

APA-1

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control: 610
Department or Agency: Alabama Board of Nursing
Rule No.: 610-X-4-.02
Rule Title: Qualifications Of Applicants For Licensure
Intended Action: Amend

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? Yes

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? Yes

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved? No

To what degree?: N/A

Is the increase in cost more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? NA

Are all facets of the rule-making process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? Yes

Does the proposed action relate to or affect in any manner any litigation which the agency is a party to concerning the subject matter of the proposed rule? No

Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer

Honor L. Ingels
Honor L Ingels

Date

Friday, May 8, 2026

REC'D & FILED
MAY 8, 2026
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Board of Nursing

RULE NO. & TITLE: 610-X-4-.02 Qualifications Of Applicants For  
Licensure

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The Alabama Board of Nursing proposes amending the subject rule to provide the Board latitude to review the qualifications of LPN applicants whose education was obtained in a jurisdiction that doesn't require the program to maintain a nursing accreditation.

TIME, PLACE AND MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:

Written or verbal comments will be accepted through 4:30 PM on Friday, July 3, 2026 and may be directed to PO Box 303900, Montgomery, AL 36130, Natalie.Baker@abn.alabama.gov, or (334) 293-5200.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:

Friday, July 3, 2026

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

Honor L. Ingels

*Honor L. Ingels*

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Honor L Ingels

(Signature of officer authorized  
to promulgate and adopt  
rules or his or her deputy)

**Qualifications Of Applicants For Licensure.**

(1) The applicant for licensure shall:

(a) Be a high school graduate or the equivalent, as determined by the Board.

(b) Be of good moral character. A criminal background check may be conducted by the Board at its discretion.

(c) A criminal fingerprint or other biometric-based background check shall be conducted prior to issuance of multistate licensure or application by endorsement.

(d) For registered nurse licensure, graduated or successfully completed all requirements for graduation from an approved registered nursing program in Alabama, or an approved registered nursing program located in another jurisdiction or territory that substantially meets the same educational criteria as Alabama programs. In the case of an applicant for licensure by endorsement, if the nursing education program did not include clinical experience sufficient to meet the same educational criteria as Alabama programs, the applicant's continuing education and work experience in nursing may be considered, at the discretion of the Board.

(e) For practical nurse licensure, granted or successfully completed an approved practical nursing program in Alabama, or an approved practical nursing program located in another jurisdiction or territory that substantially meets the same educational criteria as Alabama programs.

1. In the case of an applicant for licensure by endorsement, if the nursing education program did not include clinical experience sufficient to meet the same educational criteria as Alabama programs, the applicant's continuing education and work experience in nursing may be considered, at the discretion of the Board.

2. Education training and/or service completed through the Air Force Basic Medical Technician Corpsman Program (BMTCP) - 4N051-5 Skill Level or the ARMY LPN Program 68WM6 is acceptable as completion of an approved nursing program and meets the licensed practical nursing education requirement.

3. Students in prelicensure Registered Nurse programs who have successfully completed all didactic coursework, skills, and clinical learning experiences necessary to fulfill the requirements of a Practical Nursing program

may be eligible to apply for the NCLEX-PN for licensure as a practical nurse by education equivalency, at the discretion of the Board.

(i) Following a review of the applicant's transcript to verify completion of all required clinical learning experiences, skills, and theory, the Board may authorize the applicant to sit for the NCLEX-PN exam, at its discretion, provided that the student must successfully complete an ABN-approved course on LPN scope of practice prior to receiving approval to sitting for the NCLEX-PN.

4. If an applicant has graduated from an approved practical nursing program located in another jurisdiction or territory that meets the same educational criteria as Alabama programs except that the practical nursing program does not have nursing program accreditation, the Board in its sole discretion, may waive the requirement for nursing program accreditation for the applicant, only if all of the following apply:

(i) The nursing program is offered by a governing institution that is a postsecondary education institution authorized to offer nursing education and accredited by an organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor; and

(ii) A review of the applicant's transcript shows that the applicant has successfully completed all didactic and learning experiences required for approved practical nursing programs in Alabama.

(2) An applicant shall provide a valid social security number prior to the Board issuing a license.

(3) Be a citizen or legal resident of the United States. Individuals who are not legally present in the United States are not eligible for licensure.

(4) In the event that a nurse holding an Alabama single state license elects to apply for an Alabama multistate license, the licensee shall provide evidence of having earned sufficient continuing education credit. The continuing education credit requirement shall be prorated.

(5) In the case of applicants for initial multistate licensure or initial licensure by endorsement, submit fingerprints or other biometric data for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and

the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency or its successor entity. The application must be on file with the board prior to submission of fingerprints or other biometric data.

(6) In addition to all other requirements for licensure as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse, an applicant for a multistate license shall satisfy the following requirements:

(a) If a graduate of a foreign prelicensure education program not taught in English or if English is not the native language of the applicant, successfully passed an English proficiency examination that includes the components of reading, speaking, writing, and listening.

(b) Is eligible for or holds an active, unencumbered license.

(c) Has not been convicted or found guilty, or has entered into an agreed disposition, of a felony offense under applicable state or federal criminal law.

(d) Has not been convicted or found guilty, or has entered into an agreed disposition, of a misdemeanor offense related to the practice of nursing as determined on a case-by-case basis.

(e) Is not currently enrolled in an alternative program.

(f) Is subject to self-disclosure requirements regarding current participation in an alternative program.

(g) Has a valid United States Social Security number.

(7) An applicant who is ineligible for or is denied a multistate license may be eligible for single state licensure, at the discretion of the Board.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Nursing

**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-21-20, 34-21-21, 34-21-22.

**History:** Filed September 29, 1982. **Amended:** Filed August 9, 1988; effective September 15, 1988. **Amended:** Filed: February 1, 1994; effective March 8, 1994. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed May 29, 2001; effective July 3, 2001. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed September 29, 2004; effective November 1, 2004. **Amended:** Filed November 26, 2007; effective December 31, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 19, 2010; effective December 24, 2010. **Amended:** Filed November 21, 2016; effective January 5, 2017. **Amended:** Filed July 20, 2018; effective September 3, 2018. **Amended:** Filed July 25, 2019; effective September 9, 2019; operative January 1, 2020. **Amended:** Published November 30, 2021; effective January 14,

2022. **Amended:** Published July 29, 2022; effective September 12,  
2022. **Amended:** Published \_\_\_\_\_ ; effective \_\_\_\_\_ .