



# IDFPR

## Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

www.idfpr.com

**JB PRITZKER**  
Governor

**MARIO TRETO, JR.**  
Acting Secretary

**CECILIA ABUNDIS**  
Acting Director

### REQUIREMENTS FOR AN INTERNATIONALLY EDUCATED NURSE:

<p><b>PROOF OF LICENSURE IN COUNTRY FROM WHICH YOU RECEIVED YOUR NURSING EDUCATION</b></p>		
<p>For more information go to:</p> <p>Rules for the Administration of The Nurse Practice Act: Section 1300.300 Application for Examination or Licensure 4) A)</p> <p><a href="http://www.ilga.gov/commission/icar/admincode/068/068013000C03000R.html">http://www.ilga.gov/commission/icar/admincode/068/068013000C03000R.html</a></p>		
<p><b>PROOF OF PASSAGE OF THE NATIONAL LICENSING EXAMINATION:</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCLEX - National Council Licensure Exam</li> </ul> <p>The "National Council Licensure Exam" (NCLEX) state board application can be obtained by going to the IDFPR website at <a href="http://continentaltestinginc.com/">http://continentaltestinginc.com/</a>.</p> <p>The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) Help Line: 1 800 560 6420.</p>		
<p><b>PROOF OF EDUCATION EQUIVALENCY</b></p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHOOSE ONE :</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Credential Evaluation Service Report (CES). Proof of passing either the TOEFL or IELTS if your program was not taught in English.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Original VisaScreen Certificate</li> <li>• Certification of having had been licensed in the country from which you received your nursing education.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Original CGFNS Certificate</li> </ul>

**THE CES REPORT AND THE TOEFL/ IELTS APPLIES TO ALL INTERNATIONALLY EDUCATED NURSES INCLUDING U.S. CITIZENS AND VISA HOLDERS.**

**BECAUSE TRANSCRIPTS MAY BE HARD TO OBTAIN, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU GET YOUR CES REPORT PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR THE NCLEX.**

<b>CES "Credential Evaluation Service" Report</b>	
<b>CHOOSE A VENDOR :</b>	
The report must be obtained through one of the following credentialing service vendors. When complete the Department (IDFPR) will download the CES Report from the respective vendor's website.	
<b>Contact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS)</b> 3600 Market Street Suite 400 Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651 Phone: 215.349.8767 Fax: 215.662.0452 Email: <a href="mailto:support@cgfns.org">support@cgfns.org</a> Web Site: <a href="http://www.cgfns.org">http://www.cgfns.org</a></li></ul> <b>Request:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Professional Report</li></ul>	<b>Contact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Education Records Evaluation Service, Inc.</b> 601 University Avenue, Suite 127 Sacramento, CA 95825 Phone: 916.921.0790 Fax: 916.921.0793 Email: <a href="mailto:edu@eres.com">edu@eres.com</a> Web Site: <a href="http://www.eres.com">http://www.eres.com</a></li></ul> <b>Request:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Nursing Evaluation and Course by Course Report</li></ul>

**THE CES REPORT IS VALID FOR THE LIFE OF THE APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE OR THREE YEARS AT THE LONGEST**

<b>Language - If the applicant's program of instruction was not taught in English:</b>	
<b>CHOOSE A VENDOR :</b>	
Certification of passing an English Exam must be obtained through one of the following credentialing service vendors.	
<b>Results should be sent by the vendor directly to:</b> IDFPR, 320 W. Washington St. 3 <sup>rd</sup> FL., Springfield IL 62786 Attn: Nursing Unit	
<b>Contact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)  Web Site: <a href="http://www.ets.org/toefl/">http://www.ets.org/toefl/</a></li></ul> The minimum passing score: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Paper-based test is 560</li><li>Computer-based test is 220</li><li>Internet-based test is 83</li></ul>	<b>Contact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Module  Web Site: <a href="http://www.ielts.org/">http://www.ielts.org/</a></li></ul> The minimum passing score: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>6.5 (overall score) and 7.0 (spoken band)</li></ul>

**\*\* TOEFL / IELTS may be waived by IDFPR if your CES report indicates your nursing education program was conducted in English utilizing English Textbooks.**

## Fingerprints / Back-ground Checks

Individuals applying for licensure for professions that require fingerprints must submit to a criminal back-ground check and provide evidence of fingerprint processing from a fingerprint vendor licensed by the Department. Fingerprints must be taken within 60 days from the date that the application is submitted to the Department or the Department's testing vendor.

For more information see attached forms:

- IDENTITY VERIFICATION CERTIFYING STATEMENT / OOS-FP
- CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK INFORMATION

## Social Security Number

APPLICANTS who state they cannot obtain a social security number must complete the attached affidavit form:

- AFFIDAVIT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

## Endorsement

Endorsing an active license from another state / requirements:

- Application by Endorsement :  
Go to <https://www.idfpr.com/profs/Nursing.asp>  
under License Information > RN & LPN Applications
- CES Report

**An English test is not required as long as you took and passed the NCLEX Exam.**

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