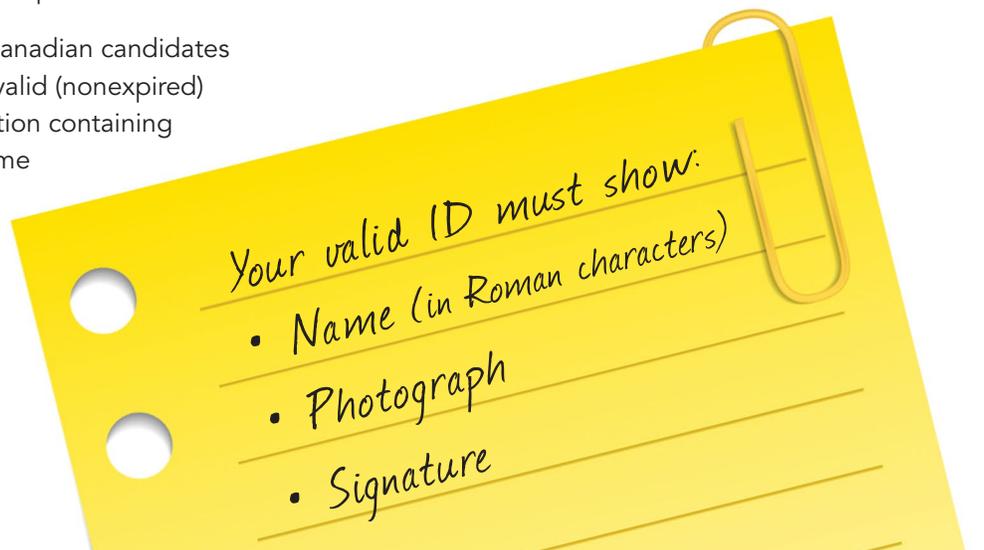


## Spotlight on Identification Requirements

Because of the importance of the NCLEX®, several security measures will be followed during the administration of the examination, including strict candidate identification requirements.

Beginning in January 2015, Canadian candidates will be required to present a valid (nonexpired) government-issued identification containing the following information: name (in Roman characters), photograph and signature.

Refer to the [Transitional NCLEX® Candidate Bulletin](#) for a list of approved forms of ID for admittance into domestic and international test centers.



## NCLEX® Results



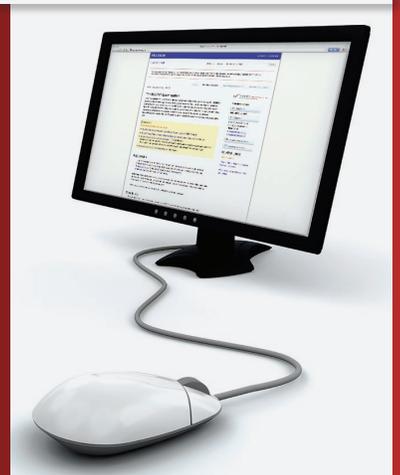
For quality control purposes, every NCLEX is scored twice. The first is completed by the computer at the test center. The results are then transmitted to Pearson VUE for verification. Although the exam is scored as a candidate completes each item, results are not released at the test center. In fact, test center staff does not have access to the exam results. Candidate results are transmitted electronically to the regulatory body where the candidate has applied for licensure/registration. Each regulatory body has its own procedure for distributing results to candidates. In most cases, candidates will receive their results within six weeks of the examination. Candidate results are also never released over the phone so candidates should not call Pearson VUE NCLEX® Candidate Services, the test centers, their regulatory body or NCSBN for results.

Candidates should also understand that the length (in hours) of their NCLEX or the number of items answered is not an indication of a specific pass or fail result. A candidate with a relatively short examination may pass or fail just as a candidate with a long examination may pass or fail. Each candidate, regardless of the length of their examination, has ample opportunity to demonstrate their true ability and is given an examination that conforms to the NCLEX-RN® Test Plan. Many candidates' examinations will end before the maximum number of items has been administered. The differing lengths of each candidate's examination are an illustration of [computerized adaptive testing \(CAT\)](#) at work.

## NCLEX® Webinar Series is Now Available

NCSBN Examinations has created a series of webinars illustrating several parts of the NCLEX development process. Access the webinars to learn more about:

- [NCLEX Test Plan](#)
- [Scope of Practice, Practice Analysis, and Knowledge, Skills and Abilities](#)
- [NCLEX Item Writing and Item Review](#)
- [NCLEX Sensitivity and Differential Item Functioning Review](#)



# Frequently Asked Questions

## When will I get my results?

Examination results are available only from the regulatory body and will be sent to candidates up to six weeks after taking the examination (this time period varies from regulatory body to regulatory body). Do not call Pearson VUE NCLEX® Candidate Services, the test centers or NCSBN for examination results. Contact your regulatory body if you have not received your results after six weeks.

## What will my results look like?

Candidates who pass the NCLEX will be notified by his/her regulatory body. Candidates who fail the NCLEX will receive a Candidate Performance Report (CPR). This report is an individualized document that provides a brief explanation of how computerized adaptive testing works, how many items you answered, as well as information regarding your performance within the eight NCLEX-RN® Test Plan areas. For each content area, you will receive information about whether you were “below the passing standard,” “near the passing standard” or “above the passing standard.” This report is only intended to provide indications of your strengths and weaknesses; the NCLEX is not graded in sections – only overall performance on the exam determines your pass/fail status.

Visit [ncsbn.org](http://ncsbn.org) for a sample [NCLEX-RN Candidate Performance Report](#).

## If I fail the NCLEX®, when can I take it again?

The NCSBN retake policy allows candidates to retake the NCLEX 45 days after administration of the exam, unless the desired jurisdiction of licensure/registration only offers a limited number of attempts to pass the NCLEX. Candidates are encouraged to contact their regulatory body for its policy on NCLEX retakes.

Once you reregister for the NCLEX, your new authorization to test (ATT) validity dates will reflect the retake policy.

*Please note – If you missed an exam appointment or your ATT expired, you do NOT have to wait to take the exam. Questions regarding testing limits, resubmitting materials, background checks or licensing fees should be directed to your regulatory body.*



For more information on retaking the NCLEX, visit the [Retake Policy](#) webpage.

## How do I retake the NCLEX®? What's the process?

To retake the NCLEX:

1. Contact your regulatory body and notify them that you plan to retake the exam. Determine what materials or fees you need to resubmit.
2. Reregister for the NCLEX with Pearson VUE and pay the registration fee.
3. Once the regulatory body authorizes your eligibility to retake the exam, you will receive a new ATT and be able to schedule an exam date.

## Are there a maximum number of times I can retake the NCLEX® and will this be consistent across Canada?

Regulatory bodies across Canada currently allow individuals three attempts to successfully pass the NCLEX. Regulatory bodies may also have their own regulations or policies in place regarding the requirements that must be met before an individual can make further attempts. It is not expected that this will change before 2015. However, the Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators (CCRNRR) is continually looking at areas for further harmonization across the country and may review this policy in the future should evidence support a change to the current approach.

# Timeline

2013

**Winter** (January – March)

Began quarterly communication on the status of the transition processes

Scheduled future meetings/trainings with Canadian nurse educators and nurse regulation staff

Canadian item writers included in item writing workshops

Canadian item reviewers included in item review workshops

**Fall** (October – December)

Canadian RN experts added to the NCLEX-RN subject matter experts (SMEs)

NCLEX workshops

2014

**Winter** (January – March)

French version of 2013 NCLEX-RN® Test Plan available

**Summer** (July – September)

NCLEX® Administration Website activated for Canadian nurse regulators

New Pearson Professional Centers (PPCs) and Temporary Testing Center (TTCs) locations available on NCLEX® Candidate Website

Second 2014 NCLEX® Regional Workshop for Canadian Nursing Educators hosted

**Spring** (April – June)

Transitional NCLEX® Candidate Bulletin available in English and French

French version of the NCLEX® Tutorial available

2014 NCLEX® Conference for Canadian Educators took place

First 2014 NCLEX® Regional Workshop for Canadian Nursing Educators hosted

**Fall** (October – December)

Initial translation of NCLEX-RN item pool into French

Perform alpha test and privacy impact analysis of delivery of NCLEX-RN in Canadian test centres

NCLEX® Candidate Website activated for Canadian candidate registrations

NCLEX® Candidate Call Centre activated for Canadian candidates

SMEs review operational NCLEX-RN pool

2015 NCLEX® Candidate Bulletin available in French and English

2015

**Winter** (January – March)

Canadian test centres activated

Canadian students begin taking the NCLEX for Canadian licensure/registration

First temporary testing center events held

NCLEX® Communiqué is published by  
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