

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs)

Median National Salary: \$44,840

Median Indiana Salary: \$40,660

Minimum Education: Certificate

Education/Training Required: State accredited program of practical nursing (typically a vocational certificate)

Regulatory Body: Indiana Professional Licensing Agency – Indiana State Board of Nursing

Licensing Fees Every Two Years: \$50

Exam Source: National Council of State Boards of Nursing

Exam Cost: \$200

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are there any provisions that specify reciprocity of certification with other states?

Under our current rules, LPN's may acquire licensure by "endorsement" if they are licensed in another jurisdiction. The statute for LPN endorsement is IC 25-23-1-12 and the rule expounding upon that statute is 848 IAC 1-1-7.

2. Are there any provisions that specify transferability of certification for veterans, military spouses?
a. Is military experience accepted in lieu of training and/or examination?

There is nothing LPN specific for current military, veterans, or military spouses outside of the PLA wide "Military Service Alternative", the details of which are on our website at <http://www.in.gov/pla/3431.htm>.

3. Are there any provisions that provide assistance (example: reduced cost) to displaced/low-income workers?

No, there are no statutory or rule-based authorizations which authorize the offset or reduction the licensure or testing fees.

4. Is there a process in place for individual review of criminal record in lieu of automatic disqualification?

There are no LPN specific "automatic disqualifications" outside of the PLA wide mandatory revocation or suspension found in IC 25-1-1.1-3

Statutory Verbiage

848 IAC 1-1-6 Licensure by examination

Authority: IC 25-23-1-7

Affected: IC 25-23-1-11; IC 25-23-1-12

Sec. 6. (a) Any person who makes application to the board for a license shall submit to the board written evidence, verified by oath, that the registered nurse applicant meets the requirements of IC 25-23-1-11 and the licensed practical nurse applicant meets the requirements of IC 25-23-1-12.

(b) A copy of a marriage certificate or court order shall be submitted by a candidate who wishes to change her or his name after the application is filed.

(c) Candidates shall present the authorization to test and a photo identification for entrance to the testing center.

(d) The required Indiana passing criteria for the licensure examination is set by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing using the computerized adaptive testing methodology.

(e) An applicant may take the examination at any testing center in the United States approved by the National Council for State Boards of Nursing. An authorization to test must be provided by the Indiana board before testing.

(f) Graduates of foreign schools of nursing shall meet the following qualifications before being licensed in Indiana:

(1) Be licensed in the territory or country in which they graduated.

(2) Meet the qualifications required in Indiana as determined by the board.

(3) Obtain the official records from the territory or country in which the applicant graduated verifying academic qualifications or be referred to state accredited nursing programs to establish the necessary credits if the original records are unobtainable.

(4) Show evidence of having passed the examination prepared by the commission on graduates of foreign nursing schools.

(5) Pass the appropriate nurse licensing examination in Indiana.

(g) Requirements for unsuccessful candidates are as follows:

(1) Any candidate who fails the Indiana licensing examination shall not be licensed until she or he has passed the licensing examination.

(2) A complete application shall be submitted each time an examination is taken.

(3) The full examination fee shall be charged for each reexamination.

(4) A candidate who has failed the licensing examination (in any jurisdiction) should undertake a special study program before retaking the examination. This study program may include one (1) or all of the following:

- (A) Auditing nursing courses at an approved program in nursing.
- (B) A self-study program, such as review of course work or professional reading.
- (C) Tutoring.
- (D) Reenrollment in a state-accredited program of nursing.

(h) Written informed consent from the candidate is necessary before individual licensing examination scores are released to anyone other than the candidate.

(i) Candidates applying for the practical nursing licensing examination shall be required to meet the board's curricular requirements for the program in practical nursing as stated in the rules in effect at the time of their graduation. Candidates applying for the registered nursing licensing examination shall be required to meet the board's curricular requirements for the program in registered nursing as stated in the rules in effect at the time of their graduation.

848 IAC 1-1-7 Licensure by endorsement

Authority: IC 25-23-1-7

Affected: IC 25-23-1-11; IC 25-23-1-12

Sec. 7. (a) An applicant for licensure as a practical nurse who was originally licensed by the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX®) or the State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE) in another jurisdiction will be accepted for registration in Indiana by endorsement from the board that granted the original license if the applicant meets the following qualifications:

- (1) Is of good moral character.
- (2) Has graduated from:
 - (A) high school or the equivalent thereof; and
 - (B) a state approved program in practical nursing.

(b) An applicant for licensure as a registered nurse who was originally licensed by the NCLEX® or the SBTPE in another jurisdiction will be accepted for registration in Indiana by endorsement from the board that granted the original license if the applicant meets the following qualifications:

- (1) Is of good moral character.
- (2) Has graduated from:
 - (A) high school or the equivalent thereof; and
 - (B) a state approved program in registered nursing.

(c) Applicants who are graduates of foreign schools of nursing are eligible for Indiana practical nursing licensure by endorsement provided that the following conditions are met:

- (1) Have:
 - (A) written and passed the NCLEX® or the SBTPE in another jurisdiction or country;and

(B) achieved Indiana's passing scores in all areas.

(2) Submit:

(A) copies of all scholastic records; and

(B) proof of:

(i) good moral character;

(ii) high school graduation or equivalent thereof; and

(iii) having graduated from a program that meets the board's curricular requirements for a program in practical nursing as stated in the rules in effect at the time of their graduation with concurrent theory and clinical experience in all areas.

(d) Applicants who are graduates of foreign schools of nursing are eligible for Indiana registered nursing licensure by endorsement provided that the following conditions are met:

(1) Have:

(A) written and passed the NCLEX® or the SBTPE in another jurisdiction or country;

(B) achieved Indiana's passing scores in all areas; and

(C) licensure in another jurisdiction.

(2) Submit:

(A) copies of all scholastic records; and

(B) proof of:

(i) good moral character;

(ii) high school graduation or equivalent thereof; and

(iii) having graduated from a program that meets the board's curricular requirements for a program in registered nursing as stated in the rules in effect at the time of their graduation with concurrent theory and clinical experience in all areas.

(e) The completed application accompanied by the fee, photograph, and proof of current licensure in another jurisdiction shall be submitted to the Indiana board of nursing. The fee is nonrefundable.

IC 25-23-1-12 Requirements for practical nurse applicants; endorsement license; fees; use of title

(c) The board may issue by endorsement a license to practice as a licensed practical nurse to an applicant who has been licensed as a licensed practical nurse, by examination, under the laws of another state if the applicant presents proof satisfactory to the board that, at the time of application for an Indiana license by endorsement, the applicant possesses credentials and qualifications that

are substantially equivalent to requirements in Indiana for licensure by examination. The board may specify by rule what shall constitute substantial equivalence under this subsection.

IC 25-1-1.1-3 Suspension or revocation of license or certificate; conviction for additional drug related offenses

Sec. 3. A board, a commission, or a committee shall revoke or suspend a license or certificate issued under this title by the board, the commission, or the committee if the individual who holds the license or certificate is convicted of any of the following:

- (1) Dealing in or manufacturing cocaine or a narcotic drug under IC 35-48-4-1.
- (2) Dealing in methamphetamine under IC 35-48-4-1.1.
- (3) Manufacturing methamphetamine under IC 35-48-4-1.2.
- (4) Dealing in a schedule I, II, or III controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-2.
- (5) Dealing in a schedule IV controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-3.
- (6) Dealing in a schedule V controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-4.
- (7) Dealing in a substance represented to be a controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-4.5.
- (8) Knowingly or intentionally manufacturing, advertising, distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture, advertise, or distribute a substance represented to be a controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-4.6.
- (9) Dealing in a counterfeit substance under IC 35-48-4-5.
- (10) Dealing in marijuana, hash oil, hashish, or salvia as a felony under IC 35-48-4-10.
- (11) Dealing in a synthetic drug or synthetic drug lookalike substance under IC 35-48-4-10.5 (or under IC 35-48-4-10(b) before its amendment in 2013).
- (12) Conspiracy under IC 35-41-5-2 to commit an offense listed in this section.
- (13) Attempt under IC 35-41-5-1 to commit an offense listed in this section.
- (14) An offense in any other jurisdiction in which the elements of the offense for which the conviction was entered are substantially similar to the elements of an offense described in this section.
- (15) A violation of any federal or state drug law or rule related to wholesale legend drug distributors licensed under IC 25-26-14.

IC 25-1-1.1-1 Denial, revocation, or suspension of license or certificate of registration; conviction of crime

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**Occupational Licensing Policy Learning Consortium
TARGET OCCUPATION: LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE**

Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided under sections 2 through 5 of this chapter, a license or certificate of registration that an individual is required by law to hold to engage in a business, profession, or occupation may not be denied, revoked, or suspended because the applicant or holder has been convicted of an offense. The acts from which the applicant's or holder's conviction resulted may, however, be considered as to whether the applicant or holder should be entrusted to serve the public in a specific capacity.