

Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination (CPNRE) Policy

1. Introduction

The Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination (CPNRE) is a national exam testing the entry-to-practice competencies of practical nurses. The SALPN requires all practical nurse graduates, and internationally educated nurses (IENs), seeking initial LPN membership and licensure in Saskatchewan to pass the CPNRE. Candidates are allowed four (4) opportunities to pass the CPNRE. Most Canadian jurisdictions require the CPNRE, except British Columbia and Ontario, which require the Rex-PN examination. The SALPN accepts the Rex-PN as an equivalent registration examination.

2. Authority

The Licensed Practical Nurses Act, 2000
The SALPN Regulatory Bylaws

3. Eligibility

Saskatchewan practical nurse graduates

Saskatchewan graduates must pass the CPNRE within three (3) years of completing a recognized practical nurse education program.

However, if a Saskatchewan graduate wants Graduate Licensed Practical Nurse (GLPN) licensure, they must write the CPNRE:

- at the first writing of the examination after becoming eligible to write it; **and**
- in the event of a failure to pass the examination, at the next available writing.

If a GLPN chooses not to write or does not appear for their scheduled CPNRE during their eligible time frame, the exam counts as a failure, and the SALPN considers it one of the four (4) allowable attempts.

Internationally educated nurses (IENs)

IENs must write the CPNRE within three (3) years of the SALPN granting them eligibility to write.*

IENs become eligible for Practicing licensure once they pass the CPNRE and are not eligible for GLPN licensure.

4. Procedure

Application process

To write the CPNRE, Saskatchewan graduates and IENs must apply to the SALPN.

Saskatchewan graduates can begin their CPNRE application once they receive their Practical Nurse Education Program transcripts. The online application requires graduates to do all of the following:

- upload copies of two (2) forms of government-issued identification
- upload a copy of their PN program transcripts
- upload a copy of their Exam Accommodation Request and supporting documents, if applicable
- pay the prescribed CPNRE fee (\$600 as of January 2022, subject to periodic increases).

IENs can begin their CPNRE application once the SALPN has granted them eligibility to write.* The IEN CPNRE application is paper-based and requires payment of the prescribed fee (\$600 as of January 2022, subject to periodic increases).

Application approval

When a CPNRE application from a Saskatchewan graduate or IEN is approved, the SALPN will submit the applicant's name to the exam provider – Meazure Learning. Following the submission, Meazure Learning will issue the CPNRE candidate an Authorization to Test email and invite them to book their exam date and time in the approved exam window.

CPNRE candidates write the exam online, and it is proctored virtually. Once a candidate reserves an exam date and time, Meazure Learning will provide instructions on how to prepare to write the online, virtually proctored examination, with specific attention paid to:

- technology-related requirements, such as preferred browser, pre-testing internet speed, etc.
- acceptable identification documents
- items allowed in the exam space
- other important exam-related details.

Exam Accommodations

The SALPN may approve exam accommodations for a CPNRE candidate for various reasons related to a disability a candidate was, or is currently being, treated for that could impair their exam performance. Exam accommodations may include additional time to write the exam, a reader, or a recorder.

Accommodation applications **must** be requested directly from the SALPN. Completed accommodation applications **must** be received by the SALPN no later than six weeks before the approved exam window.

Exam Results

The SALPN receives the CPRNE results directly from Meazure Learning approximately two (2) weeks after the mid-way and endpoints of the exam window. Once received, the SALPN will email candidates their pass or fail results.

If a candidate has to write the CPRNE again, their email will contain a Candidate Performance Profile and instructions for reapplying to write the next available exam.

5. References and Online Exam Resources

[Entry-to-Practice Competencies](#)

[SALPN Website](#)

[CPNRE Website](#)

[Meazure Learning Website](#)

Note: *The SALPN anticipates proposed bylaws changes to include IEN exam eligibility with the existing eligibility requirements for Saskatchewan Graduates will be approved at the May 2022 Annual General Meeting.

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Revised Date: N/A

Approved by: SALPN Council

Department responsible for review: Registration and Licensure

Policy: The SALPN is mandated through the Licensed Practical Nurses Act 2000 to regulate the profession of Practical Nursing according to its Bylaws, Standards of Practice, and Policies in a manner that protects the public from risk and reduces harm to those a profession serves.