

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR NURSES EDUCATED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

**Licensure in Kansas is mandatory to practice nursing. Applicants may not practice professional or practical nursing in Kansas until licensed or issued a temporary permit by the Kansas State Board of Nursing. The practice of nursing in the state of Kansas without a license is a violation of statute and violators will be prosecuted. Licensure in another state, territory or country does not grant applicants the privilege of practicing nursing in Kansas.**

**K.A.R. 60-3-106. Licensure qualifications.**

- a) As part of the application process, each individual applying for licensure in Kansas who is a graduate of a foreign nursing school shall submit that individual's education and licensure credentials for evaluation to the commission on graduates of foreign nursing schools (CGFNS) or some other credentialing agency approved by the board.
- b) Any individual applying for licensure in Kansas who is a graduate of a foreign nursing school in which instruction was not in English may be granted a license if that individual meets all other requirements for licensure in effect at the time of application and shows proof of proficiency in English by passing any of the following:
  - 1) the test of English as a foreign language and the test of spoken English (TOEFL);
  - 2) the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam; or
  - 3) similar examinations, as approved by the board.

**EDUCATION EVALUATION:**

- 1) Must be a graduate of a school for professional nursing that is approved by the board as defined in rules & regulations.
- 2) Have education transcripts and nursing license evaluated by an approved Credentialing Agency and have the report sent directly to the Kansas State Board of Nursing. The approved credentialing agency evaluates an applicant's education and registration credentials to certify that the applicant is a first-level general nurse and meets all of the registration requirements to be licensed as a professional in that field.
- 3) KSBN requires a CGFNS Professional Report
- 4) **Approved Credentialing Agencies:**

Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS)  
3600 Market Street, Suite 400  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-2651  
(215) 349-8767  
<http://www.cgfns.org>

**TESTING FOR ENGLISH PROFICIENCY:**

- a. All applicants must show proficiency in oral and written English if their primary language was not English or if their nursing education was not in English.
- b. Currently there are two tests of English proficiency approved by the Kansas Board of Nursing.

- i. Test of English as a Foreign Language (**TOEFL**) exam. It is an internet - based exam. A paper-based version of the exam is available in areas where internet-based testing is not possible.

- The Board has approved the following Minimum scores for the TOEFL exam (each area must meet the minimum requirement):

|           |    |
|-----------|----|
| Reading   | 19 |
| Writing   | 20 |
| Speaking  | 20 |
| Listening | 20 |

- TOEFL Publications  
P. O. Box 6154  
Princeton, New Jersey 08541-6154.  
609-771-7100  
<http://www.toefl.org>

- The test is given in several locations in Kansas and in many locations in the United States.

- ii. **IELTS** (International English Language Testing System). This is also an internet-based exam or can be taken at a testing center.

- The Board has approved the following Minimum scores for the IELTS exam and each area score must meet the minimum requirement:

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Reading   | 6.5 |
| Writing   | 5.5 |
| Speaking  | 6.5 |
| Listening | 6.5 |

- c. Request the results of either test be sent to the Kansas State Board of Nursing by using the code number 9149 in the results reporting list. Results will not be accepted if directly submitted by individuals/applicants.

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING  
Landon State Office Building 900 SW Jackson, Suite 1051  
Topeka, Kansas 66612  
785 296-4929

**NATIONAL COUNCIL LICENSURE EXAMINATION (NCLEX):**

- a. All applicants are required to write the NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN examination in order to receive licensure in Kansas.
- b. If you have successfully completed the NCLEX exam in another state, complete the Endorsement Application. You may be eligible for a temporary permit to practice (see endorsement application instructions)
- If you have not successfully completed the NCLEX exam, complete the Initial RN/LPN Licensure Application. You will not be eligible for a temporary permit to practice.