

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE (LPN)

Licensing Authority Kathy Clayton
Iowa Board of Nursing
Iowa Department of Public Health
400 SW 8th St Ste B
Des Moines IA 50309-4685
Phone: (515) 281-6488
Fax: (515) 281-4825
E-mail: kclayto@bon.state.ia.us

Legal Authority Code of Iowa, Chapters 17A, 147, 152, 272C

Job Description Licensed practical nurses work as direct caregivers in a variety of settings including acute and long-term care under the supervision of a registered nurse or physician. They are members of the health care team working primarily with individuals and families. Nursing skills are based upon knowledge of natural, biological and social sciences, nursing theory and practice.

Education & Experience Required An applicant must be a high school graduate or equivalent; graduate from an approved school of nursing at the practical nurse level; and, pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN). Practical nurse programs are the equivalent of one year and include both classroom study and clinical practice.

Foreign applicants seeking initial LPN licensure in Iowa must be reviewed by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) Credential Evaluation Service prior to taking the NCLEX-PN exam. CGFNS provides primary source verification of educational preparation and licensure in the native country. Applicants must earn a minimum score of 500 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

Continuing Education Twenty-four contact hours or 2.4 continuing education units are required for renewal of an initial license issued for less than three years.

Thirty-six contact hours or 3.6 continuing education units are required for renewal of a license issued for three years.

Examination The national computerized examination (NCLEX-PN) is administered year round at approved Pearson Professional Centers in Coralville, Davenport, Sioux City, and West Des Moines, Iowa.

Fees Endorsement: \$101
Duration: Two-three years – 1st license; Three years – after 1st license
Renewal: \$81
Exam: \$75 – Iowa licensure by exam
\$200 – NCLEX-PN registration

SOC Code, Title & Avg. Hourly Wage 29-2061 - Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses (\$13.55)

Number of Licenses Issued Total number of licenses active as of *July, 31*,
2002: 9,622
2001: 9,431
2000: 9,429

For Additional Information National Association for Practical Nurse
Education and Service Inc (NAPNES)
1400 Spring St Ste 310
Silver Spring MD 20910

National League for Nursing
61 Broadway
New York NY 10006

Iowa Hospital Association
100 E Grand
Des Moines IA 50309

National Federation of Licensed
Practical Nurses Inc
1418 Aversboro Rd
Garner NC 27529