

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS TO THE NURSING PROGRAM

Licensing Eligibility

When you near completion of the nursing education program you will make application to a State Board of Nursing (in Washington State – Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission) to take the licensing examination.

In order to minimize potential problems nursing graduates might experience in obtaining a nursing license, it is important to understand the relationship of nursing programs to the licensing process. Schools of nursing do not have the power to grant licensure as a Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). The college's nursing program is approved by the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission to provide education and training, which qualifies graduates to take a state licensing examination. In addition to completing a nursing education program, State Boards of Nursing also have the right to inquire about aspects of your personal life that might have a bearing on your ability to practice as a licensed nurse.

One part of this application asks applicants to answer "yes" or "no" to a series of questions. If any of the questions are answered "Yes," full details must be furnished on a separate (8-1/2 x 11 inches) page and attached to the application for licensure. The Nursing Commission will investigate and has the power to refuse licensure. We believe it is important for you to be aware of these questions prior to starting the program. Consult the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (360) 236-4700 or online for details regarding these questions.

Application Questions:

1. Do you have a medical condition which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety?
2. Do you currently use chemical substance(s) in any way which impair or limit your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety?
3. Have you ever been diagnosed with, or treated for, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism or frotteurism?
4. Are you currently engaged in the illegal use of controlled substances?
5. Have you ever been convicted, entered a plea of guilty, no contest, or a similar plea, or had prosecution or a sentence deferred or suspended in any state or jurisdiction in connection with:
 - The use or distribution of controlled substances or legend drugs?
 - A charge of a sex offense?
 - Or any other crime, other than minor traffic infractions (including DUI, or reckless driving)?
6. Have you ever been found in any civil, administrative or criminal proceeding to have:
 - Possessed, used, prescribed for use, or distributed controlled substances or legend drugs in any way ?

- other than for legitimate or therapeutic purposes?
- Diverted controlled substances or legend drugs?
- Prescribed controlled substances for yourself?
- committed any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or corruption?

7. Have you been found in any proceeding to have violated any state or federal law or rule regulating the practice of a health care profession?

8. Have you ever had any license, certificate, registration or other privilege to practice a health care profession denied, revoked, suspended, or restricted by a state or federal or foreign authority?

9. Have you ever surrendered a credential like those listed in number 8, in connection with or to avoid action by a state, federal or foreign authority?

10. Have you ever been named in any civil suit or suffered any civil judgment for incompetence, negligence, or malpractice in connection with the practice of a health care profession?

If you answered “yes” to any of the above, full details must be furnished to the Nursing Commission. The laws of Washington do not allow community college programs to discriminate in their admission process based on difficulties in any of the areas covered by these questions. Therefore, it is possible that a student could be admitted to, and successfully complete the programs and not be eligible for licensure.

The Nursing Commission will not discuss the possible action it might take regarding eligibility for licensure until the time that the candidate makes official application for the examination. Therefore, if you have any questions regarding this requirement, it is recommended that you discuss these with the **Nursing Program Director** prior to entering the Nursing Program.

WA State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (WS-NCQAC)

WA State Department of Health - NCQAC

Mailing Address: PO Box 47864 (Olympia, WA 98504-7877)

Physical Address: 111 Israel Road S.E.

Tumwater, WA 98501

Phone: (360) 236-4700 (call center)

Fax: (360) 236-4738

Email: nursing@doh.wa.gov

Students may also go online for more information

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates.aspx>

What will disqualify a person from working with vulnerable adults? There are currently six (6) categories of behavior that may be disqualifying:

1. If your record shows a conviction for the following crimes, you are automatically disqualified:

Aggravated murder	Kidnapping 1 st degree
Arson 1 st degree	Kidnapping 2 nd degree
Assault in 1 st degree	Malicious harassment
Assault in 2 nd degree	Manslaughter in 1 st degree
Assault in 3 rd degree	Manslaughter in 2 nd degree
Assault in 4 th degree (simple assault)	Murder in 1 st degree
Assault of a child in 1 st degree	Murder in 2 nd degree
Assault of a child in 2 nd degree	Patronizing a juvenile prostitute
Assault of a child in 3 rd degree	Promoting pornography
Burglary 1 st degree	Promoting prostitution 1 st degree
Child abandonment	Prostitution
Child abuse or neglect defined in RCW 26.44.020	Rape 1 st degree
Child buying or selling	Rape 2 nd degree
Child molestation 1 st degree	Rape 3 rd degree
Child molestation 2 nd degree	Rape of a child 1 st degree
Child molestation 3 rd degree	Rape of a child 2 nd degree
Communication with a child for immoral purposes	Rape of a child 3 rd degree
Criminal Abandonment	Robbery 1 st degree
Criminal Mistreatment	Robbery 2 nd degree
Custodial Assault	Selling or distributing erotic material to a minor
Custodial Interference 1 st degree	Sexual exploitation of minors
Custodial Interference 2 nd degree	Sexual misconduct with a minor 1 st degree
Custodial sexual misconduct 1 st degree	Sexual misconduct with a minor 2 nd degree
Custodial sexual misconduct 2 nd degree	Theft 1 st degree
Extortion 1 st degree	Theft 2 nd degree
Extortion 2 nd degree	Theft 3 rd degree
Extortion 3 rd degree	Unlawful imprisonment
Felony indecent exposure	Vehicular homicide (negligent homicide)
Forgery Violation of a child abuse restraining order	Incest
Indecent liberties	

2. If your record shows a conviction for the following crimes, you may be hired without department action against the facility if the conviction date (court date) is three (3) or five (5) years before the employment application date:

Three (3) years must pass:

- Assault in the 4th degree
- Prostitution
- Theft 3rd degree

Five (5) years must pass:

- Forgery
- Theft 2nd degree

3. If your record shows a conviction for the following crimes, the facility may disqualify you:

- Manufacture of a controlled substance
- Possession with the intent to manufacture a controlled substance
- Possession with the intent to deliver a controlled substance
- Prostitution

4. If your record shows that you have been convicted (in any state) of a crime that is equivalent to a crime on the list above or a crime that has been renamed, you may be disqualified.

5. If a court, a department of the state, disciplinary board, or dependency action has found that you have abused, neglected, exploited, or sexually abused any minor or vulnerable adult, you may be automatically disqualified.

6. If your record shows that you have been convicted of crimes related to care of vulnerable adults or children, you may be disqualified under facility licensing regulations.