WABON
WASHINGTON STATE
BOARD OF NURSING

Nurse Licensing Examination Process

The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC)

RNs or LPNs with an active multistate license (MSL) can practice in Washington state and other NLC states and territories, without getting additional licenses.

An MSL is issued in a nurse's primary state of residence (PSOR) and is recognized across state lines (like a driver's license) in participating NLC states.

Benefits of a Multistate License

Access to Care: Expands access to nursing services across the country, including under-served communities.

Telehealth: Provide telehealth services without having to get additional licenses.

Disaster & Pandemic Relief: Immediately cross state borders to provide vital services.

Military Families: Military spouses seamlessly continue working without having to get a new license.

Online Education: Reduces educators' need for multiple licenses.

Cost Effective: Makes practicing across state borders affordable and convenient.

Flexibility: Choose a single or multistate license based on interests and eligibility.

CHECKLISTS

All completed applications must include:

- ☐ Application fee
  $138 Single State RN
  $203 Multistate RN
  $93 Single State LPN
  $158 Multistate LPN
- ☐ Demographic information
  - Social security number
  - Mailing address (always keep current)
  - Email address (main form of communication)
- ☐ Upload copy of proof of Washington state as your primary state of residence if applying for a multistate license
- ☐ Personal data questions (if "yes" answer, please include personal statement and court documents)
- ☐ Applicant attestation

Exam applicant responsibilities:

- ☐ Download HELMS Online Application Instructions
- ☐ Submit examination application and fee online on Secure Access Washington (SAW)
- ☐ Register to take the NCLEX exam and submit the $200 fee to Pearson VUE
- ☐ Submit official transcripts with degree posted to nurse licensing after graduation
- ☐ Schedule exam with Pearson VUE once granted Authorization to Test (ATT)