



# Frequently Asked Questions – Expedited Registration for Internationally Educated Nurse Applicants

## Designated Countries

### How were the countries for the new expedited pathway selected?

- The rationale for selecting these countries (Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States) stemmed from reports from the National Nursing Assessment Service (NNAS) that show comparability of education and scope of RN practice. This decision was also informed through evidence gathered by other provincial nursing regulatory bodies.

### Will additional countries be added to the list?

- The College is not currently considering expanding the list of countries under the expedited registration for IENs pathway. Moving forward, the list of countries may change depending on evaluation results. Please note that IENs from all countries are still welcome to apply to the College through the [standard IEN process](#).

## Application process

### How long does it take to apply?

The application process largely depends on how quickly the applicant fills out the application and submits required documents. An overview of approximate processing times for each step of the expedited registration pathway is below:

1. Apply to National Nursing Assessment Service's (NNAS).
  - NNAS will issue a report within five business days.
2. Apply to the College
  - This step depends on how quickly the applicant can fill out the online form and submit additional requirements.

- Please note that some requirements such as background checks may take several weeks to receive. All requirements are listed in the [online application instructions](#).
3. The College will review the application to verify that all requirements are met
    - Once the application form and all requirements are submitted, the College will review and respond within 5 to 10 business days.
  4. Complete the “Registered Nurse Practice” course (NRSG-1012)” at Red River College Polytech (RRCP)
    - This online, self-paced course is delivered over 15 weeks, however, it can be accelerated depending on how quickly the applicant goes through the material. [See below](#) for more information.
    - Please note that this course can be completed up to one year prior to applying to the College, which could speed up the registration process.
  5. Pass the national entry to practice exam (NCLEX-RN)
    - Once an applicant is eligible to write the exam, they can book their own writing date. For more information, please see the College’s [website](#) on the NCLEX-RN.
    - If you have already passed this exam, you do not need to do it again.
  6. Complete Transitional Practice Experience (250 practice hours)
    - The transitional practice hours may be completed in approximately six weeks depending on the number of hours worked per week.
    - Practice hours must be completed within one year of the date of registration.

## What is the difference between the expedited registration pathway and the standard registration pathway for IENs?

- Under the expedited registration pathway, comparability of education and scope of RN practice has already been established. Currency of practice is part of the eligibility criteria. Therefore, eligible applicants will no longer have to do a Clinical Competence Assessment (CCA) to determine if they have gaps in entry-level competencies and do not need to complete all the courses in the Nurse Re-Entry Program. Instead, applicants will need to complete one course from the Nurse Re-Entry Program (“Registered Nurse Practice”), followed by a transitional practice experience (250 hours under supervision). This pathway is intended to enable applicants to move quickly into practice, while also ensuring appropriate support is in place.
- The Registered Nurse Practice course is intended to support successful integration into the Canadian health care system.

- All applicants will still be required to satisfy the other standard elements of the application process such as applying to the National Nursing Assessment Service (NNAS), submitting background checks, and passing the entry-level exam (NCLEX-RN).

## Will the college get the National Nursing Assessment Service (NNAS) report directly, or does the applicant need to submit it?

The College receives the report from NNAS directly, so there is no need for the applicant to provide it to the College.

## Required course

### Why is a course required under the expedited registration pathway?

- While RN education and scope of practice are deemed comparable in the countries included in the expedited registration pathway, the Registered Nurse Practice course (NRSG-1012) available through Red River College Polytechnic (RRCPP) is intended to support successful integration into the Canadian health care environment. It focuses on nursing in the Canadian health system, including meeting the health needs of Indigenous people.

### Is the course available online?

- Yes, the required course under the expedited registration pathway called Registered Nursing Practice (NRSG-1012) is available online through Red River College Polytechnic (RRCPP). Please note that the course name and number are subject to change at the discretion of RRCPP.

### How long does the course take?

- The Registered Nursing Practice course (NRSG-1012) usually takes 15 weeks to complete. Students can expect to spend anywhere from six to 10 hours per week completing the readings and assessments each week. However, this is a self-directed course where students can work through the material at their own pace and complete the course in a shorter timeframe. [For more information, please contact Red River College Polytech \(RRCPP\).](#)

- This course may be completed up to one year prior to applying to the College and must be completed prior to passing NCLEX-RN or beginning transitional practice experience if you have already passed NCLEX-RN.

## Eligibility

### How do I know if I am eligible for the expedited registration pathway for IENs?

Applicants eligible to apply under the expedited registration pathway must meet the following criteria:

1. Graduated from an approved RN program from the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia or New Zealand that led to their initial RN registration.
  - a. Exceptions: an “Associate Nursing Degree” (United States) or equivalent without sufficient educational upgrading to a BN/BSN credential or any specialized nursing degree (e.g. psychiatry/mental health, pediatrics, midwifery, etc.) are not eligible.
2. Graduated from that program within the last two years OR practiced a minimum of 450 RN hours in the last two years or 1125 RN hours in the last five years in one of the designated countries; and
3. Hold current and active registration in good standing in a designated country.

If you do not meet the above criteria, please note that you can still apply to the College under the [standard registration pathway for IENs](#) (i.e. not expedited).

### I have previously applied to the College as an IEN (or have an open application). Can I now apply under this expedited registration pathway?

- If you believe that you meet the eligibility criteria for the expedited registration pathway and you have either previously applied to the College or you have an application currently open with the College, you may be considered for the expedited registration pathway on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the College’s registration team for next steps:

Email: [registration@crnm.mb.ca](mailto:registration@crnm.mb.ca)

Phone: 204-774-3477 ext 300

Toll free (Manitoba): 1-800-665-2027 ext 300

## Transitional Practice Experience

### What is the difference between transitional practice and supervised practice?

- Transitional practice provides RNs registered under the expedited registration pathway with the support to develop clinical confidence within Manitoba's unique health care environment.
  - It involves increasing skill mastery in a supportive setting conducive to learning, which may involve oversight of nursing practice, open dialogue with an experienced RN who may be able to answer questions, and other guidance.
  - The goal of transitional practice is to facilitate successful integration into nursing practice.
- Supervised practice involves more direct oversight of an RN's nursing practice with additional focus on developing foundational skills and core competencies.

### Why do I need transitional practice if I'm already an RN in one of the designated countries?

- The transitional practice experience supports IENs under the expedited registration pathway to integrate into the Canadian context of practice while providing a level of autonomy that acknowledges previous practice experience.

### Will the College provide me with an employer to do my transitional practice experience?

- No, applicants must find an employer for their transitional practice experience (250 hours). Please note that applicants can only complete the transitional practice experience with a designated employer as identified in the College's [Designated Employers for Supervised and Transitional Practice policy \(AA-31\)](#).

### Do I need to pass the national registered nurse exam (NCLEX-RN) before beginning my transitional practice experience?

- Yes. Applicants must be on the RN register to engage in any practice and the exam requirement must be met in order to be registered.

- Once an applicant passes the exam, they will be granted a conditional form of RN registration: there is no limit on practice or RN scope of practice however transitional practice hours must be completed within one year of being registered.

## Can my work orientation hours count towards my transitional practice hours?

- Any RN specific learning or work, including hours gained through a clinically-based orientation, can be used as transitional practice hours. For example, this may include learning about the RN's specific role within the new workplace, or it could be RN clinical work that is part of the orientation.
- Anything other than RN specific learning or practice that may be part of a work orientation does not count towards the transitional practice hours.
- For guidance on what constitutes RN practice, please review [“Is my practice considered RN practice?”](#)

## Graduate nursing

### Could I practice as a graduate nurse if I'm going through the expedited registration pathway?

- Yes. Applicants under the expedited registration pathway can apply for graduate nursing registration if they:
  - been given exam eligibility;
  - have scheduled their NCLEX-RN exam; and
  - have completed the required course (“Registered Nursing Practice”) under this pathway.
- This option would only be applicable to individuals who have not yet passed the NCLEX-RN exam. For more information on becoming a graduate nurse, please review the college's [website](#) for information.