

UTHSCSA RN Refresher Course Frequently Asked Questions

Licensure

1. My license is not current. How do I apply for a temporary permit to complete the RN Refresher Course?

You may apply for a temporary permit on the TX Board of Nursing (BON) website:

http://www.bne.state.tx.us/pdfs/forms_pdfs/applications_pdfs/6mnth_pdfs/6mth-rn.pdf

Temporary permits are good for 6 months from the date issued and they CANNOT be renewed. Temporary permits are only for use during the RN Refresher Course and cannot be used for employment purposes. Please do not apply for a temporary permit until instructed to do so by the RN Refresher Course Coordinator.

2. How do I get my permanent license after I have completed the RN Refresher course?

If you have held a nursing license in TX, the instructions for obtaining your permanent license after completing the RN Refresher Program are explained in the Temporary Permit application package. The RN Refresher Course Coordinator will complete the Verification form upon completion of the course and send it to the TX BON.

Nurses applying for current licensure may be required to provide proof of 20 hours of continuing nursing education in the past 2 years.

If you were not originally licensed in TX or have never held a nursing license in the state of TX, please see the information provided in Questions 3-4.

3. I have a current nursing license from another state, what do I need to do to obtain a TX nursing license?

The TX BON requires nurses to have used their nursing knowledge, skills and abilities in the past 4 years. If you have not done this, you will need to apply for a temporary permit and complete an RN Refresher Course.

http://www.bne.state.tx.us/pdfs/forms_pdfs/applications_pdfs/6mnth_pdfs/6mth-rn.pdf

Temporary permits are good for 6 months from the date issued and they CANNOT be renewed. Temporary permits are only for use during the RN Refresher Course and cannot be used for employment purposes. Please do not apply for a temporary permit until instructed to do so by the RN Refresher Course Coordinator.

If you have used your nursing knowledge, skills and abilities in the past 4 years, please contact the TX BON for further instructions.

4. How do I get my permanent TX license after I have completed the RN Refresher Course?

The TX BON requires nurses licensed in other states to complete the Endorsement Form.

http://www.bne.state.tx.us/applications_endorsement.asp

Scroll down and click on RN Endorsement Application

Scroll down and click on Information regarding Fingerprint Cards and Requirements for Endorsement Applicants

Nurses applying for current licensure may be required by the TX BON to provide proof of 20 hours of continuing nursing education in the past 2 years.

5. I have a current TX nursing license but I have not practiced in a clinical setting in more than 4 years. What do I need to do?

The TX BON requires nurses to have used their nursing knowledge, skills and abilities in the past 4 years. If you have not done this, you may wish to complete the RN Refresher Course. You do not need to apply for a temporary permit.

Clinical

6. For the clinical portion of the RN Refresher Course can I work in my specialty area?

The RN Refresher Course is designed as a medical-surgical review. Clinical preceptorships are arranged based on clinical background and available clinical sites to meet the requirements of the course. Please review the guidelines for clinical hours outlined by the TX BON in the 6-month Temporary Permit application FAQs at:

<http://www.bon.texas.gov/olv/pdfs/6mth-rn.pdf>

7. For the clinical portion of the RN Refresher Course, what do I need to wear?

Scrubs (any color) and closed-toed shoes appropriate for nursing care are worn during the clinical preceptorship portion of the course. These are purchased by the student and are not included in the course costs. This may vary depending on the clinical site; check with the Course Coordinator before purchasing scrubs.

8. What happens if I cannot attend one of the clinical skills lab days?

You cannot successfully complete the course without attending all of the scheduled clinical skills lab days. Missed lab days will be managed on an individual basis.

9. What happens if I cannot complete the clinical preceptorship?

You cannot successfully complete the course without completing the required clinical hours. You may choose, due to personal time constraints, to arrange clinical on your own. There are no pro-rated course costs for arranging clinical on your own and there are no refunds of course costs. Malpractice insurance is not provided to students arranging their own clinical preceptorships.

Computer Requirements

10. I have a MAC computer. Can I use this for the course?

You can use a MAC computer to complete the online course. Computer requirements will be sent to you upon acceptance in the course.

Course Requirements/Prerequisites

11. Do I have to buy all the textbooks?

The course is designed as a medical-surgical review for RNs who have not practiced in a clinical setting for more than 4 years. The *required* textbooks are part of the course. The textbooks can be purchased hardcopy or in e-book format. The details and approximate costs are provided in the Course Syllabus.

12. Why do I have to have current immunizations?

Current immunizations are required to complete the clinical portion of the course.

13. Why do I have to have a background check?

A background check is required by the TX BON and to complete the clinical portion of the course.

14. Why does my CPR have to be current?

Current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider BLS is required to complete the clinical portion of the course.

15. How will I know how to use the online course?

A tutorial is provided to help log into the course. Once you have successfully logged in there is another tutorial to help you navigate within the course. You will have 4 days to orient to the online environment at the beginning of the course. Technical assistance is available throughout the course.