

Registered Professional Nurse Licensure by Endorsement/Reciprocity

State of Maine Licensure Requirements

The following information is the general information needed for licensure and does not reflect other information that maybe requested based on review of an application.

Application and Fee

1. Apply on-line at www.maine.gov/boardofnursing and select I want to apply for a license and follow the directions.
2. Upload a current picture (not a copy of a driver's license, ID, or passport)
3. Upload a signature page that is manually signed. The on-line process will provide information where to find this form or go to www.maine.gov/boardofnursing and the form is located in the licensing section.
4. Send in supporting documentation. All "yes" responses to questions in the disciplinary section of the application require a signed explanation (and court documents for any incidents that occurred less than 10 years ago).
 - Maine State Board of Nursing 158 SHS Augusta ME 04333; or
 - Endorsement.PFRNursing@maine.gov
5. The non-refundable application fee is \$75.00.

Nurse Licensure Compact Information

1. A legal resident of another compact state cannot apply for registered professional nurse license by endorsement in the state of Maine.
2. A legal resident of another compact state, moving to Maine would need to provide a Declaration of Primary Residence Form when the applicant relocates to Maine. The form can be found at www.maine.gov/boardofnursing in the licensing section.
3. Maine state law authorizes the board to request any or all documents that provide proof of legal residency in Maine, including driver's license, voter registration, car registration, tax forms, and validation of residence.

Transcript(s)

1. Transcripts may be required on a case by case review of applications. They are always required for applicants in a generic to master's (accelerated program) when the applicant meets the basic requirements to sit for the NCLEX-RN examination during the program. A letter from the school documenting when the applicant met the basic requirements for RN licensure is also required. The transcript should be mailed or e-mailed to:
 - Maine State Board of Nursing 158 SHS Augusta ME 04333 or
 - Endorsement.PFRNursing@maine.gov

Criminal Background Check

1. Maine state law authorizes the State Board of Nursing to require an applicant to complete the fingerprinting process for a criminal background check on initial licensure. Go to www.maine.gov/boardofnursing. Select "I want to obtain a criminal background check" and follow the instructions. The criminal background check results are only valid for 90 days.

Verification of License

1. Verification of licensure is required either through NURSYS, if your original license was issued in a NURSYS participating state or directly from the Board in the state that does not participate in NURSYS. The NURSYS e-mail address is www.nursys.com (\$30.00 Visa or Master Card)
2. Verification of licenses from foreign countries are also required. If an applicant was originally licensed in a foreign country or held a license in another country, the license information needs to be verified.

Foreign or Canadian Applicants

1. The applicant is required to have a transcript review by the Commission of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs (CGFNS) www.cgfns.com, and

the information must be submitted to the Board office by CGFNS or posted for our review on the CGFNS website.

2. TOEFL is required for foreign or Canadian applicants prepared in a program with texts and instruction in a language other than English.
3. Effective May 22, 2023, applicants who have been educated at a Foreign (Country other than the United States) educational facility, and who are seeking licensure in Maine from the Maine Board of Nursing, must report ALL foreign (outside the United States) licenses to be verified/validated through CGFNS and reported in the CES report.

Additionally, if an applicant's education was taught in any language other than English, the applicant must submit the scores of a TOEFL English language proficiency test. Maine accepts ONLY the TOEFL for English language proficiency test.

NCLEX-RN Examination

1. The NCLEX-RN is required for all foreign applicants that have not taken this examination in another jurisdiction.
2. The NCLEX-RN is required for all Canadians endorsing from Canada to Maine that have not already taken the examination.
3. The NCLEX-RN may be required for Canadian applicants endorsing into Maine from other states that have never taken the NCLEX depending on existing Maine laws at the time the Canadian applicant endorsed into the United States.

United States (US) Social Security Number

1. The applicant must be issued a US Social Security Number before the applicant can be issued a Maine Registered Professional Nursing License.

Important Information

1. Applications are processed in the order they are received. Status of an application may be checked by going to the following link: www.maine.gov/boardofnursing. Select "I want to check the status of an

application” and follow the instructions.

2. A license will be emailed to the current email address on file with the board.
3. After verifying an active Maine state license on the board website, enrollment with [Nursys E-Notify](#) is recommended. Select “As a Nurse” to complete the registration process.
4. Maintain current contact information with the Maine State Board of

Nursing. To update your information, go to www.maine.gov/boardofnursing and select the appropriate option in the “I want to” box.