



## NCLEX Examinations: Update November 24, 2020

As has been reported, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and measures imposed by the federal, state and local governments, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has worked with Pearson VUE to keep test centers open and allow for testing in critical health care fields to continue to support the high demand due to COVID-19.

To identify the Testing Centers in Ohio, see <https://home.pearsonvue.com/nclex/essential-services>. Also, please consult the Pearson VUE site frequently as it is continuously updated.

You are encouraged to use the NCSBN and Pearson VUE websites to obtain updated information on an ongoing basis. NCSBN has advised, that if there is information on the NCSBN website that differs or conflicts with the FAQs, the following FAQs control: *COVID-19 Impact to NCLEX Candidates FAQs* at <https://www.ncsbn.org/14428.htm>.

In further response to the COVID-19 pandemic, NCSBN introduced several carefully evaluated and tested modifications to the NCLEX examinations. These modifications expired on Sept. 30, 2020. Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, both NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN exams will retain some of the characteristics of the modified exam. The difficulty levels and passing standards of the exams have not changed.

The modifications effective October 1, 2020 include:

- Pretest items have been reintroduced. Each candidate will get 15 pretest items in their exam.
- Due to the addition of the 15 pretest items, the minimum length exam is 75 items, and the maximum length exam is 145 items.
- Maximum examination time is five hours.
- The voluntary Next Generation NCLEX Special Research Section has been reintroduced.
- The NCLEX tutorial has been replaced with a general guide and test taking tips.

A more detailed explanation of the modification can be found at <https://www.ncsbn.org/summaryofmodificationstonclex.pdf>, and an overview presentation can be viewed at <https://www.ncsbn.org/15108.htm>. Please direct questions to [nclexinfo@ncsbn.org](mailto:nclexinfo@ncsbn.org).