

**READING HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES
NURSING PROGRAM
POLICY NO. 371**

SUBJECT: Qualification for Licensure

Responsibility of: Nursing Program Director
Revised: February, 2013 Reviewed: February, 2013

Purpose

To assist students' understanding of PA State Board Regulations regarding licensure

Procedure

Every applicant, to be eligible for examination for licensure as a registered nurse, shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the Board that he or she is of good moral character, has completed work equal to a high school course as evaluated by the Board, and has satisfactorily completed an approved program of professional nursing.

The State Board of Nursing requires applicants for licensure to disclose if they have been convicted of a misdemeanor; felony; felonious act; an illegal act associated with alcohol; or an illegal act associated with substance abuse. The Board shall not issue a license or certificate to an applicant who has been convicted of a felonious act prohibited by the Act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, NO. 64), known as "The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device, and Cosmetic Act," or convicted of a felony relating to a controlled substance in a court of law in the United States or any other state, territory, or country unless:

1. At least 10 years have elapsed from the date of conviction;
2. The applicant satisfactorily demonstrates to the Board that he or she has made significant progress in personal rehabilitation since the conviction such that licensure of the applicant should not be expected to create a substantial risk of harm to the health and safety of patients or the public, or a substantial risk of further criminal violations; and
3. The application otherwise satisfies the qualifications contained in or authorized by this act.

As used in this subsection, the term "convicted" shall include a judgment, and admission of guilt, or a plea of nolo contendee. An applicant's statement on the application declaring the absence of a conviction shall be deemed satisfactory evidence of the absence of a conviction, unless the Board has evidence to the contrary.

The Pennsylvania Board of Nursing may prohibit a person convicted of any felonious act from licensure.