PRACTICAL NURSING
CAREER TECHNOLOGY CENTER OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY

Practical Nurse Licensure Eligibility and Criminal Background Disclosure

The CTCLC Practical Nursing Program enables eligible candidates to sit for the Pennsylvania NCLEX-PN. To practice in another state, candidates must apply separately and meet that state's licensing requirements.

Pennsylvania State Practical Nurse Licensing requirements:

- Students who satisfactorily complete the 52-week (15-month) CTCLC Practical Nursing Program—approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing—become eligible to sit for the Pennsylvania NCLEX-PN licensure examination.

Please note:

- The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing reserves the authority to determine an applicant's eligibility for licensure and for admission to the NCLEX-PN examination.
- Individuals with a criminal history, disciplinary history, or certain substance use-related offenses may be denied permission to take the NCLEX-PN examination or may be denied licensure by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.
- Each application is reviewed individually by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing, and decisions are made solely at the Board's discretion.
- The CTCLC Practical Nursing Program cannot guarantee eligibility for licensure and is not responsible for decisions made by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.
- Faculty and administration are prohibited from providing legal advice or predicting licensure outcomes for any applicant or student.
- Questions regarding licensure eligibility should be directed to the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing or appropriate state agencies.

Students seeking licensure in a state other than Pennsylvania, or seeking a multistate license through the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC), must apply separately and meet all licensure requirements established by the applicable state board of nursing.

Clinical Placement Requirements

Students must be eligible to participate in all required clinical experiences. Clinical agencies may conduct criminal background checks, child abuse clearances, drug screenings, or other reviews as required by their policies.

Students who are denied access to a clinical facility due to criminal history, disciplinary actions, or other facility requirements may be unable to complete required clinical objectives and Student Learning Outcomes. In such cases, progression or continuation in the Practical Nursing Program may not be possible.

Preliminary Determination

The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing offers a Preliminary Determination process that allows individuals to request an evaluation of whether their criminal history may affect future licensure eligibility.

Information regarding Preliminary Determinations may be found at:

- Pennsylvania Department of State Act 53 Information: https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/Pages/ACT-53-2020.aspx
- Preliminary Determination Instructions: https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/Documents/Preliminary-Determination-Instructions.pdf

Any fees associated with a Preliminary Determination, monitoring programs, evaluations, or related requirements are the sole responsibility of the student.

Nurses Health Program / Peer Assistance Monitoring Program (PAMP)

Current and prospective students with concerns regarding alcohol, substance use, or related background issues are encouraged to contact the Nurses Health Program (NHP)

Nurses Health Program / PAMP
Intake Line: 717-558-7819
Toll Free: 1-866-747-2255
Email: nhp-foundation@pamedsoc.org
Website: www.foundationpamp.org/nhp

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Student Acknowledgment of Licensure Eligibility Requirements

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the CTCLC Practical Nursing Program's Licensure Eligibility and Criminal Background Disclosure Policy.

I understand that:

1. Successful completion of the CTCLC Practical Nursing Program does not guarantee eligibility to sit for the NCLEX-PN examination or obtain licensure as a Practical Nurse.
2. The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing has sole authority to determine an applicant's eligibility for examination and licensure.
3. A criminal record, disciplinary action, substance-related offense, or other matter identified by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing may affect my eligibility for examination and/or licensure.
4. Clinical facilities may require criminal background checks, child abuse clearances, drug screenings, and other screenings as a condition of participation in clinical experiences.
5. Denial of access to a required clinical facility may prevent me from meeting course, clinical, program, and Student Learning Outcome requirements and may result in inability to progress or complete the Practical Nursing Program.
6. Faculty and administration of the CTCLC Practical Nursing Program cannot provide legal advice, predict licensure outcomes, or influence decisions made by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing or clinical facilities.
7. Information regarding Pennsylvania's Preliminary Determination process and the Nurses Health Program/Peer Assistance Monitoring Program has been made available to me.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I understand these requirements and accept responsibility for seeking information regarding my individual eligibility for licensure.

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Witness/Program Representative: _____

Date: _____

Revised 6/2026