



# Professional Licensure Requirements: The Implication of the New U.S. Department of Education Regulation for Nursing Education FAQs

## Q. What is this new U.S. Department of Education regulation related to professional licensure that went into effect July 1, 2020?

**A.** [668.43\(a\)\(5\)\(v\)](#) and [668.43\(c\)](#). 668.43(a)(5)(v) requires the education institution to provide a list to the students of where the education institution has determined the curriculum meets licensure requirements, does not meet licensure requirements and where no determination has been made about licensure requirements. If the determination falls into the last two categories, [668.43\(c\)](#) requires the institution to provide notice to that effect to the student within 14 calendar days of making such determination. This is a summary of the regulation, and it is strongly advised that nursing program administration click the link above and read the rule in total. The “[Need Assistance](#)” link at the bottom is helpful as well.

## Q. What is the purpose for this new regulation?

**A.** This regulation prevents students from studying to become an LPN/VN, RN or APRN, only to find out their curriculum doesn't meet the licensure requirements in another state where they want to be licensed.

## When will this new regulation go into effect?

**A.** The regulation was released Nov. 1, 2019, and was implemented July 1, 2020. There was no delay in implementation, as some had speculated, because of COVID-19.

## Q. What programs does this apply to?

**A.** Any program that participates in Title IV HEA funding, if it is: (a) designed to meet educational requirements for a specific professional license or certification that is required for employment in an occupation; or is

advertised as meeting such requirements. Therefore, in nursing it applies to LPN/VN, RN and APRN programs.

## Q. Does this only apply to online education or distance education programs?

**A.** No, it applies to all programs, including face-to-face education, no matter what the instruction modality.

## Q. Where can nurse educators get started for complying with this new regulation?

**A.** Go to NCSBN's website: [www.ncsbn.org/14730.htm](http://www.ncsbn.org/14730.htm). We have provided a state-by-state list of licensure requirements.

## Q. Can the board of nursing in another state write a letter determining my program meets that state's licensure requirements?

**A.** No, the determination must be made by the nursing education program. However, the webpage NCSBN has provided should be very helpful and should greatly decrease the time it would normally take to find these licensure requirements on each board of nursing's website.

## Q. Where can I go if I have questions about this new regulation?

**A.** Your school's compliance officer likely has information on this new regulation. You could also contact the [U.S. Department of Education](http://www.ed.gov). Boards of nursing do not have any additional information about these regulations, as this is a federal, not state, regulation and each education institution is responsible for their own compliance.



111 E. Wacker Drive, Ste. 2900, Chicago, IL 60601  
[www.ncsbn.org](http://www.ncsbn.org) | [regulatoryinnovations@ncsbn.org](mailto:regulatoryinnovations@ncsbn.org)

Revised 07/20/20