

Fact Sheet 3: Writing the REx-PN exam

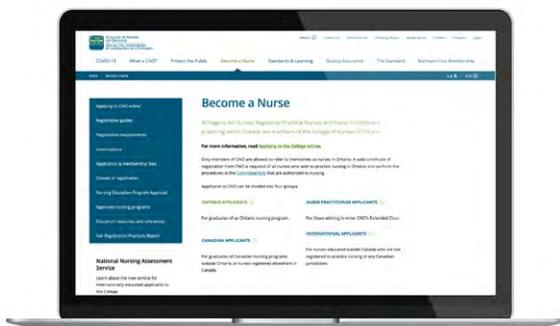
BEFORE, DURING

AND AFTER EXAM DAY

Click below to find out more

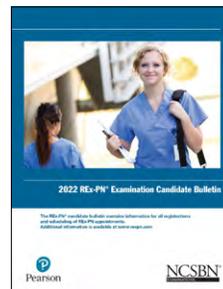
Congratulations!

You are about to embark on the final stage of the journey needed to practice as a nurse in Ontario. This fact sheet highlights some of the steps you will need to take to write the REx-PN, one requirement of your application to the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO). You can find full details here:



Becoming a nurse in Ontario

CNO's [website](#) contains information you need to apply to practice nursing in Ontario, including information on all of the [requirements](#) you must meet in order to be registered to practice.



2022 REx-PN Examination Candidate Bulletin

This document from the exam provider, NCSBN, guides you through the exam process from before to after you write the REx-PN. It includes contact information, how to register for the exam, exam rules, and how your exam results are processed.

Before the exam

Applying to CNO

Applying to CNO is an online process. For full details, see [Beginning the Application Process](#) on CNO's website.



1
Your PN school lets CNO know you are ready to graduate.

The application process for Ontario nursing graduates begins when your nursing school informs CNO that you are about to complete your program. If you are a graduate from a program outside of Ontario, check the appropriate [Registration Guide](#) for additional details that may be relevant to your application.



2
Create your online account with CNO.

After that, CNO will send you an email to advise you to create an account through the online portal.



3
Start the application process.

Once you have created an account, you can begin your application by logging in and clicking on "create a new application." Complete the online application and pay the application fee.

Requesting Accommodation

As part of your application to CNO, you can request accommodation for the REx-PN if needed. For CNO to have enough time to review your request, you should submit it and supporting documents to CNO **before** you contact the exam provider Pearson VUE to book your REx-PN writing time.

For further details, see [Requesting Accommodation](#) on CNO's website.

Accommodation Examples:



Additional time



A separate room

Scheduling your REx-PN exam date

As of December 1, 2021, applicants can begin registering with the REx-PN exam provider (Pearson Vue) to begin the process of scheduling an exam appointment on a date after the exam is implemented on January 4, 2022.



4 Wait to hear from CNO that you are eligible to write the REx-PN.

Once CNO has processed your application, we will determine if you meet the exam eligibility requirements, which includes that you have graduated from an approved program.



5 Register and pay with the exam provider, Pearson Vue.

If you meet the exam eligibility requirements, CNO will notify Pearson Vue. You will receive a message from CNO telling you what you need to do to book an exam. After you receive this message, you can use the included link to create an account with Pearson Vue and pay the exam registration fee.



6 Wait to receive your Authorization to Test from Pearson Vue.

You should then receive an Authorization to Test (ATT) from Pearson Vue by email in about 2 weeks.

You must receive your ATT email before you can schedule an appointment to take the REx-PN.



7 Schedule your exam date, time and location.

Once you have received your ATT, go to [REx-PN sign in page](#) to schedule your exam appointment.

Do not wait until your ATT is close to expiration to schedule your exam or you may have to re-register and pay another exam fee. It is also important to locate your test site because they can fill up quickly. CNO is not responsible for the fees you pay to the exam provider.



8 Receive confirmation of test date

After you schedule your appointment, Pearson Vue will send you a Confirmation of Appointment. First, verify that all information is correct. Then, call or go online to check that your appointment has been scheduled.

If you don't receive a confirmation every time you schedule or reschedule an appointment, contact [Pearson VUE](#) immediately to correct any errors to the appointment.

NOTE: If you're writing the CPNRE in November 2021, we recommend you wait to receive your CPNRE results before registering to write the REx-PN. If you should register for the REx-PN and subsequently learn you have passed the CPNRE, you cannot get a refund from the exam provider for your REx-PN registration.

Application, exam and membership registration fees

The following fees apply to your RPN application and registration into the General class:

Class	Initial CNO application	REx-PN exam	Jurisprudence exam	Initial registration and first year membership
General	\$339	\$350 ¹ + plus applicable taxes	\$40 + plus applicable taxes	\$361.60

All fees are in Canadian dollars and are non-refundable. Additional costs may apply, including the cost of a [Police Criminal Record Check](#).

Testing locations

You can write the REx-PN at any Pearson Vue testing centre located in Canadian provinces and territories and mainland U.S. In addition, international testing centres may be available (see [Testing Locations](#) for further details, including additional fees that may be payable if you choose to write outside of Canada or mainland U.S.). Ontario's permanent test centres are in Hamilton, London, Ottawa and Toronto. Temporary test centres are in Sudbury, Thunder Bay and Windsor. Other temporary test centres are set up in different locations throughout the year.

¹ This fee will be payable directly to the exam provider, Pearson Vue, and is payable for each exam attempt. A complete list of REx-PN exam fees can be found [here](#).

Exam Day

Be prepared



Have acceptable ID

Make sure to bring your ID. Candidates without [proper ID](#) will not be allowed to take the REx-PN.



Know the REx-PN candidate rules

These [rules](#) include policies specific to personal items, confidentiality, REx-PN administration and break procedures.



Dress comfortably

You're required to leave hats, scarves, gloves and coats outside the testing room. (Provisions are made for religious/cultural dress.)



Arrive early

Plan to arrive 30 minutes before your exam. If you're more than 30 minutes late, you may have to forfeit, re-register and pay another exam fee.



Provide your biometrics

To be tested, the following biometrics will be taken: your signature, photograph and palm vein scan.



Receive materials

You can't bring paper, writing instruments, phone or other electronic devices into the exam. You'll be provided with an on-screen calculator and erasable note board/marker for making notes.



Set your pace

You'll have up to 4 hours to complete the REx-PN. There is no time limit set per question. Take time to analyze each question carefully—once you submit an answer by pressing the <NEXT> button, you can't return to that question. See "Examination Length" in the [REx-PN Test Plan](#) for more information.



Finishing up

You'll end with a short, computerized survey. Afterwards, raise your hand and wait for the Testing Administrator to dismiss you.

After the exam

Results



Results verified

For quality control purposes, every REx-PN is scored twice: once by the computer at the test centre, and then the result is verified after the examination record has been transmitted to Pearson VUE.

No results are released or available at the test centre.

Do not call CNO or the exam provider for your results; if you have not received them after 5 business days, contact CNO directly.



Receive your results

CNO will send you your exam results through the message centre of the online application portal.

In most cases, we send results within one week of writing the exam.

Retaking the REx-PN



No limits on number of writes

There is no limit to the number of times you can write the REx-PN until you pass. You will get a new set of questions every time you write.

You can take the REx-PN once in any 60-day period (up to a maximum of 6 times per year). However, you will also still need to meet all other requirements to become registered to practice as a nurse in Ontario.

You will have to pay the exam fee each time you write.



Preparing to write again

If you're not successful on the REx-PN, Pearson VUE will send you a **Candidate's Performance Report (CPR)**. This document provides information about how you did in each section of the exam, indicating whether you performed above, near or below the passing standard.

Find more information about CPRs on [NCSBN's website](#).

Additional resources



Fact Sheet 1: General Information

Gives you a general overview of the exam, including information about the purpose of the exam, what the content tests, the exam format, the number and types of questions, how a pass is determined, and the number of writes possible.



Fact Sheet 2: Preparing for the REx-PN

Learn more about how to prepare to write the REx-PN and gain access to additional prep material, including a “look and feel” practice exam and a REx-PN Tutorial explaining how to answer each of the types of questions.

Find more information in our Frequently Asked Questions sections on our websites: