



Collaboration for: Promotion Education Advancement of Nursing Careers

nursing2000inc.org

Central Indiana Region ▼ Northern Indiana Region

# GUIDELINES TO CONSIDER IN APPLYING TO INDIANA SCHOOLS OF NURSING

## Accreditation

### Is the school of nursing accredited by the Indiana State Board of Nursing (ISBN)?

A school of nursing in Indiana must be accredited by the ISBN in order to enroll students. For a list of ISBN accredited schools visit:

[www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm](http://www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm)

*Approval by ISBN does not mean that a school of nursing is accredited by one of the national nursing accrediting bodies, National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) and/or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)*

### Is the university or college in which a school of nursing is located accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the US Department of Education (DOE)?

Accreditation ensures that the university, college or school has met specified levels of quality. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools is one of 6 regional accrediting agencies in the US that provides institutional accreditation. Most Indiana colleges and universities are accredited by this agency. Regional accreditation is the most recognized and accepted type of accreditation (credits are generally accepted by other regionally accredited colleges or universities.)

For a listing of accredited universities, colleges and schools, visit the US DOE website [www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html)

### Is the school of nursing accredited by one of the 2 nationally recognized nursing accrediting bodies, National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) and/or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)?

A school must graduate its first class before it can become NLNAC accredited. Graduates of the first graduating class may be subsequently recognized as graduating from an accredited program. CCNE may accredit prior to the first graduating class.

### Determine if the college or university to which you are applying is a public (non-profit, state school) private (non-profit, non-public) or proprietary (for profit) institution of higher learning

Mission of non-profit and for-profit institutions may vary.

### Determine cost of tuition and fees

## Employment and Future Education Opportunities

- ▼ **Consider the pass/fail rates** of graduates taking the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) from schools of nursing. These rates are public information and are available on the ISBN website: [www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm](http://www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm)
- ▼ **As a condition of employment**, some healthcare employers require that a nursing applicant is a graduate from a school of nursing accredited by one of the two national nursing accrediting bodies (NLNAC or CCNE.)
- ▼ **If applying for tuition reimbursement** for further education, determine which higher institutions of learning your employer recognizes.

### ▼ Determine if credits will transfer for educational mobility.

If you are considering or enrolled in an associate degree (ASN) program and wish to pursue a BSN at some later point, determine if schools will accept the courses you took for credit towards a BSN degree—in and out of state.

If you have an ASN degree and are applying to an RN-BSN mobility program, determine if the credits will be accepted upon application to a Master's or doctoral degree in nursing—in and out of state.