



TRANSITION TO PRACTICE: Some Tips for Success

This handout outlines the key steps involved in getting ready to practice as a nurse practitioner in Oregon. Your instructors, preceptors, nurse practitioner friends and contacts, and the organizations listed below should be able to answer specific individual questions as needed.

1. NP LICENSE AND PRESCRIPTIVE PRIVILEGES in OREGON

These are obtained from the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN). You need a current unencumbered Oregon RN license and an official final transcript from an accredited Master's or Doctoral Degree in Nursing program specific to the Nurse Practitioner role for which you are applying. In the state of Oregon, National Certification as a Nurse Practitioner is required for licensure. See section two (2) below for more information. To apply for initial certification, you complete an application and pay two separate fees: one for the application for certification and one for prescriptive privileges application. Details on costs and for renewal are available on the OSBN link below. Requirements for NP license renewal include completion of 100 clock hours of continuing education within the two years prior, and practice hours which include prescribing hours as specified in Division 50 and 56 of the Oregon Nurse Practice Act. In addition, for renewal of prescriptive privileges, 15 hours of continuing pharmacology education must be completed. You may go to <http://www.oregon.gov/osbn/Pages/index.aspx> for more information. Applicants for initial prescriptive privilege authority must already have or be concurrently applying for an NP license and must complete a separate application for prescriptive privileges. Your transcript must show evidence of passing a pharmacology course that meets OSBN requirements and was completed within two years of the date of your application. Renewal is done at the same time as NP license renewal. You may go to OSBN web link: <http://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/pdfs/nationalnrcertificationexamsapproved.pdf> for more specific information.

For applications and further information, contact:

Oregon State Board of Nursing
17938 SW Upper Boones Ferry Road
Portland, OR 97224-7012
(971) 673-0685 E-mail address: www.oregon.bn.info@state.or.us
Contact person: Amanda Meeuwen, Licensing Technician for Advanced Practice.

For Washington NP Licensure information contact: Washing Department of Health:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/PublicHealthandHealthcareProviders.aspx>
Or call: 1-360-236-4740

2. NURSE PRACTITIONER NATIONAL CERTIFICATION

Nurse practitioner national certification is required for practice in the State of Oregon. Most NP's prefer to take the examination soon after graduation when they are still accustomed to taking exams.

The American Nurse's Credentialing Center (ANCC) offers computer based testing for Adult, (Adult-Gero effective 2013), Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health, Family Psychiatric and Mental Health, Family, Pediatric, and Acute Care Nurse Practitioners.

Schedules and applications for exams are found at address or website below.
For certification applications and information about exam fees and deadlines contact:

American Nurse's Credentialing Center
8515 Georgia Ave, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3492
1-800-284-2378
E-mail address: www.nursingworld.org/ancc

Below is some certification information for other nursing specialties:

The National Certification Corporation or: www.nccnet.org or call: 1-800-367-5613.
This organization has information on various types of nursing certification.

Nurse Midwifery: American Midwifery Certification Board, Inc.
849 International Drive, Suite 205
Linthicum, MD 21090
1-866-366-9632
Link: <http://www.amcbmidwife.org>

3. DEA NUMBER (Drug Enforcement Administration Number)

This is needed in order to prescribe controlled substances, Schedule II-V. First obtain OSBN Prescriptive Privileges, then apply for a DEA #. There is an application/new registrant fee. If you are employed by a State or Federal entity, you may not have to pay this fee; also, some employers will reimburse for the DEA registration.

See the DEA Diversion website link below for more information. To obtain an application, go to <http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/> or call 1-800-882-9539 or contact Seattle Field Division: (206) 553-5990.

4. NPI NUMBER

You must obtain a National Provider ID number. This number identifies each provider uniquely and individually to payors (insurance companies), pharmacies, credentialing organizations and other interested parties. The NPPES (National Plan & Provider Enumeration System) collects identifying information on healthcare providers and assigns each a unique National Provider Identifier (NPI). Please consult this link for more information. Currently, there is no charge for this but every provider must have one: <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES>

5. OREGON MEDICAID BILLING (PRIVATE AFS#)

Go to: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/healthplan/index.shtml>
or call (503)945-5772; 1-800-527-5772.

6. MEDICARE PROVIDER NUMBER

Nurse Practitioners are now eligible for direct reimbursement from Medicare. To obtain a Medicare provider ID number (UPIN) or for additional information, go to: <http://www.wpsmedicare.com/j5macpartb/resources/index.shtml>

Download Medicare Enrollment for Physicians, Non-Physician Practitioners and Other Health Care Suppliers or you may call: Medicare Service Center: 800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227).

7. JOB SEARCH / INTERVIEW

This is a big topic outside the scope of this handout. Here are a few suggestions:

Look at state-wide job opportunities: www.nporegon.org

If you are considering a rural practice go to <http://www.ohsu.edu/oregonruralhealth/>

Take an extra copy of your resume and a list of references to job interviews. Don't assume that because you mailed one in with a cover letter that they will be able to locate it on the day of your interview!

You may want to take copies of the NP scope of practice (see Division 50 of the Nurse Practice Act) especially if the practice or clinic has not employed nurse practitioners in the past. These can be obtained on the Oregon State Board of Nursing website at <http://www.oregon.gov/osbn/Pages/index.aspx>