PRODUCT CATALOG

NLN TESTING SERVICES

PROVIDING OBJECTIVE LEARNING ASSESSMENTS SINCE 1941.
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STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENTS FOR YOUR INSTITUTION –
ADVANCING THE HEALTH OF OUR NATION AND
THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

The NLN offers professional development, teaching resources, research grants, testing services, and public policy initiatives to its 40,000 individual and 1,200 institutional members, comprising nursing education programs across the full spectrum of nursing education.
More than 75 years of Valid and Reliable Assessments
Since 1941, generations of nurses have prepared for their careers using NLN exams and services. From pre-admission through assessment of nurses in practice settings, NLN Testing Services continues to meet the needs of customers.
NLN MULTI-LEVEL PRE-ADMISSION EXAM

The primary purpose of PAX™ is to facilitate admission decisions by providing nurse educators with a standardized instrument to use as a common “yardstick” for evaluating the academic ability of applicants to nursing programs. Inferences from PAX™ test scores can be used as one component in the total evaluation of an individual applicant.

The is intended to measure three fundamental academic competencies that are crucial for student success in an accredited program: verbal ability, mathematical skills, and knowledge of basic science.

The Verbal Ability section is designed to measure two primary skills: word knowledge and reading comprehension. The Mathematics section is designed to measure an applicant’s ability to solve basic mathematics
problems that are often encountered in the nursing curriculum, including those containing operations with integers, fractions, decimals, percentages, conversions, algebra, and geometry. The Science section is designed to measure an applicant’s knowledge of general principles of high-school-level chemistry, physics, biology, health, human anatomy, and physiology.

All of the test items are multiple-choice format. Each section of the exam consists of items that have undergone content and sensitivity reviews. The number of operational items in each section is as follows: Verbal Ability – 60; Mathematics – 40; Science – 60. Forty minutes is allowed for students on each section in the PAX™; approximately two and a half hours should be allotted for administration of the entire examination.

Scores are reported for each section as well as for the test as a whole. Performance on the three sections is reported as raw scores that indicate the number of operational items answered correctly. The highest possible raw score in each section is as follows: Verbal Ability - 60; Mathematics - 40; Science - 60. The composite score which is a standard score that ranges from 0 to 200, with a mean of 102 and a standard deviation of 20 for RN and 25 for PN. A percentile rank for each section and for the composite score is also reported. Percentile norms are based on the performance of applicants applying to registered nursing programs. Scores on this current test form and previous test form were equated using a pre-equating sample of applicants tested in 2014-2015 (103 RN programs and 53 PN programs).

PAX™ Prep Products are available for purchase by students in their NLN Student Store.
NACE
NLN NURSING ACCELERATION CHALLENGE
The National League for Nursing (NLN) offers the Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam (NACE) to facilitate educational mobility by providing educators with an instrument for diagnostic evaluation of the nursing knowledge of individuals seeking advanced placement in a nursing program. The NACE is designed to evaluate previous learning and experience. It is intended to assist faculty to establish credit and to make placement decisions about students already selected for admission to the program. Information from the NACE can be used as one component of the total evaluation of each individual. The NACE includes five content areas. Programs may elect to have students take any one of these exams.

The test items are multiple-choice and alternative item format used in the NCLEX® exams. Each section of the exam consists of operational items that have undergone content and sensitivity reviews.
NACE  NURSING ACCELERATED CHALLENGE EXAMS

Care of the Adult Client:
Includes content related to drug administration, nutrition and diet therapies, and nursing interventions for care of individuals. (200 Items / 4 hours administration)

Care of the Child:
Includes content related to nursing care of the infant, the toddler and preschooler, and the school-aged child and adolescent. (100 Items / 2 hours administration)

Care of the Client During Childbearing:
Includes content related to nursing care during the antepartal, intrapartal, postpartal, and neonatal periods. (100 Items / 2 hours administration)

Care of the Client with Mental Disorder:
Includes content related to nursing care of individuals who have mental disorders. (100 Items / 2 hours administration)

Foundations of Nursing:
Includes content related to the basic physiological and psychosocial needs of individuals. (200 Items / 4 hours administration)

The test items constitute a representative sample of health problems and conditions commonly encountered in nursing practice. The questions relate to the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of health. They emphasize normal findings, as well as deviations from normal treatment modalities including drugs, nutrition, and nursing interventions. The division of the content reflects courses most commonly found in schools of nursing.
The NLN Achievement Examinations are standardized tests that assist schools of nursing in assessing and evaluating the outcomes of their educational programs and, in turn, help meet the needs of their students. The primary purpose of the Achievement Exams is to provide assessment of understanding in particular content areas as students progress through the nursing program. Schools of nursing may administer an achievement exam to their students at various times during the program including at the end of a particular course for which the curriculum and instruction is aligned to the test blueprints or at some other point in the program when faculty have a need to assess the knowledge and skills that make up the content of the exam.

Scores obtained from the Achievement Exams can be used for many purposes including academic advising and counseling, evaluation studies, and accreditation documentation. Each exam is designed to measure knowledge and understanding in particular academic content areas that are taught in accredited nursing programs. Each secure exam allows 90 minutes to respond to 75 multiple-choice and alternate style items that have undergone editorial, content, and sensitivity reviews to assess student achievement. In addition to the total number of items on an exam, the number of items that make up each subtest can also be found in the test blueprint table for the given exam.
MULTI-LEVEL ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS

**ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY**
(SECURE ONLY)

Assesses understanding of the normal structure and physiology of the human body. Items focus on cellular metabolism and membrane physiology; major body systems (circulatory, respiratory, musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, endocrine, urinary, immune, integumentary) and the heart; metabolism and temperature control; reproduction; and special areas.

**MICROBIOLOGY**
(SECURE ONLY)

Assesses understanding of the basic processes, structure, and function of microorganisms causing communicable diseases, the body’s immunological response to foreign substances, and the epidemiology of communicable diseases. Items address the basic cellular, structural and functional differences of microorganisms; the body’s immunological responses to microorganisms; how communicable diseases are transmitted by microorganisms; and methods of disease control.

**NORMAL NUTRITION**
SECURE & PRACTICE

This test assesses students’ knowledge of normal nutrition and its application throughout the life cycle. Items focus on nutrients in food and their role throughout the life cycle; digestion, absorption, and metabolism of food; social, economic, and legal factors affecting nutrition and food safety; and nutritional assessment.
PN ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS

ADULT HEALTH NURSING
SECURE & PRACTICE

Assesses understanding of the care of adult clients who have common health alterations that require medical or surgical intervention. Includes items on communication, nutrition, and pharmacology.

CHILD HEALTH NURSING
SECURE & PRACTICE

Evaluates knowledge of the care of children, with an emphasis on normal growth and development. Items address children’s health promotion and the care of children of various ages who are experiencing common health problems. Includes questions on communication, nutrition, and pharmacology.

PN FUNDAMENTALS
SECURE & PRACTICE

Assesses understanding of fundamental nursing principles. Topics addressed include the selection of appropriate care measures, identification of nutritional requirements, principles of therapeutic communication, and utilization of the nursing process.
**PN ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS**

**Mental Health Concepts**
Assesses understanding of the key principles of mental health and psychiatric nursing. Emphasis is on behavioral manifestations of well-being and stress, as exhibited by children and adults at various levels of wellness and in a variety of settings. Assesses knowledge of appropriate goals and interventions for clients and families experiencing illness or stress.

**Pharmacology**
Assesses understanding of the facts and principles related to medications and medication administration. Focuses on calculation of medication dosages, interpretation of medication orders, and observation of the therapeutic and adverse effects of commonly prescribed medications.

**PN Nursing Achievements Exams**
- Assesses understanding of the fundamentals of nursing care, with emphasis on the nursing process, nursing diagnosis, and the nursing care plan. Includes questions on health promotion and prevention, psychosocial health, and professional accountability.
- Assesses understanding of the fundamentals of nursing care, with emphasis on setting priorities and critical thinking. Care of physiological needs (including oxygenation and fluid and electrolyte balance) and special needs (including preparation for surgery and diagnostic testing) are included. Also addresses the principles of medication administration.
- Assesses the critical thinking ability of nursing students who are near completion of their coursework. This test requires an understanding of theory basic to the practice of nursing in clinical settings related to adult health, women’s health, child health, and mental health.

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**RN ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS**

**Basic Nursing Care I**
Assesses understanding of the fundamentals of nursing care, with an emphasis on the nursing process, nursing diagnosis, and the nursing care plan. Includes questions on health promotion and prevention, psychosocial health, and professional accountability.

**Basic Nursing Care II**
Assesses understanding of the fundamentals of nursing care, with emphasis on setting priorities and critical thinking. Care of physiological needs (including oxygenation and fluid and electrolyte balance) and special needs (including preparation for surgery and diagnostic testing) are included. Also addresses the principles of medication administration.

**Critical Thinking**
Assesses the critical thinking ability of nursing students who are near completion of their coursework. This test requires an understanding of theory basic to the practice of nursing in clinical settings related to adult health, women’s health, child health, and mental health.
RN ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS

**Mental Health Nursing**

Secure & Practice

Assesses understanding of concepts related to mental health nursing. Principles of therapeutic communication and psychopharmacology are included. All questions are framed in the context of the nursing process.

**Nursing Care of Adults I**

Secure & Practice

Assesses concepts basic to the care of adult clients and their families. Emphasis on care to adults experiencing alterations in fluid and gas transport; metabolic, gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal and renal function; fluid and electrolyte imbalances; and pre- and postoperative care.

**Nursing Care of Adults II**

Secure & Practice

Assesses the application of the nursing process to the specific needs of the adult client for prevention and health promotion, early detection, care management, health maintenance and restoration, and psychosocial aspects of health care. Targets the nurse’s role in providing care to adults experiencing acute trauma; and cardiovascular, immune, neuro/sensory and respiratory alterations.

**Nursing the Childbearing Family**

Secure & Practice

Assesses understanding of concepts basic to culturally competent nursing care of the childbearing family. Focuses on normal events of the childbearing experience, common health problems of mothers and infants, and intrapartum complications. Incorporates relevant items on communication, nutrition, and pharmacology.

**Nursing Care of Children**

Secure & Practice

Assesses understanding of concepts related to the delivery of culturally competent nursing care for children and their families in a variety of health care settings. Includes relevant items on nutrition, pharmacology, and interpersonal relationships during growth and development.
Assesses understanding of pharmacological properties of medications, and ability to practice safely in medication administration. Specific topics include dosage calculation, principles of medication administration, pharmacological actions, and therapeutic and adverse effects of medications. Includes questions on the medications commonly prescribed in adult, children’s, women’s, and mental health practice areas.

Evaluates understanding of the general health assessment and physical examination techniques used to evaluate a patient’s health status. Reflects nurse-client encounters in a variety of health care settings using a body systems approach for evaluating physical data-gathering techniques. Includes items on interviewing, obtaining a health history, general screening, documentation and considers health status and developmental stages of clients.
The NLN Pre-NCLEX Readiness Package provides a comprehensive array of preparation and assessment tools to ensure that nursing students are truly ready to take the NCLEX®. The Comprehensive Nursing exam is designed to measure knowledge and understanding in particular academic content areas that are taught in accredited nursing programs. The 120-minute secure exam consists of 100 multiple choice and alternate-style items that have undergone editorial, content, and sensitivity reviews to assess student achievement. In addition to the total number of items on an exam, the number of items that make up each subtest can also be found in the test blueprint table for the given exam.
HOW TO IMPLEMENT AN NLN NCLEX® READINESS PLAN IN YOUR PROGRAM

In addition to the NLN Comprehensive Exam available in the NLN’s testing administration portal, the report for this exam will reflect the average percent correct by the norm group and the students’ percent correct. This will give students a comparison for their performance overall by the individual NCLEX® test plan areas. NLN Testing Services has both secure and practice versions. The NLN recommends students take the NCSBN NCLEX® Practice Exames (NPE) as well.

The recommended process for using these exams is for students to:

1. Take the NCSBN NPE.
2. Utilize a question review bank, such as NLN NCLEX® Flashcards, for 30 days.
3. Take the practice Comprehensive Exam.
4. Continue working through the NLN NCLEX Flashcards for 30 days.
5. Take the secure version of the EPE and RN Comprehensive Exam.
6. Attend an NLN Live Review to receive Student Performance by NCLEX® categories on the NPE.
7. Take the second NCSBN NPE and see the improvement.

The NLN does not recommend the setting of a “cut” score on an exam, especially one that would determine progression or graduation. Please read the NLN’s discussion of high stakes testing* with special attention to the section on considerations. *Additional Suggested Reading: NLN Vision — The Fair Testing Imperative in Nursing Education Fair Testing Guidelines
This test evaluates students’ application of nursing concepts at the conclusion of a program when preparing for taking the NCLEX®. There are four editions of the Comprehensive Nursing Exam; a secure exam and a practice test for both the RN and PN nursing student. Items address client needs in the NCLEX® categories; four clinical areas: adult health, children’s health, women’s health, mental health; and nursing process. This exam should be scheduled during the final semester of the nursing program.
NCLEX® Workshops

Student NCLEX® Review

Build core competencies in nursing with 2- or 3-day workshops for individuals preparing for the NCLEX® Exam

This course is designed to provide the student with information and skills to not only pass the exam but to be a great nurse. The course is based on SimScenarios, or case studies. These cases center on the basic concepts tested on NCLEX®. Although there is no guarantee that the student will answer questions on the exam about the specific clients, diseases, or treatments discussed in these questions, they will answer questions about the basic concepts discussed in each SimScenario.

Concepts such as pain management, ventilation, airway clearance, immobility, sterile technique, and others transcend specific diagnoses. Questions on NCLEX® may refer to these concepts as relevant in the care of many different types of clients who vary in age, etiology, symptoms, treatment, and nursing implications. As we discuss a variety of client issues, we encourage students to think about how item writers may construct questions to test their knowledge of nursing practice. Each SimScenario is followed by exam questions to test the students’ skills. Some of these questions they will answer independently, some in pairs, some in a group-test format, and some we will do as a class. Each method helps build skills by increasing use of test-taking strategies.

Faculty NCLEX® Review

This workshop is eligible for 6 CEUs.

The NLN Faculty Review for NCLEX® Success workshop - the skills you need to help your students pass the exam. This workshop includes:

- Understanding the NCLEX®
- Navigating the NCSBN website
- NCSBN NCLEX® Guidelines
- NCLEX® Test Plan
  - Client Needs Categories
  - Integrated Processes
  - Integrating the NCLEX® Test Plan
- Teaching Strategies
- Lesson Planning for NCLEX® Alignment
- Test-Taking Strategies for Your Students
- Using Assessment Exams to Prepare for NCLEX®
- Creating a Testing Blueprint
- Test Item-Writing Basics
Practice Assessment Series (PAS) tests assess nursing knowledge of newly hired or current personnel and verify staff knowledge in specialized areas. They can be used in cross training and performance improvement programs. These unsecure exams may be purchased by the institution, or the nurse. Each test is 60 items and administered over 75 minutes.
PRACTICE ASSESSMENT SERIES - PAS

BASIC PROFICIENCY MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION - RN

Measures the knowledge and abilities necessary for registered nurses to safely administer medication to a general adult patient population.

PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG ADMINISTRATION

Measures the knowledge and abilities necessary for registered nurses to safely administer psychotropic medication to a general adult patient population.

NURSING ASSISTANTS IN ACUTE CARE SETTINGS

Measures a nursing assistant’s knowledge and ability to apply the basic principles necessary to provide safe care to patients in the acute care environment.

HOME HEALTH AIDE SKILLS ASSESSMENT

Measures the home health aide’s knowledge and ability to apply basic principles necessary for providing safe patient care in the home environment.

The NLN Testing Services online portal allows you to manage local test administrations and access cohort and individual assessment reports.
GETTING STARTED

Contact our customer service office at 800-732-8656. We will connect you with a member of the NLN Testing Services team to provide you with additional information.

Once you have purchased NLN testing products, you will have access to the NLN Testing Portal which allows you to manage exam sessions, view your exam inventory, and access assessment reports.

Ordering Secure Exams

NLN secure exams are available for purchase by state-board approved schools of nursing. These exams are not available for sale to individuals or non-approved institutions. To order exams, please log in to the institution account and click on the dashboard link. There are links to several web-based order forms. Select the appropriate order form and follow the directions that appear on the screen.

If you need assistance, please email orders@nln.org or contact NLN Customer Service at 800-732-8656.

When to Place Your Order

Please order exams five to ten business days prior to the exam date. This ensures we can process your request, provide training to your institution, and allow enough time for students to register prior to the start of the exam. (Allow three to five business days for student registration.)

We look forward to continuing to provide you with the highest quality support and service, and now a much broader, stronger portfolio that addresses even more of your testing needs.

New customers or customers with no prior NLN payment history must pre-pay orders in full for 12 months unless the exams are provided as student paid exams in the NLN Testing Portal.

Return / Cancellation Policy

If an error has been made by the NLN, test products may be returned for a full refund within 10 days from the date the order was received. Neither credit nor refund will be issued after the 10th day. If the discrepancy is on the part of the customer, a credit request for test products must be received within 10 days from the order date; then, the customer will be refunded 75 percent of the original order. If only a portion of the original order needs to be returned, the customer will be refunded 75 percent of the returned portion of the order.

Live Review and Workshop Cancellation Policy

In the event that the NLN has contracted with a facilitator prior to the cancellation, the institution is responsible for the full honorarium payment to the facilitator, travel expenses incurred, and a $500 cancellation fee for expenses incurred including in the report analyses for customization, handbook printing, and shipping. The maximum number of participants per review is 40. Schools may purchase concurrent reviews (max 40 participants each) to accommodate larger classes.

A Final Note

NLN is the sole provider for our testing products. All NLN Tests are copyright-protected. No portion of any test may be reproduced without the permission of the NLN.