

## NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING (NLN) ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

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New York, NY 10006

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### NLN DIAGNOSTIC READINESS TEST (DRT) FOR PN LICENSURE

**DRTWEB 70-3510 (Online)**

**OTACHI 70-3510 (Paper)**

**Purpose:** This test assesses the abilities and skills required for entry-level nursing practice as measured by NCLEX-PN® and provides valuable test-taking practice.

**Description:** The Diagnostic Readiness Test (DRT) for PN Licensure consists of 150 individual, four-option, multiple-choice items that follow the NCLEX-PN® test plan.

**Administration:** Can be administered in two and one-half hours. Schedule at the completion of the nursing program. The DRT is nonsecure and therefore may be ordered separately by educators and nurse candidates. **This test is available for purchase in paper and online formats.** Test booklets do not need to be returned and can be used for further study and remediation.

**Confidentiality:** All NLN tests are copyright-protected and may not be reproduced.

**Scoring and Norms:** Performance reports for the DRT provide diagnostic information about strengths and weaknesses in the areas of health alterations, the nursing process, client needs, and clinical nursing. The detailed, individual performance profile uses a graph to indicate strengths and weaknesses on 28 subscales related to those four areas. A statement\* about the likelihood of success on NCLEX-PN® is included based on the total score earned. Class summary reports display numerical scores with indicators of overall student strengths and weaknesses. The report provides educators with the names of students who demonstrated relative weakness in each content area, and can help educators to devise an effective group study plan. Correct answer rationales to every item and a reference list are provided.

Online users receive immediate feedback of individual and class test results.

For those who purchase the paper version, two copies of each individual diagnostic profile are provided, one for the examinee and one for faculty analysis. A class summary report for the group is furnished when 10 or more students are tested.

\* This statement compares the overall performance of the examinee with those in the total normative sample as well as with those in the normative sample who passed the NCLEX-PN®. Higher scores will have an increased likelihood of success on the licensure exam; however, no one test score can guarantee future success. Students at every performance level are cautioned to carefully examine their diagnostic profile to determine which areas to focus on in their preparation for the NCLEX-PN®.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE TEST

The overall objective of the test is to assess a nurse candidate's knowledge of the abilities and skills required for entry-level nursing practice as measured by NCLEX-PN®.

## BLUEPRINT OF TEST CONTENT

The blueprint for the NCLEX-PN® was used to prepare this test.

### A. Nursing Process

1. Assessing
2. Planning
3. Implementing
4. Evaluating

### B. Client Needs

5. Coordinated Care
6. Safety & Infection Control
7. Growth & Development Through the Life Span
8. Prevention & Early Detection of Disease
9. Coping & Adaptation
10. Psychological Adaptation
11. Basic Care & Comfort
12. Pharmacological Therapies
13. Reduction of Risk Potential
14. Physiological Adaptation

### C. Health Alterations

15. Cardiovascular
16. Endocrine/Metabolic
17. Gastrointestinal
18. Reproductive
19. Integumentary
20. Musculoskeletal
21. Nervous/Sensory
22. Psychosocial Behaviors
23. Renal/Urinary
24. Respiratory

### D. Clinical Nursing

25. Adult Health
26. Women's Health
27. Children's Health
28. Mental Health

## STATISTICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Normative data are based on the 1999 performance of 2,310 students graduating from PN programs.

| Content Areas<br>(Subscores)                  | Number<br>of Items | Mean <sup>1</sup> | Standard<br>Deviation <sup>2</sup> | Reliability <sup>3</sup> |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Nursing Process</b>                        |                    |                   |                                    |                          |
| 1. Assessing                                  | 41                 | 26.14             | 4.68                               | 0.64                     |
| 2. Planning                                   | 27                 | 18.86             | 3.08                               | 0.5                      |
| 3. Implementing                               | 55                 | 38.82             | 5.27                               | 0.66                     |
| 4. Evaluating                                 | 27                 | 17.34             | 3.11                               | 0.45                     |
| <b>Client Needs</b>                           |                    |                   |                                    |                          |
| 5. Coordinated Care                           | 11                 | 8.17              | 1.72                               | 0.39                     |
| 6. Safety & Infection Control                 | 9                  | 6.61              | 1.35                               | 0.22                     |
| 7. Growth & development through the life span | 16                 | 10.55             | 2.15                               | 0.38                     |
| 8. Prevention & Early Detection of Disease    | 11                 | 7.04              | 1.73                               | 0.3                      |
| 9. Coping & Adaptation                        | 12                 | 8.85              | 1.8                                | 0.38                     |
| 10. Psychological Adaptation                  | 10                 | 6.23              | 1.54                               | 0.23                     |
| 11. Basic Care & Comfort                      | 14                 | 10.85             | 1.88                               | 0.41                     |
| 12. Pharmacological Therapies                 | 20                 | 13.92             | 2.66                               | 0.48                     |
| 13. Reduction of Risk Potential               | 25                 | 14.97             | 3.13                               | 0.47                     |
| 14. Physiological Adaptation                  | 22                 | 13.97             | 2.91                               | 0.48                     |
| <b>Health Alterations</b>                     |                    |                   |                                    |                          |
| 15. Cardiovascular                            | 26                 | 17.33             | 2.99                               | 0.45                     |
| 16. Endocrine/Metabolic                       | 12                 | 8.49              | 1.8                                | 0.33                     |
| 17. Gastrointestinal                          | 11                 | 8.14              | 1.6                                | 0.32                     |
| 18. Reproductive                              | 18                 | 11.74             | 2.61                               | 0.51                     |
| 19. Integumentary                             | 8                  | 5.62              | 1.34                               | 0.2                      |
| 20. Musculoskeletal                           | 10                 | 6.57              | 1.52                               | 0.24                     |
| 21. Nervous/Sensory                           | 13                 | 8.57              | 1.96                               | 0.32                     |
| 22. Psychosocial Behaviors                    | 24                 | 16.5              | 2.83                               | 0.47                     |
| 23. Renal/Urinary                             | 8                  | 5.67              | 1.3                                | 0.23                     |
| 24. Respiratory                               | 11                 | 6.36              | 1.88                               | 0.35                     |
| <b>Clinical Nursing</b>                       |                    |                   |                                    |                          |
| 25. Adult Health                              | 102                | 70.36             | 9.49                               | 0.8                      |
| 26. Women's Health                            | 15                 | 9.51              | 2.31                               | 0.47                     |
| 27. Children's Health                         | 18                 | 12.11             | 2.4                                | 0.43                     |
| 28. Mental Health                             | 15                 | 9.17              | 2.1                                | 0.35                     |
| <b>Total Score</b>                            | <b>150</b>         | <b>101.16</b>     | <b>13.28</b>                       | <b>0.84</b>              |

1, 2 The mean and the standard deviation are based on the uncorrected raw score, i.e., the number of items answered correctly.

3 The reliability coefficient is an estimate of the consistency with which the trait under consideration is being measured. The reliability estimate reported here is calculated with Chronbach's Alpha, using raw score data. The range of the coefficient is between 0 and + 1. This estimate is based on inter-item consistency, requiring only one administration of the test.

4 The standard error of measurement (SEM) estimates the accuracy of measurement of an individual's score. The SEM estimates the variation in a score that one would expect to see if an individual were tested repeatedly. In practice it is estimated (with 68 percent confidence) that an individual's "true" score will fall within  $\pm 1$  SEM of the observed, or actual, score on a test. Therefore, small differences are not likely to indicate significant differences among the performances of students. (To obtain the value of SEM, we employ values of the standard deviation and reliability that have greater precision than shown in the above table.)

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## **PROGRAMS THAT PARTICIPATED IN EXPERIMENTAL TEST ADMINISTRATION**

Programs at the following institutions administered the test items to nursing students in an experimental form. The NLN acknowledges the contribution of these schools.

### **Alabama**

Ayers State Technical College, Anniston  
Bessemer State Technical College, Bessemer  
Central Alabama Community College,  
Childersburg  
Chauncey Sparks State Trade School, Eufaula  
Gadsden State Technical Institute, Gadsden  
Trenholm State Tech College, Montgomery

### **Arkansas**

Cotton Boll School, Burdette  
Rice Belt Vocational Technical School, Dewitt  
North Ark Community Technical College,  
Harrison  
Arkansas State University, Mountain Home  
Pulaski Vocational Technical School,  
North Little Rock  
Arkansas Valley Vocational Technical School,  
Ozark

### **Arizona**

Mohave Community College, Kingman

### **California**

Palo Verde Community College, Blythe  
YWCA Los Angeles Job Corps, Centelos Angeles  
Southwestern College, Chula Vista  
Summit Career College, Colton  
Compton College, Compton  
La City Adult School, Los Angeles  
St. Francis Medical Center, Lynwood  
Concord Career Institute, North Hollywood  
Porterville College, Porterville  
Sacramento City College, Sacramento  
Western Career College, Sacramento  
Galileo-Adams Community College, San Francisco  
NCP Vocational School, San Francisco  
Rio Hondo Junior College Whittier

### **Colorado**

Colorado Mountain College, Glenwood Springs

### **District of Columbia**

Harrison Center for Career Education,  
Washington

### **Florida**

South Florida Junior College, Avon Park  
Broward County Practical Nursing Program, Davie  
Daytona Beach Community College,  
Daytona Beach  
Homestead Senior H.S. of Nursing, Homestead  
Chipola Junior College, Marianna  
Orlando Vocational Technical Center, Orlando

### **Georgia**

Albany Technical Institute, Albany  
Carroll Technical Institute, Carrollton  
Columbus Area Vocational Technical School,  
Columbus  
Lanier Area Technical School, Oakwood

### **Iowa**

Iowa Western Community College, Harlan  
Rend Lake College, Ina

### **Illinois**

Kaskaskia College, Centralia  
Chicago Public Schools, Chicago  
Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg  
WM Rainey Harper College, Palatine

### **Indiana**

Ivy Technical State College, Gary  
Indiana Vocational Technical College, Muncie

### **Kansas**

Flint Hills Area Vocational Technical School,  
Emporia  
Hutchinson Community College, McPherson  
Kaw Area Vocational Technical School, Topeka

**Kentucky**

Kentucky Technical Jefferson Campus, Louisville  
 Cumberland Valley Health Technical Center,  
 Pineville  
 Kentucky Technical Somerset Campus, Somerset

**Louisiana**

West Jefferson Technical Institute, Harvey  
 Jefferson Technical Institute, Metairie  
 Louisiana Technical College, Morgan City  
 Natchitoches Technical Institute, Natchitoches  
 LTC Area Technical College, New Iberia  
 Shreveport-Bossier, Shreveport

**Massachusetts**

Diman Regional Vocational Technical School,  
 Fall River  
 Berkshire Community College, Great Barrington  
 Dean Technical High School, Holyoke  
 Assabet Valley Regional Vocational School,  
 Marlborough

**Maryland**

North Arundel Vocational Technical Center,  
 Severn

**Michigan**

JTPA School of PN, Detroit  
 Jackson Community College, Jackson  
 Great Lakes Junior College, Midland  
 Mid Michigan Community College, Harrison

**Minnesota**

Rochester Area Vocational Technical Institute,  
 Rochester  
 Ridgewater College, Willmar  
 Thief River Falls AVT Institute, Thief River Falls

**Missouri**

Pike & Lincoln County Area School, Eolia  
 Sanford Brown College, Kansas City  
 KATC, Kirksville  
 Hannibal Public School, Hannibal  
 Lexington LA-Ray Technical Center, Lexington  
 Sikeston Public Schools, Sikeston  
 N S Hillyard Technical School, St. Joseph  
 North Central MO College, Trenton  
 South Central Career Center, West Plain

**Mississippi**

Northeast Mississippi Community College,  
 Corinth  
 Pearl River Community College, Hattiesburg  
 Hinds Community College, Jackson  
 Southwest Mississippi Community College,  
 Summit  
 Itawamba Junior College, Tupelo

**Montana**

University of Montana, Missoula

**North Carolina**

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute, Asheville  
 James Sprunt Community College, Kenansville  
 Isothermal Community College, Spindale  
 Montgomery Community College, Troy

**Nebraska**

New Hampshire Technical College, Claremont  
 Northeast Community College, Norfolk  
 Mid-Plains Vocational Technical College,  
 North Platte

**New Jersey**

Camden County Vocational Technical High  
 School, Sicklerville

**New Mexico**

Albuquerque Public School Nursing Program,  
 Albuquerque  
 New Mexico Junior College, Hobbs  
 Luna Area Vocational School, Las Vegas City

**New York**

Genesee Livingston Steuben, Batavia  
 Mid-Suffolk School-BOCES, Bellport  
 Clara Barton School of Health Professions,  
 Brooklyn  
 Buffalo Vocational Technical Center, Buffalo  
 Erie County BOCES 1, Cheektowaga  
 Erie 2/Chautauqua/Cataraugus, Dunkirk  
 Marion S. Whelan School, Geneva  
 Herkimer County BOCES, Herkimer  
 Hillcrest High School, Jamaica  
 Coopers Education Center, Painted Post  
 REOC, Rochester  
 Rensselaer-Columbia County BOCES, Troy

**Ohio**

Akron School, Akron  
Canton City Schools, Canton  
Pickaway-Ross County, Chillicothe  
Cincinnati Public Schools of PN, Cincinnati  
Clark Technical College, Springfield

**Oklahoma**

Byng Vocational School, Ada  
Tri-County Vocational School, Bartlesville  
Western Technology Center, Burns Flat  
Demarge College, Oklahoma City  
Red River Area Vocational Technical School,  
Duncan  
Metro Technical Vocational Technical Centers,  
Oklahoma City

**Pennsylvania**

Altoona Area Vocational Technical School,  
Altoona  
Western Area Vocational Technical School,  
Canonsburg  
Clearfield County Career & Technical Center,  
Clearfield  
Hazleton Area Vocational Technical School,  
Hazleton  
Lebanon County Area Vocational Technical  
School, Lebanon  
Forbes Road Career & Technology, Monroeville  
Connelley Center, Pittsburgh  
Central Pennsylvania Institute, Pleasant Gap  
Lehigh Carbon Community College, Schnecksville  
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**South Carolina**

Aynor-Conway Career Center, Conway  
Marion-Mullins School, Marion

**Tennessee**

Baptist Memorial College, Memphis  
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Memphis  
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**Texas**

Alvin Community College, Alvin  
Blinn College, Bryan  
Fort Duncan Medical Center, Eagle Pass  
Cass Career Center, Harrisonville  
Houston Community College, Houston

**Texas (con't)**

Huntsville Memorial Hospital, Huntsville  
Angelina College, Lufkin  
Health Institute of San Antonio, San Antonio  
United States Army, San Antonio  
Vernon Regional Junior College, Wichita Falls

**Utah**

Sevier Valley Technical Center, Richfield

**Virginia**

Washington County School, Abingdon  
Centralia College, Centralia  
Chesterfield County Public Schools, Chesterfield  
Dabney S. Lancaster Community College,  
Clifton Forge  
Massanutten Vocational Technical Center,  
Harrisonburg  
Stonewall Jackson Hospital, School of Nursing,  
Lexington  
Radford City PN School, Radford  
Virginia Western Community College, Roanoke  
Medical Career Institute, Virginia Beach  
Lafayette School, Williamsburg

**Washington**

Bellingham Technical College, Bellingham  
Lower Columbia College, Longview  
Big Bend Community College, Moses Lake

**Wisconsin**

Madison Area Technical College, Madison  
Northeast Wisconsin Technical Institute,  
Green Bay

**West Virginia**

Academy Career & Technical Center, Beckley  
B. M. Spurr School, Glendale  
Roane-Jackson Technical Center, Leroy  
Wood County Vocational School, Parkersburg  
Mercer County Vocational Technical Center,  
Princeton  
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Welch

**Wyoming**

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