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CHAPTER 851
BOARD OF NURSING

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RULES:
851-031-0006, 851-031-0008, 851-031-0015, 851-031-0021, 851-031-0026, 851-031-0027, 851-031-0032, 851-031-0035, 851-031-0039, 851-031-0040, 851-031-0041, 851-031-0042, 851-031-0043, 851-031-0048, 851-031-0051, 851-031-0052, 851-031-0055, 851-031-0061, 851-031-0085, 851-031-0086, 851-031-0087

AMEND: 851-031-0006

RULE TITLE: Initial Licensure by Examination – Practical Nurse (PN) and Registered Nurse (RN)

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Updates general eligibility requirements.

RULE TEXT:
(1) An individual may apply for an initial PN license or RN license by submitting a completed application, which includes:
(a) The Board's initial application by examination form;
(b) Payment of the fee as applicable in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2;
(c) Confirmation of graduation from a nursing education program as defined in section (2) of this rule;
(d) Proof of passing the NCLEX®-PN or NCLEX®-RN depending on the level of licensure sought; and
(e) Completion of a national fingerprint-based criminal background check as defined in OAR 851-001-0115.
(2) Confirmation of graduation from a nursing education program includes:
(a) For graduates of Oregon nursing education programs, verification of graduation by the nursing program administrator.
(b) For graduates of non-Oregon nursing education programs that have an NCLEX® code:
(A) An official transcript that includes the degree, diploma or certificate awarded, the graduation date, and documentation of a clinical component as defined in OAR Chapter 851 Division 6; and
(B) Verification that the nursing education program is approved by the appropriate regulatory body.
(c) For graduates of international nursing education programs that do not have an NCLEX® code, a credential evaluation that includes:
(A) Confirmation of completion of a nursing education program approved by the appropriate regulatory body;
(B) Theory and clinical hours completed;
(C) Verification that the education is comparable to an Oregon nursing education program; and

(D) If available, licensure details from the issuing authority.

(3) An applicant may attempt to pass the NCLEX® four times. After four attempts each subsequent attempt requires a completed retake application, which includes:

(a) The Board's retake form;

(b) Payment of the applicable fee in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2; and

(c) Documentation of completion of an NCLEX® review course; or

(d) An individualized study plan that addresses specific content for areas not passed based on the most recent candidate performance report and study methods, such as self-study, tutors, or study groups.

(4) Incomplete applications expire 12 months from the initial submission date.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 676.850, ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.101, ORS 678.111, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 676.850, ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.101, ORS 678.111, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

ADOPT: 851-031-0008

RULE TITLE: Competency Requirements

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Continuing competency requirements adopting a consolidated licensure eligibility chart for all nursing license types.

RULE TEXT:
(1) All applicants must complete a one-hour pain management education program developed by the Oregon Pain Management Commission or through a Board approved nursing education program at initial or endorsement licensure and every 36 months thereafter.
(2) All applicants must complete two hours of cultural competency continuing education (CE) every other renewal cycle.

(3) Starting January 1, 2028, all renewal applicants must complete the required CE hours for their license type before submitting their renewal application:
(a) LPN or RN applicants, 20 hours within two years;
(b) Nurse emeritus applicants, 10 hours within two years; or
(c) All Oregon NP and CRNA applicants must provide primary source evidence of national certification.
(d) Clinical Nurse Specialist's without current national certification, must complete 75 hours within five years.
(4) All reinstatement or disciplinary reinstatement applicants must complete the following amount of CE:
(a) If the license has expired for more than 90 days but no more than two years, 20 hours;
(b) If the license has been expired for more than two years but no more than three years, 30 hours;
(c) If the license has expired for more than three years but no more than four years, 40 hours;
(d) If the license has expired for more than four years but no more than five years, 50 hours; or
(e) If the license has been expired for more than five years, 60 hours.
(5) The CE listed in sections (1) and (2) of this rule may be counted toward the applicant's required number of CE hours under section (3) or (4) of this rule.
(6) An LPN or RN renewal applicant may satisfy the requirement in subsection (4) of this rule by providing proof of passing the NCLEX® at the level of licensure sought within two years prior to submission of the renewal application form.
(7) Unless otherwise indicated in this rule, all CE must be in nursing topics relevant to the applicant's level of licensure.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.150, ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.370, ORS 678.372, ORS 678.375, ORS 678.380, ORS 678.385, ORS 678.390

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.010-ORS 678.150, ORS 678.360-ORS 678.390

REPEAL: 851-031-0015

RULE TITLE: Eligibility for Licensure by Examination for Graduates of Programs in the United States with a designated NCLEX® Program Code

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Repealed as content is relocated to consolidated licensure rules.

RULE TEXT:
(1) Graduation from an approved nursing program, as defined in ORS 678.040. If enrolled after January 1, 2022, the program must include a clinical component.
(a) An applicant for the practical nurse examination must show evidence of having graduated from a pre-licensure program preparing graduates for a Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse license or have graduated from the Air Force 4N051 5 skilllevel or the Army 68WM6 Practical Nurse Program.
(b) An applicant for the registered nurse examination must show evidence of having graduated from a pre-licensure Diploma, Associate Degree, or Baccalaureate Degree registered nurse program.
(c) Participants enrolling in an accelerated master's or doctorate of nursing program after July 1, 2021, must provide evidence of an awarded degree in Nursing to apply for licensure as a registered nurse. A letter of equivalency will not be accepted as a qualification for licensure per ORS 678.040(1)(2). The Master's or doctorate degree will be accepted as qualifying for licensure if the applicant has not been previously licensed nor taken the NCLEX® prior to finishing the program.
(2) Successful completion of the Board defined examination for nursing licensure.
(3) Limits on Eligibility for Licensure by Examination:
(a) Applicants for initial licensure by examination, not previously licensed in another state or country, will be permitted to test no more than two years following program graduation.
(b) Applicants who have graduated from the military courses referenced in section (1)(a) of this section will be eligible to sit for the NCLEX-PN® by providing a DD 214 indicating training in the required military education and must be currently enlisted or within two years of discharge.
(c) An applicant who fails to pass the examination after four attempts will not be eligible to reapply for licensure by examination unless the applicant graduates from an additional nursing program. A nursing re-entry program would not qualify the applicant for license by examination for those who have not been previously licensed.
(4) To qualify for a license the applicant must:
(a) Submit a completed application; and
(b) Graduate from an Oregon Board approved school of nursing or graduation from a non-Oregon state approved nursing program or qualify as a military practical nurse as defined in section (3)(b) of this rule; and
(c) Register and pay fees to the testing service authorized to administer the NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® examination.
(5) Results of Examination:
(a) All applicants must pass the NCLEX® prior to being authorized to practice as a licensed nurse in Oregon. No temporary practice permits are issued by the Board.
(b) An applicant who passes the examination will be granted a license to practice nursing in Oregon after all other requirements for licensure have been met.
(c) An applicant who fails the licensing examination must meet requirements for reexamination.
(d) Reexamination following one or more failure(s) up to the four attempts allowed:
(A) An applicant notification of failed exam and instructions for reexamination will be sent to the applicant's address as listed with the authorized testing service.
(B) An applicant for reexamination must submit the required application and fee with the Board before being eligible to take the examination.
(C) The applicant must register and pay the fee to the authorized NCLEX ® testing service.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

REPEAL: 851-031-0021

RULE TITLE: Licensure by Examination for Graduates of Nursing Programs Outside of the US or from Programs without an NCLEX® program code and who have less than 400 practice hours in two years from graduation

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Repealed as content is relocated to consolidated licensure rules.

RULE TEXT:
(1) Graduates from nursing programs in Canada also refer to OAR 851-031-0027.
(2) Graduates from nursing programs in Puerto Rico also refer to OAR 851-031-0032.
(3) Applicants with no nursing experience will not be eligible for Oregon licensure if the completed application is received more than two years after graduation.
(4) Applicants must have graduated from a nursing program approved by the applicable education approval body in the country or jurisdiction where the program is located.
(5) Applicants must arrange for a credentials evaluation by a Board approved evaluation service for their international nursing program to be sent to the Board. The credential evaluation must show substantive equivalency with programs of the same level in the U.S. and for the applied level of licensure.
(6) Must pass the NCLEX® examination.
(7) Applicants who have failed the examination must be held to the re-examination requirements of OAR 851-031-0015(5).

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

REPEAL: 851-031-0026

RULE TITLE: Licensure By Examination for Graduates of Nursing Programs Outside of The US or From Programs Without An NCLEX® Program Code and Who Meet The Practice Requirements of 400 Hours of Nursing Practice in The Two Years Preceding Receipt of A Completed Application. This Section Is Also Applicable to Internationally Educated and Licensed Applicants Who Will Be Attending A Graduate Program That Includes A Hands-On Practice Practicum

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Repealed as content is relocated to consolidated licensure rules.

RULE TEXT:

(1) Applicants must arrange for a credentials evaluation by a Board approved evaluation service for their international nursing program to be sent to the Board. The credential evaluation must show substantive equivalency with programs of the same level in the U.S. and for the applied level of licensure.

(2) Verification of practice hours must be received directly from the employer. The verification must contain the level of practice and a listing of nursing duties, the number of hours worked, and signed by an administrator of the facility. This letter must be presented in English; a translated copy of the original letter from an American Translators Association certified translator will be accepted as long as it is accompanied by the primary source letter in its original language.

(3) Applicants who are approved to practice nursing in another country and have practiced in a nursing role outside of the US and who have never held a US nursing license must take the NCLEX® prior to being awarded a license to practice in Oregon.

(4) Applicants eligible for licensure under this section must pass the NCLEX® prior to application expiration or will be required to enroll and pass a Board approved nursing re-entry program.

(5) Applicants who have failed the examination will be held to the re-examination requirements of OAR 851-031-0015 (5).

(6) Applicants with 400 hours of nursing practice within two years of application must meet the requirements of this section prior to being allowed to voluntarily take a Board approved re-entry course.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

REPEAL: 851-031-0027

RULE TITLE: Licensure by Examination for Graduates of Programs in Canada

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Repealed as content is relocated to consolidated licensure rules.

RULE TEXT:
(1) Applicants from programs preparing graduates for licensure as registered nurses with graduation dates prior to January 1, 2015, must meet the requirements in OAR 851-031-0021 or 851-031-0026.
(2) Applicants from programs preparing graduates for licensure as registered nurses that have a designated, program-specific NCLEX-RN® program code, and who graduated on or after January 1, 2015, must meet the licensure requirements in OAR 851-031-0015.
(3) The NCLEX ® is not available for graduates of Canadian Practical Nurse Programs who must apply for Oregon licensure as per the requirements of OAR 851-031-0021 or 851-031-0026.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

REPEAL: 851-031-0032

RULE TITLE: Licensure by Examination for Graduates of Programs in Puerto Rico

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Repealed as content is relocated to consolidated licensure rules.

RULE TEXT:

(1) Applicants from nursing programs in Puerto Rico who have not been previously licensed or do not meet the minimum 400 practice hours in the two years preceding receipt of a completed application and whose course instruction and textbooks were primarily in Spanish, and have not taken the NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN®, must meet the requirements in OAR 851-031-0021, with the exception of section (5) of the rule, if the program was accredited by a national nursing program accreditation agency at the time of graduation.

(2) Applicants from Puerto Rico who are licensed in Puerto Rico and have 400 or more hours of practice in the two years preceding receipt of the application, but have not taken the NCLEX®, must qualify under OAR 851-031-0026 (2) through (6), when:

(a) Course instruction and textbooks were primarily in Spanish; and

(b) Applicants licensed in Puerto Rico by successfully completing the Spanish language Nursing Examination applicable to Puerto Rican licensure requirements.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

AMEND: 851-031-0035

RULE TITLE: Temporary License for Spouses and Domestic Partners of Active-Duty Armed Forces of the United States Stationed in Oregon

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Updates statutes.

RULE TEXT:
(1) A temporary license to practice Registered Nursing (RN) or Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) shall be issued to the spouse of active-duty armed forces personnel when the following requirements are met:
(a) A completed application and payment of fee is received by the Board; and
(b) Submission of a copy of the military orders assigning the active-duty member to an assignment in Oregon; and
(c) The spouse holds a current license in another state to practice nursing at the level of application; and
(d) The license is unencumbered and verified as active and current through processes defined by the Board.
(2) The temporary license shall expire on the following date, whichever occurs first:
(a) Oregon is no longer the duty station of the active armed forces member; or
(b) The license in the state used to obtain a temporary license expires; or
(c) Two years after the issuance of the temporary license; or
(d) When no longer a spouse or domestic partner of an active-duty armed forces member.
(e) This temporary license is not renewable. If the dates in section two of this rule are exceeded and the spouse continues to practice in Oregon, the spouse must apply for an active Oregon license. The active license must be obtained using the processes and fees established for permanent licensure. Continuing to work in Oregon when the temporary license has expired will be considered practicing without a valid license and is subject to Board action.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.440, ORS 678.150

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.440, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.308

AMEND: 851-031-0039

RULE TITLE: Initial Licensure by Endorsement – PN and RN

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Clarifies provisions for endorsements.

RULE TEXT:

(1) An individual who holds or has held a practical, vocational or registered nurse license in another state or U.S. territory may apply for licensure by endorsement by submitting a completed application, which includes:

(a) The Board's initial application by endorsement form;

(b) Payment of the applicable fees in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2;

(c) Confirmation of graduation from a nursing education program as defined in section (2) of this rule;

(d) Proof of passing the NCLEX® for type of licensure sought;

(e) Completion of pain management CE as defined in OAR 851-031-0008;

(f) Completion of a national fingerprint-based criminal background check as defined in OAR 851-001-0115; and

(g) If the individual's license is not active in the issuing state or U.S. territory, completion of CE as defined in OAR 851-031-0008, based on how long the license has been expired.

(2) Confirmation of graduation includes:

(a) An official transcript that includes the degree, certificate, or diploma awarded, the graduation date, and documentation of a clinical component as defined in OAR 851-006-0030; and

(b) Verification that the nursing education program was approved by the appropriate agency in the state or U.S. territory.

(c) A credential evaluation for graduates of international nursing education program that does not have an NCLEX® code, which includes:

(A) Confirmation of completion of a nursing education program approved by the appropriate regulatory body;

(B) Theory and clinical hours completed;

(C) Verification that the education is comparable to an Oregon nursing education program; and

(D) If available, licensure details from the issuing authority.

(3) Incomplete applications expire 12 months from the initial submission date.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.415

REPEAL: 851-031-0040

RULE TITLE: Nurses Practicing in Oregon Under a 90-day Exception

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Repealed as content is relocated to consolidated licensure rules.

RULE TEXT:

(1) Nonresident nurses licensed and in good standing in another state if nonresident nurses are practicing in this state on a single assignment of not to exceed 90 days, renewable for not to exceed 90 days, for assignments that are for the general public benefit.

(2) An entity that employs a nurse described under ORS 678.031 (7) shall notify the Oregon State Board of Nursing in writing of the number of nurses so employed and the time of employment and shall certify that there is no labor dispute affecting nurses at the entity. In addition, at the request of the board, the entity shall provide documentation that the nurses so employed are licensed and in good standing in another state or United States territory.

(3) Nurses employed in this state under ORS 678.031 (7) at the time of employment, shall apply for an Oregon license by endorsement or, if the nurse was previously licensed in this state, for reactivation of the nurse's Oregon license.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.034, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.061

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.031, ORS 678.034, ORS 678.150

AMEND: 851-031-0041

RULE TITLE: Governor Declared Emergency

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Replaces outdated terms. Updates reactivation to reinstatement.

RULE TEXT:

(1) During an emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to ORS 401.165 and subject to terms and conditions that the Board may impose, a limited LPN or RN license may be issued to an applicant who holds active unencumbered nursing licensure at the same level in another state or U.S. jurisdiction when the following requirements are met:

(a) A completed application and payment of fee is received by the Board; and

(b) Using instructions provided by the Board, the applicant must arrange for primary source verification of the active unencumbered nursing license in another state or jurisdiction.

(2) The limited license shall expire on the following date, whichever occurs first:

(a) The Oregon Governor-Declared Emergency declaration expires; or

(b) The license in the state or jurisdiction that was used to obtain the limited license expires; or

(c) Two years after the issuance of the limited license.

(3) Non-Renewable Limited License: A limited license for a governor-declared emergency is not renewable and expires based on whichever occurs first in OAR 851-031-0041(2). The individual must apply for permanent Oregon LPN or RN licensure by endorsement to continue working as a nurse in Oregon. Continuing to work in Oregon after the limited license has expired, and without an active permanent Oregon nursing license at the same level is considered practicing without a valid license and is subject to Board action.

(4) Reinstatement of Limited License: A previously issued expired limited license may be reactivated if the following are true:

(a) A new state of emergency has been declared by the Governor; and

(b) The individual has not been issued permanent Oregon nursing licensure by endorsement; and

(c) Holds active unencumbered nursing licensure at the same level in another state or U.S. jurisdiction.

(d) A qualified applicant must:

(A) Submit a completed reinstatement application and fee to the Board; and

(B) Using instructions provided by the Board, the applicant must arrange for primary source verification of the active unencumbered nursing license in another state or jurisdiction.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.050

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.050

ADOPT: 851-031-0042

RULE TITLE: Initial Licensure – APRN

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Establishes requirements for initial application and documentation for APRN initial licensure.

RULE TEXT:
(1) An individual may apply for initial licensure as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) by submitting a completed application that includes:
(a) The Board's APRN application form for the license type and population focus area sought;
(b) Payment of the applicable fees in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2;
(c) Verification of an Oregon RN license;
(d) Official transcript confirming graduation date and degree or certificate awarded from a graduate or post-master's level nursing education program that:
(A) Has national accreditation from a national nursing accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education at the time the applicant graduated; and
(B) Includes preparation in advanced health assessment, advanced physiology and pathophysiology, and advanced pharmacology.
(e) Completion of a national fingerprint-based criminal background check as described in OAR 851-001-0115;
(f) Complete a one-hour pain management education program as described in OAR 851-031-0008(1);
(g) If applicable, primary source verification of APRN licensure held in another state or U.S. territory; and
(h) For CRNA and NP applicants, verification of national certification congruent with license type and population focus.
(2) If internationally educated, a credential evaluation that shows the following:
(a) Completion of a nursing education program authorized by the appropriate regulatory body;
(b) The course hours for theory and clinical components; and
(c) Equivalency to a U.S. graduate level nursing education program; or
(d) If the education was completed prior to January 1, 2011, equivalency to an advanced practice certification program in the same licensure type and population focus.
(3) Incomplete applications expire 12 months from the initial submission date.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.023, ORS 678.282, ORS 678.285, ORS 678.370, ORS 678.380, ORS 678.390, ORS 678.372

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.023, ORS 678.282, ORS 678.285, ORS 678.370, ORS 678.380, ORS 678.390, ORS 678.372

ADOPT: 851-031-0043

RULE TITLE: Prescriptive and Dispensing Authority

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Establishes requirements for APRN prescriptive authority and dispensing.

RULE TEXT:

(1) An individual who holds or is applying for an Oregon APRN license may apply for prescriptive authority by submitting a completed application, which includes:

(a) Completion of the Board's prescriptive authority application form;

(b) Payment of the applicable fees in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2;

(c) Documentation of at least 45 contact hours of pharmacology education; and

(d) Documentation of:

(A) CRNAs, clinical education in pharmacotherapeutics that includes management of clients congruent with the specialty role sought; or

(B) CNSs, clinical education in client management, including pharmacotherapeutics, that is comparable to requirements for completion of a nurse practitioner program;

(C) NPs, clinical education in client management, including pharmacotherapeutics.

(2) An APRN applicant educated prior to January 1, 2011, can satisfy subsection (1)(c) and (d) of this rule by providing evidence of continuous APRN licensure, in good standing in another state or U.S. territory with full independent practice and prescriptive authority.

(3) An individual who holds or is applying for an Oregon CNS or NP license may apply for dispensing authority by submitting a completed application, which includes completion of the Board's dispensing authority application form.

(4) Prescriptive and dispensing authority expires with the APRN license.

(5) Prescriptive or dispensing authority may be renewed by submitting a completed application, which includes:

(a) Completion of the Board's prescriptive or dispensing authority form;

(b) Payment of the fee in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2; and

(c) Attestation that the applicant reviewed the Board's prescriptive and dispensing authority education video.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.150, ORS 678.285

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.370, ORS 678.372, ORS 678.375, ORS 678.380, ORS 678.385, ORS 678.390

AMEND: 851-031-0048

RULE TITLE: Renewal of License

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Updates renewal requirements and statutes.

RULE TEXT:

(1) A nursing license is valid for two years from the date it is issued. Licensees must apply for renewal by 11:59 p.m. on the date of their license expiration to be considered timely.

(2) An individual may apply for renewal before the expiration of their license by submitting a completed application, which includes:

(a) The Board's renewal application form for the license type being renewed;

(b) Payment of the applicable fees in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2;

(c) Effective January 1, 2028, completion of the CE requirements in OAR 851-031-0008; and

(d) Completion of the state records criminal background check as defined in OAR 851-001-0115.

(e) For all APRN applicants, verification of RN licensure, and

(f) For CRNA applicants and NP applicants initially licensed after January 1, 2011, verification of current national certification congruent with license type and population focus.

(3) A license expired for more than 90 days must apply for reinstatement as described in OAR 851-031-0051.

(4) Incomplete applications expire 12 months after submission date.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.375, ORS 678.101, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.282, ORS 678.285, ORS 678.370, ORS 678.372, ORS 678.380

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.101, ORS 678.150

AMEND: 851-031-0051

RULE TITLE: License Reinstatement

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Clarifies provisions for reinstatement and updates statutes.

RULE TEXT:
(1) An individual whose LPN, RN, or APRN license has been expired for more than 90 days may apply for reinstatement by submitting a completed application, which includes:
(a) The Board's reinstatement application form for the license type being reinstated;
(b) Payment of the applicable fees in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2;
(c) Completion of a national criminal fingerprint-based background check as described in OAR 851-001-0115;
(d) Completion of continuing education as applicable in OAR 851-031-0008.
(e) For all APRN applicants, verification of RN licensure, and
(f) For CRNA applicants and NP applicants initially licensed after January 1, 2011, verification of current national certification congruent with license type and population focus.
(2) An individual whose LPN, RN, or APRN license has been revoked or voluntarily surrendered is not eligible for reinstatement under this section but may apply for disciplinary reinstatement under OAR 851-031-0055.
(3) Incomplete applications expire 12 months from the initial submission date.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.150, ORS 678.040, ORS 678.375, ORS 678.380, ORS 678.282, ORS 678.285, ORS 678.370, ORS 678.372

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.140

AMEND: 851-031-0052

RULE TITLE: Exceptions to Rules

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Update statutes.

RULE TEXT:

(1) An applicant or licensee may request that the Board make an exception to one or more of the licensing requirements described in OAR 851-031-0006 to 851-031-0051 on a form provided by the Board.

(2) The Board considers each exception request on a case-by-case basis and may grant an exception request at its discretion, except that the Board will not grant any exception to a requirement established by statute.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.150

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678. 050, ORS 678.101, ORS 678.370-678.390

AMEND: 851-031-0055

RULE TITLE: Disciplinary Reinstatement

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Clarifies requirements for reinstatement post discipline and updates statutes.

RULE TEXT:

(1) An individual whose license has been revoked or voluntarily surrendered may apply for disciplinary reinstatement under this rule by submitting a completed application, which includes:

(a) The Board's disciplinary reinstatement application form for the license type being reinstated;

(b) Payment of the applicable fees in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2;

(c) Completion of a national fingerprint-based criminal background check as described in OAR 851-001-0115;

(d) Completion of the applicable continuing education as described in OAR 851-031-0008.

(e) For all APRN applicants, verification of RN licensure, and

(f) For CRNA applicants and NP applicants initially licensed after January 1, 2011, verification of current national certification congruent with license type and population focus.

(2) An applicant under this rule is also subject to OAR 851-001-0015.

(3) Incomplete applications expire 12 months after submission date.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.150, ORS 678.282, ORS 678.285, ORS 678.370, ORS 678.372, ORS 678.375, ORS 678.380

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.150

REPEAL: 851-031-0061

RULE TITLE: Application for re-entry into practice and re-entry options

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Repealed

RULE TEXT:

Applicants that have practiced but do not have 960 hours of practice in five years and are not eligible for license renewal or re-activation through any other means, may apply for re-entry into practice. Applicants for reinstatement must select a re-entry option regardless of the number of practice hours within a timeframe.

(1) Complete an application for re-entry using the application and procedures provided by the Board; and,

(2) Complete an additional application for a limited license and attend and pass a Board approved nursing re-entry program; or

(3) Complete an additional application for a limited license and provide documentation of an individualized re-entry plan, to be approved by the Board, as described in OAR 851-031-0065; or

(4) Pass the NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® within one year of re-entry application. Failure to pass the NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® within one year of application will require the submittal of another completed re-entry application.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.140

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.040, ORS 678.140

AMEND: 851-031-0085

RULE TITLE: Inactive Nurse Status

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Clarifies requirements for inactive status.

RULE TEXT:

(1) An individual with an LPN, RN, or APRN license may apply to place the license in inactive status by submitting a completed application, which includes:

(a) A license that is active and in good standing at the time of application; and

(b) The Board's inactive status application form for the license type being inactivated.

(2) A license in inactive status does not authorize practice under the license.

(3) To return to active status, an individual must apply for reinstatement as defined in OAR 851-031-0055.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.021, ORS 678.031

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.021, ORS 678.031

AMEND: 851-031-0086

RULE TITLE: Retired Status

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Clarifies procedures for retired status.

RULE TEXT:

(1) An individual may retire their LPN, RN, or APRN license by submitting a completed application, which includes:

(a) The Board's retired status application form;

(b) Confirmation the license is in good standing with the issuing authority and not subject to any disciplinary investigation or action pending; and

(c) Surrendering the license being retired.

(2) A license in retired status does not authorize practice under the license.

(3) Incomplete applications expire 12 months from the initial submission date.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.031, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.031, ORS 678.050, ORS 678.150

AMEND: 851-031-0087

RULE TITLE: Nurse Emeritus License

NOTICE FILED DATE: 09/22/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Updates provisions for nurse emeritus.

RULE TEXT:

(1) The nurse emeritus license permits the practice of nursing in a voluntary or unpaid basis.

(2) An individual with an LPN, RN, or APRN license may apply for a nurse emeritus license by submitting a completed application, which includes:

(a) The Board's nurse emeritus application form;

(b) Payment of the fee in OAR Chapter 851 Division 2;

(c) Confirmation that the license has already been granted retired status; and

(d) Completion of applicable continuing education in OAR 851-031-0008.

(3) A nurse emeritus license is valid for two years from date of issue.

(4) Incomplete applications expire 12 months from the initial submission date.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 678.055, ORS 678.113, ORS 678.150

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 678.055, ORS 678.113, ORS 678.150