NLN TESTING SERVICES
PROVIDING OBJECTIVE LEARNING ASSESSMENTS SINCE 1941
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Dedicated to building a strong and diverse nursing workforce and to excellence in nursing, the National League for Nursing is the premier organization for nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education. The NLN offers professional development, networking opportunities, testing services, nursing research grants, and public policy initiatives to its 40,000 individual and 1,200 institutional members. NLN members represent nursing education programs across the spectrum of higher education, health care organizations, and agencies.

Serving as a nonprofit organization allows the NLN to focus on the cause of building inclusive excellence in nursing education. The NLN’s staff and supporters are personally dedicated to offering high quality education and research programs along with training, resources and certifications for aspiring nurse educators. The NLN also serves as the independent voice of nurse educators, championing their interests in political, academic, and professional arenas.
The National League for Nursing promotes excellence in nursing education to build a strong and diverse nursing workforce that advances the health of our nation and the global community. I am pleased to welcome you to all that the NLN has to offer, especially our Testing Services.

For nearly 80 years, generations of nurses have prepared for successful careers by using NLN exams and training. Our team of professionals includes relationship managers, school specialists, and a curriculum and testing specialist who are all committed to providing you with quality services and products. The NLN values inclusivity. Within test development, a diverse group of expert nurse educators serve as test item writers and reviewers. They also participate in a fair testing committee to ensure that diversity is integrated into our testing products. This provides you with a wealth of voices and perspectives as you move through our testing programs.

You will find that there is no higher honor than supporting the next generation of nurses and providing for the needs of patients. We look forward to working with you to achieve the goal of saving lives together.

MESSAGE FROM
THE CEO
History of Testing Services

Since 1941, generations of nurses have prepared for their careers using NLN exams and services. In 1952, the NLN began offering the pre-admission test, Pre-Nursing and Guidance Examination, now known as the Pre-Admission Exam (PAX), to assist schools of nursing in decisions related to admission and placement. The NLN test development process for our standardized exams is as rigorous today as it was in the 1950s. The NLN continues to work with committees of nurse educators who geographically represent the United States and have expertise in the content area. From pre-admission through assessment of nurses in practice settings, NLN Testing Services is still building on the accomplishments of the past, serving the present, and assessing the needs of the future. Meeting the needs of nursing education is a challenge that requires new perspectives and new technology. The NLN Testing Services team meets the challenges faced by educators and students every day to ensure excellence in nursing education.

Available Testing Products

A listing and short description of our testing products may be found in our product catalog. The NLN utilizes item banking software to increase the validity, reliability and security of our exams. A minimum of 10 percent of the items in each item bank are alternative style items utilized by NCSBN. The NLN is following the research being conducted by NCSBN related to the Next Generation NCLEX (NGN) and developing new item writing strategies to add these item types to our item banks. Check back often to www.NLN.org for upcoming announcements related to NLN Testing.
BRIEF OVERVIEW OF OUR TESTING PRODUCTS

NLN NCLEX® LIVE REVIEW
The NLN has teamed up with the NSCBN to provide today’s nursing students and their institutions with the best of both organizations as they prepare for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX®). Prior to attending the RN 2 or 3 Day / PN 2 Day NLN Live Review, students will complete the NCSBN NCLEX Practice Exam (NPE). The cohort’s performance results for each of the NCLEX subcategories are sent directly to the NLN and used by our exemplar nurse educator to facilitate the review. Students discuss their practice test experience with classmates and the facilitator to review testing strategies and discuss test item presentation, while still using comprehensive learning scenarios in an interactive format that engages students in an active learning process.

PRE-ADMISSION EXAM
The NLN Pre-Admission exam is norm-referenced and provides a common basis for nurse educators to evaluate the academic ability of prospective nursing students. NLN Testing Services offers support to ensure English learners applying to schools of nursing that utilize the NLN Pre-Admission Exam (PAX) receive the services they need to be college and career ready. Students may purchase the official NLN PAX Prep Product through the NLN Student Store.

NURSING ACCELERATED CHALLENGE EXAMS (NACE)
The purpose of the Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam (NACE) is to facilitate educational mobility by providing educators with a norm-referenced instrument for diagnostic evaluation of the nursing knowledge of entrants. The NACE is designed to evaluate previous learning and experience in order to establish credit and placement in individuals with previous education/experience in allied health fields by those programs preparing students for registered nurse practice.

ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS
The NLN Achievement Exams are standardized tests that enable schools of nursing to assess, evaluate, and enhance 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 an assessment of understanding content areas as students advance 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 are 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.

UNSECURE PRACTICE ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS
Practice Exams for RN and PN programs allow students the opportunity to identify areas of strength and weakness while responding to NCLEX style items. Students may purchase these exams directly from the NLN store, or they may gain access through a voucher purchased by the school that allows access for 150 days. Reports are only available to the student for self-monitoring of learning.
THE NLN TESTING SERVICES TEAM

The NLN Testing Services department is in the St. Louis Area (Central time zone).

- Our director, Leanne Furby, PhD, has been working with NLN Testing since 2001.
- Our sales and service teams have over 10 years of experience with the NLN and are located across the country, working with institutions in his or her state on a one-on-one basis to maintain a strong relationship with our customers.
- Students have questions and needs that may not be school-related; therefore, Testing Services has a separate unit for students with a student voice response system and emails; answers to many student issues are also available on our Student FAQ page.
- NLN Live Review facilitators are master’s or doctoral prepared nurse educators with more than five years of experience teaching in an accredited school of nursing.
- NLN Testing Development committee members are selected by the internal NLN Test Development team and senior leaders based on education, experience, and commitment to the core values of the NLN and improving nursing education.

Team members are available Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Central time.
NLN ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSITIONING TO NLN TESTING SERVICES

- NLN Testing Services excels in customer service and strives to exceed the needs of our members and customers. We also bring additional value to our testing users during each visit by highlighting special toolkits or best-practices that are free of charge to programs of nursing; research grant opportunities for nursing faculty; or scholarship offerings to assist faculty in continuing their formal education.

- Our relationship managers and customer service team work closely with their customers. Directors and faculty alike have direct access via email, phone and visits from the NLN Testing team.

- Onsite orientations are conducted to make sure that faculty can review the tests that are given to students and best ways to administer them throughout the course, as well as create their own NLN personal accounts to see student resources.

- The NLN Testing team works with the program to create the most effective policy to manage the NLN administrator account with their faculty and develop guidelines for testing policy and score report analysis, thereby ensuring security and compliance to NLN Testing guidelines.

- Coordinated by the program and NLN relationship manager, students are invited to NLN Testing User Sessions held on campus in the beginning of each semester to learn about the NLN Testing processes and resources available to them.
NLN NETWORK

In addition to becoming a member of the NLN Testing Services family, participants are invited to join the much larger NLN network of 40,000 individual and 1,200 institutional members representing all types of nursing programs from LPN/LVN through doctorate education. The NLN advances the field of nursing education through professional development, research, student exam services, nurse educator certification, public policy, and networking.

The NLN has served as the premier organization for nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education for more than 125 years. Through NLN offerings, members expand their professional knowledge, keep current on the latest best practices, and apply evidence-based research and techniques to nursing education.

Membership is available to individuals, schools of nursing, nursing associations, health care agencies, and all other organizations, public and private, interested in the development of a diverse educated nursing workforce. NLN members have the unique opportunity to network with progressive leaders in nursing education, enhance leadership skills through service on NLN committees, and receive research grants and scholarships through the NLN Foundation for Nursing Education.

Along with engaging the nursing education community, NLN members receive discounts on professional development opportunities including the NLN Education Summit, faculty development events, leadership programming, Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) exam fee, and NLN publications.

For more information and to join today, please visit www.NLN.org/join.
PARTICIPATE IN THE NLN COMMUNITY

- Network with progressive leaders in nursing education
- Join a committee and enhance your leadership skills
- Promote the profession through the Government Affairs Action Center
- Apply for NLN research grants and NLN Foundation scholarships

SAVE MONEY WITH MEMBER DISCOUNTS

- NLN Education Summit
- Leadership programming
- Faculty development programming
- Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) examination fees
- NLN publications

STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS

- *Nursing Education Perspectives* - NLN peer-reviewed research journal
- Member Update - CEO email message
- The NLN Report - Print newsletter
- NLN Capitol Connection - eNewsletter on legislative updates and advocacy news
Health Care System

Never before in the NLN’s history has the organization been better poised to lead nurse educators into the complicated and justifiably necessary arena of politics. Our complex and market driven health care system sets the stage for nursing to take its rightful place in the strategic development and support of systems that improve the health and health care of the nation. This creates the political context where nurses and nurse educators will find they can transform their former culture of nursing care into a potent force of policymaking through political advocacy and influence.

How can you get involved in public policy issues?

- Learn about health care and nursing issues.
- Stay updated on legislative issues with the Capitol Connection newsletter and advocacy blog.
- Become familiar with the policy making process.
- Know who represents you in Congress and build relationships with them.

Public policy at the NLN

The NLN’s objective is to shape and influence those policies that impact the nursing profession.

For more information, please visit www.NLN.org/advocacy.
Academic Nurse Educator Certification Program

The Academic Nurse Educator Certification Program (ANECFP) certifies excellence in the advanced specialty role of the academic nurse educator. More than 7,000 people have been certified by the NLN since the program was accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies in 2009. Certification in any field is a mark of professionalism. For academic nurse educators, NLN (CNE®) establishes nursing education as a specialty area of practice and creates a way for faculty to demonstrate their personal expertise in this role. NLN (CNE®) demonstrates to educators, students, peers, and the academic and health care communities that you meet the highest standards of excellence. By becoming credentialed as a certified nurse educator, you serve as a leader and a role model. NLN certification is the leading mark of distinction for nursing faculty.

The NLN offers two academic nurse educator certifications: the Certified Nurse Educator (CNE®) and the Certified Academic Clinical Nurse Educator (CNE®cl).

The Certified Nurse Educator (CNE®) credential was created to demonstrate excellence in the full scope of the academic nurse educator role. Academic nurse educators engage in a number of roles and functions, each of which reflects the core competencies of nursing faculty.

The Certified Academic Clinical Nurse Educator (CNE®cl) was created for educators who facilitate the learning of nursing students throughout the clinical components of an academic nursing program. The academic clinical nurse educator may have a variety of titles depending upon the classification used by the specific nursing education program (e.g. clinical faculty, part-time faculty, adjunct faculty, clinical instructor, or preceptor).

Learn more at www.NLN.org/Certification-for-Nurse-Educators.
The NLN’s professional development activities provide many varied paths to helping nurses in education and practice teach in complex educational and health care systems. The NLN uniquely aligns education and practice, enhances leadership development for senior administrators and those who aspire to lead, and promotes diversity and inclusivity through its professional development offerings.

At the NLN’s conferences, workshops, courses, and webinars—created by the NLN’s three Centers for Nursing Education—participants exchange ideas, insights, and experiences while benefitting from the expertise of leaders in the field. These Centers include the Center for Transformational Leadership, which houses the NLN Leadership Institute and the Institute for Global and Diversity Initiatives; Center for Innovation in Education Excellence; and the NLN/Chamberlain University School of Nursing Center for the Advancement of the Science of Nursing.

Through partnerships with corporations, practice, and academia, the NLN offers products and initiatives that enhance your professional development. A provider for continuing education through the International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET), the NLN offers CE credits for all its faculty development programs, from the annual Education Summit, to the 1-year programs of the NLN Leadership Institute, to an extensive array of conferences, workshops, and webinars.

Learn more at www.NLN.org/professional-development-programs.
NLN ON-DEMAND

NLN On-Demand is a series of online faculty development offerings designed for nurse educators. The courses target specific areas of development such as preparing for the Certified Nurse Educator Exam; building and evaluating PN programming; enhancing learning through Technology; and teaching Thinking. Faculty can access the courses online, anytime, anywhere asynchronously. The courses range from 3-contact hours to 6-contact hours.

ADVANCING CARE EXCELLENCE IN THE INSTITUTE FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Advancing Care Excellence (ACE) is an ongoing NLN initiative to improve the quality of care for vulnerable populations. ACE programs provide free teacher-ready curriculum tools that can be used in a wide variety of environments, including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, long-term care facilities, and community settings.

ACE addresses five vulnerable populations: ACE.D (Advancing Care Excellence for Persons with Disabilities); ACE.P (Advancing Care Excellence for Pediatrics); ACE.S (Advancing Care Excellence for Seniors); ACE.V (Advancing Care Excellence for Veterans); and ACE.Z (Advancing Care Excellence for Alzheimer’s Patients and Caregivers). The NLN Center for Excellence in the Care of Vulnerable Populations currently is developing ACE.C (Advancing Care Excellence for Caregivers). Each population has teaching resources that include unfolding cases and teaching strategies.
EXCELLENCE MODEL

Nurses fulfill various roles, such as providing high quality care to individuals, families, and communities; teaching effectively; influencing public policy; conducting research; providing leadership in the delivery of nursing services; and creating a preferred future for the profession itself. Preparing nurses of the caliber required for this work calls for educational programs and teaching of the highest quality.

The Excellence in Nursing Education Model developed by the NLN depicts eight core elements required to achieve and sustain this excellence. Each major element’s extension facilitates understanding of the complexity of the educational enterprise and stimulates thinking among faculty about both the concepts of excellence and how to achieve excellence in nursing education.

Hallmarks of Excellence: The NLN identifies 30 “hallmarks of excellence” that can be considered characteristics or traits that serve to define a level of outstanding performance or service. The hallmarks are suggestions for the type of things faculty may want to address as they strive to achieve those levels. Finally, the NLN Hallmarks of Excellence in Nursing Education© have been developed for all types of programs and all types of institutions; exceptions to this are noted.

Competencies for Nursing Education: As the premier organization for nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education, the NLN developed competencies to address both the specialized role of the nurse educator and competencies for graduates of all types of nursing programs.

INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (IPE)

IPE is recognized by various international professional societies and accreditation organizations as foundational to achieving safe, high quality, accessible, patient-centered care. Simulation, an effective way to enhance interprofessional education, can help educate students from all health professions, across the educational spectrum, to work collaboratively. The NLN has developed a series of resources from vision statements to an IPE toolkit to assist educators with integrating IPE into nursing curricula.

PRACTICAL NURSING

To assist PN educators to prepare the LPN/LVN workforce for current practice and to promote academic progression, the NLN released a vision statement that recognizes the role of LPN/LVN graduates in advancing the nation’s health. The NLN also developed guidelines for practical nursing national faculty to support learning in new clinical settings that align with workforce practice. The intent of the guidelines is not to add to the PN curricula or to increase educational requirements for LPN/LVN practice. Based on the NLN Education Competencies Model (2010), the guidelines describe the four program outcomes of human flourishing, nursing judgment, spirit of inquiry, and professional identity as a foundation for curriculum redesign.
SIMULATION

Simulation has been increasingly adopted as a teaching methodology in nursing education and staff development learning environments and is rapidly gaining common ground as a standard teaching strategy. Simulation is valued for its ability to provide realistic, context-rich experiential learning in a safe environment.

The NLN, in collaboration with Laerdal Medical and Wolters-Kluwer Health, is a recognized leader in simulation development, from unfolding simulations to simulation faculty development courses and virtual simulation scenario development. To promote professional development in this area, the NLN offers a variety of sophisticated resources and activities.

Simulation Innovation Resource Center (SIRC): The purpose of the SIRC, a collaborative alliance between the NLN and Laerdal Medical, is to bring together a community of nurse educators who can effectively use simulation to promote and evaluate student learning and who engage in dialogue with each other to advance simulation in nursing education. The SIRC offers 15 online courses to enhance faculty development in simulation pedagogy.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

As the only national organization funding nursing education research, the NLN is the leader in advancing the science of nursing education — furthering the scholarship of teaching and promoting evidence-based nursing education. A long record of support for rigorous, high-quality study that contributes to academic progression is reflected in the NLN’s nursing education research and grants program.

SCHOLARLY WRITING RETREAT: AN NLN MENTORING PROGRAM

The NLN Scholarly Writing Retreat is designed to help nurse educators enhance writing skills and disseminate research findings and other work in scholarly publications.

By the end of the retreat, our goal is for each participant to have a complete, edited paper ready for submission to a scholarly journal. Nurse clinicians or administrators who are not faculty are also eligible to apply. Again, having completed a research study or innovation is necessary for consideration.
Important information and knowledge to members

The NLN shares important information and knowledge to members, the health care community, various stakeholders, and to the public at large, through a variety of publications. By working with our members, the NLN ensures that the content of our books and monographs meets the needs of nurse faculty.

To expand the scope and reach of its publishing, the NLN has teamed with Wolters Kluwer Health, which is now the exclusive distributor of print and e-books for the NLN. Visit the NLN Bookstore to see the list of publications currently available for purchase.

NLN members receive exclusive discounts off the publications. Popular titles include Critical Conversations: The NLN Guide for Teaching Thinking; Clinical Nurse Educator Competencies; and Designing & Creating a Culture of Care for Students & Faculty: The Chamberlain University College of Nursing Model.

Check out all the journals, newsletters, bulletins and reports the NLN has to offer at www.NLN.org/Newsroom/Newsletters-and-Journal.
Nurses are the backbone of health care and their educators are the first contact to practice.
The NLN Foundation for Nursing Education, in support of the NLN, plays a central role in empowering nurse educators in America.
We are the connection between education and practice and need your support today.
Mission

The NLN Foundation for Nursing Education raises, stewards, and distributes funds that support the mission and activities of the NLN – by promoting excellence in nursing education to build a strong and diverse nursing workforce to advance the health of our nation and the global community.

NLN Foundation in Action

The Foundation supports many initiatives to advance its mission. We preserve almost 125 years of nursing education history through the NLN Archives project. And, we build the future of nursing education through established scholarships and research programs. The number of applications has been steadily rising in the past 15 years.

In 2016, the NLN Foundation formed a growing advisory council with members from all sectors to provide expertise, guidance, and development insight to support us in achieving our mission.

If you are interested in joining the Advisory Council, please email foundation@nln.org.
HOW TO STAY CONNECTED

It’s easy to stay connected to the NLN through your social media feeds. Connect with the NLN on:

- [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) with over 17,000 followers
- [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com) with over 9,000 followers
- [Twitter](https://twitter.com) with nearly 4,000 followers
- New! [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com) with more than 300 followers and growing

Receive the NLN Member Update by email.

In addition, NLN members receive the NLN Member Update every other week by email, written by NLN CEO Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN.

Members also receive exclusive updates, offers and discounts by joining the NLN for upcoming events, workshops and products.

Stay connected with the NLN to build your career and achieve success. Consider [joining today](https://www.nln.org/join).

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![Image of a hand with various social media icons floating around it.](image-url)