

## Guidelines for Applying to Indiana Schools of Nursing

### Is the school of nursing accredited by the Indiana State Board of Nursing (ISBN)?

A school of nursing in Indiana must be accredited by the ISBN in order to enroll students. For a list of ISBN accredited schools visit:

[www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm](http://www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm)

Approval by ISBN does not mean that a school of nursing is accredited by one of the national nursing accrediting bodies.

### Is the school of nursing located in a college or university which is accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the US Department of Education (DOE)?

Accreditation ensures that the university, college or school has met specified levels of quality. Most Indiana colleges and universities are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

For a listing of accredited universities, colleges and schools, visit

[www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html)

### Is the school of nursing accredited by one of three nationally recognized nursing accrediting bodies:

- Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
- National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA)?

Accreditation by these organizations confirms that a program has met certain standards of excellence. ACEN, CCNE or CNEA accreditation may be necessary to transfer your course credits to another accredited program. Many institutions require graduation from a CCNE, ACEN or CNEA accredited program as part of their employment policies.

### Determine if the college or university to which you are applying is a public (non-profit, state school), private (non-profit, non-public) or proprietary (for profit) institution of higher learning.

Missions of non-profit and for-profit institutions may vary.

### Determine cost of tuition and fees

## Employment and Future Education Opportunities

**Consider the pass/fail rates** of nursing program graduates taking the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination). These rates are public information and are available on the ISBN website: [www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm](http://www.in.gov/pla/nursing.htm)

**As a condition of employment**, some healthcare employers require that a nursing applicant is a graduate from a school of nursing accredited by one of the three national nursing accrediting bodies (ACEN, CCNE or CNEA).

**If applying for tuition reimbursement** for further education, determine which higher institutions of learning your employer recognizes.

**Determine if credits will transfer** for educational mobility.

If you are considering or enrolled in an associate degree (ASN) program and wish to pursue a BSN at some later point, determine if schools will accept the courses you took for credit towards a BSN degree—in and out of state.

If you have an ASN degree and are applying to an RN-BSN mobility program, determine if the credits will be accepted upon application to a Master's or doctoral degree in nursing—in and out of state.