



British
Columbia
College of
Nurses &
Midwives

INFORMATION FOR PRACTICAL NURSING GRADUATES IN BC

Applying for Registration & the REx-PN

About BCCNM

We protect the public through regulation of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, psychiatric nurses, nurse practitioners and midwives.

- Set requirements for registration
- Set standards of practice
- Review education programs in B.C.
- Address complaints about registrants

Regulatory Exam – Practical Nurse (REx-PN) overview

- Introducing the REx-PN
- Computer-adaptive testing (CAT)
- How the REx-PN is different

What is the REx-PN?

- Regulatory exams help regulators assess whether you meet the entry-level competencies required to practice safely.
- The Regulatory Exam – Practical Nurse (REx-PN) is a new regulatory exam
 - BCCNM and the College of Nurses of Ontario partnered with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) to develop it.
- On Jan. 4, 2022, the REx-PN will become the approved regulatory exam in B.C.
 - New graduates will be required to pass the exam before being eligible for practising LPN registration.
- The REx-PN is a computer-adaptive test (CAT).

What is computer-adaptive testing (CAT)?

- Every time you answer a question, the computer re-estimates your ability to provide safe nursing care
 - Questions selected will be based on your previous answers and the difficulty of those questions.
 - You should find each question challenging, as they are targeted to your ability.
 - No two tests are the same.
 - With every question you answer, the computer's estimate of your ability becomes more precise.
- The test ends when the computer determines if you meet the minimum level of ability required for safe entry-level nursing (the passing standard).
- Watch NCSBN's CAT video for more details (6 mins)
 - <https://www.rexpn.com/computerized-adaptive-testing.htm>

How is the REx-PN different?

- There is no set number of questions
 - You'll answer between 90-150 questions. The exam will continue until the computer determines if you meet the passing standard (maximum of 4 hours).
 - The number of questions asked does not indicate whether you pass or fail.
- Questions will use a variety of formats
 - Question will include multiple choice, multiple response, fill-in-the-blank, exhibits and graphics.
 - On-screen calculator will be provided
 - You'll need to memorize normal lab values ([check p. 36 in the Test Plan for a list](#))
- You will not be able to skip or return to questions
- Results are pass/fail, rather than a score or percentage

How to apply

- Process overview
- Fees
- Application steps
- Provisional registration
- REx-PN registration and scheduling

Process overview

STEP	TIMING	DETAILS
BC Grad application submission	6-8 weeks prior to program completion	Apply on BCCNM Website
BCCNM updates application status	Email sent 4 weeks after submitting application	Status of application and instructions to register for the REx-PN with Pearson Vue
BCCNM receives program transcripts from education program		
Provisional registration granted (if applicable)	Processed within one week of application submission (if applicable).	Email sent includes link to pay BCCNM registration fee
Register for REx-PN	When ready to write within 6 months	rexpn.com/register.htm
Schedule REx-PN	Upon receipt of authorization to test (ATT)	Sent by email from Pearson Vue
Exam Results	Up to 7 days after exam writing	Email from BCCNM
Practising Registration granted	Upon passing REx-PN	Email from BCCNM

Fee summary

Fee type	Fee	Notes
REx-PN fee	\$350+GST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Per attempt, non-refundable• Paid to Pearson Vue
BCCNM application fee	\$230+GST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paid when application submitted to BCCNM
BCCNM registration fee	\$514.80*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paid to BCCNM when provisional registration granted or upon successful completion of the REx-PN• Pro-rated to start date of registration

* 2022-23 practising LPN registration fee

Applying for practising LPN registration

Before you apply for the REx-PN, you need to apply for practising registration.

Step 1: Create a BCCNM account

- You can do this at <https://public.bccnp.ca/Account>

Step 2: Get your identification documents notarized

- Two pieces of valid ID with current legal name.
- To find out which identification we will accept, check the [identification page](#) on our website.

Step 3: Complete your application and pay the application fee.

- From your BCCNM account, click “apply”.
- You can apply for provisional registration and indicate if [accommodations](#) for the exam are needed.

Provisional registration

- Provisional registration authorizes you to practice before you pass the REx-PN
 - Provisional registration is **not required** and is not needed to write the exam
 - Can be applied for on your practising LPN registration application
 - Granted up to a maximum of one year (no extensions)
 - Registration must be renewed during annual renewal in Feb/March
 - Will be cancelled after two unsuccessful exam attempts
 - Registration is automatically converted to practising registration after passing the REx-PN
- **Granting provisional registration (if applicable)**
 - After your program transcripts are submitted, BCCNM will review your application and grant provisional registration.
 - We'll send you an email to select your registration start date and pay your fee.

REx-PN registration and scheduling

Registering for the REx-PN

- Once your application is assessed (and transcripts submitted by education program) you're eligible to take the exam.
- We'll send instructions to register and pay for the REx-PN through the Pearson Vue website.

Authorization to test (ATT)

- Pearson Vue will send you an authorization to test (ATT) with instructions to schedule your exam.
- The ATT is valid for six months. You must schedule and take the exam before the ATT expires.

Exam dates and locations

- Book early** to get your preferred time/location; test centres may fill up quickly
- The REx-PN is available year-round in Vancouver, Burnaby, Surrey and Victoria. Temporary locations are available; [check our website for dates and locations](#).

Writing the REx-PN and next steps

- Preparing for the REx-PN
- REx-PN results and next steps
- Tips

Preparing for the REx-PN: Resources

BCCNM website

- The LPN exam section includes application instructions, resources, frequently asked questions and accommodation information.

National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN)

- The exam developer, NCSBN, has created a number of different resources and videos that you can use to prepare.
 - [Candidate Bulletin](#): Information about registering for the REx-PN and scheduling your exam date.
 - [REx-PN Test Plan](#): Detailed information on the content areas tested on the REx-PN.
 - [REx-PN Practice exam](#): Two tests of 80 questions, available to purchase for \$150 USD.
 - [REx-PN Candidate Rules](#): The requirements and rules to take the exam.

BCNU New Nurse Assistance Fund

- Available to help BCNU members having difficulty becoming qualified to practice (*repeat writers only*).

REx-PN results

You will get your exam results within one week of your test date.

- If you haven't received your results after seven days, please contact BCCNM.

If you pass: Your results email will include next steps in registration process

If you fail

- Within a week, a performance report and information on retaking the exam will be sent.
- If you hold provisional registration, you must inform your employer of your result.

Retaking the REx-PN

- There is no limit on the number of times you can write the REx-PN (open BCCNM application req'd).
- You must wait 60 days between attempts and will pay the exam fee for each attempt.
- After two unsuccessful attempts, your provisional registration will be cancelled.

Application + REx-PN tips

Don't register with Pearson Vue unless you can write the exam within six months

- Once you register and you have authorization to test (ATT), you must write the exam before the ATT expires.
- If you want to write the exam in a temporary location, time your registration with Pearson Vue so that your ATT will align with the dates that location is available.

Need a testing accommodation? Apply to BCCNM 8 weeks before program completion

- Do not register with Pearson Vue until your request has been reviewed/approved by BCCNM.
- Learn more on the [accommodations page](#) of our website.

Good Luck on the REx-PN and in the nursing Profession!

Questions:

REx-PN:
exams@bccnm.ca

BC Grad Application:
register@bccnm.ca