

# LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE (LPN)

## Accreditation Process

### 1. Contact Bow Valley College or NorQuest College

Assessment and Determination of Appropriate Practical Nurse (PN) Program:

- ✓ Academic Credentials
- ✓ Prior Learning Assessment
- ✓ English Language Skills



### 2. Completion of Appropriate PN Program

#### Bow Valley College

- Practical Nurse Diploma for Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs)
- Integrated Practical Nurse Diploma for IENs (English as a Second Language - ESL)

#### NorQuest College

- Practical Nurse Refresher Program for IENs
- Practical Nurse Diploma for IENs (ESL)

Applicant  
Not  
Accepted



### 3. Application to the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta

- ✓ Application Form and Fee (\$650 – includes registration and enrollment to write the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination [CPNRE])
- ✓ Personal Declaration
- ✓ Bow Valley College or NorQuest College Notice of Completion
- ✓ Identification
- ✓ Official Transcript



### 4. Issuance of "Temporary" Practice Permit

### 5. Enrollment to write the CPNRE

CPNRE can be written 3 times a year in May, September and January



**ISSUANCE OF "ACTIVE" PRACTICE PERMIT**  
upon successful completion of CPNRE

## Licensed Practical Nurse Accreditation Process

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) are professional nurses whose primary focus is in patient care. LPNs serve individuals, families, and groups, assessing their needs and providing care and treatment as appropriate. LPNs care for patients in hospitals, long-term nursing homes, health centers, doctor's offices, and teach within healthcare and the profession. LPNs have the knowledge and the skill to work as a member of the healthcare team, working with Registered Nurses, Doctors, Nursing Assistants and other healthcare professionals.

### Obtaining Accreditation in Alberta:

Internationally Educated Nurses must graduate from an approved Practical Nurse program and register with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) to practice as a LPN in Alberta.

1. To begin the accreditation process, internationally educated LPNs must contact one of the following colleges for an assessment of prior learning:

#### **NorQuest College, Edmonton, Alberta**

10215 - 108 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5J1L6  
Telephone: (780) 644-6343  
Toll free: (866) 534-7218  
Contact: Mayme Wong  
E-mail: [Mayme.Wong@Norquest.ca](mailto:Mayme.Wong@Norquest.ca)

#### **Bow Valley College, Calgary, Alberta**

Main Campus  
332 - 6 Ave SE  
Calgary AB T2G 4S6  
Telephone: (403) 410-1781  
Toll free: 1-866-428-2669  
Contact: Cassandra Drouin  
E-mail: [cdrouin@bowvalleycollege.ca](mailto:cdrouin@bowvalleycollege.ca)

Colleges recommend that applicants contact them directly, in person or by telephone, to receive assistance with the application process.

Depending on individual qualifications and English language ability, Internationally Educated Nurses will be referred to the appropriate program at Bow Valley College and NorQuest College.

Program options are:

- NorQuest College:**
  - Practical Nurse Refresher Program for Internationally Educated Nurses or
  - Practical Nurse Diploma for Internationally Educated Nurses (for individuals who do not meet English language admission requirements)
  
- Bow Valley College:**
  - Practical Nurse Diploma for Internationally Educated Nurses program

- Integrated Practical Nurse Diploma for Internationally Educated Nurses (English as a Second language ESL) – for individuals who do not meet English language admission requirements

2. After successful completion of one of the programs listed above, the student is eligible to apply for licensure with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA). At this stage, the CLPNA will ask applicants to submit the following items:

- Application Form and Fee (\$650 – includes registration and application for enrollment to write the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination [CPNRE])
- Personal Declaration
- Verification of program completion from Bow Valley College or NorQuest College.
- A Photocopy of a birth certificate and one piece of government issued photo identification that shows your complete legal name.
- Official transcripts from completed LPN and/or Registered Nurse education programs at Bow Valley College or NorQuest College. Transcripts should be provided directly from the educational institutions, but original documents may be submitted.

If candidates have met the requirements list above, a “Temporary” Practice Permit will be issued.

3. Upon successful completion of the CPNRE, the LPN will become fully licensed with an “Active” Practice Permit. The CPNRE can be written three times a year (in May, September and January) and includes 250 multiple-choice questions in two sections of 125 questions. Candidates are given three chances to pass this exam.

**Exceptions: LPNs Registered in the United States**

Individuals living in the United States who are licensed as LPNs may be eligible to apply directly to the CLPNA, without having to complete a program at NorQuest or Bow Valley College. American applicants are advised to contact the CLPNA directly to learn about the steps they need to take. Generally, after having their qualifications assessed by the CLPNA, American applicants must successfully complete the CPRNE in order to become fully licensed.

**Fees:**

The following CLPNA fees are in place for International Applicants. All fees are quoted in Canadian dollars, and must be submitted with your application.

Registration & CPNRE	\$650.00
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**Average Earnings:**

The following are the overall average earnings for Licensed Practical Nurses in Alberta (according to the Multi-Employer/Alberta Union of Public Employees [Auxiliary Nursing] Collective Agreement – April 1, 2009 – April 1, 2011):

Average hours worked per week	37.25
Average range per hour	\$21.72 to \$31.06
Average salary range per year	\$42,000 - \$62,000

### **Employment Options:**

For more information about employment options see the following:

- [Alberta Learning Information Service \(ALIS\) Occupation Profiles – Nurses](#)

### **Contact information:**

College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA)

St. Albert Trail Place

13163-146 Street

Edmonton, AB T5L 4S8

Telephone: (780) 484-8886

Toll free: 1-800-661-5877 (in Alberta only)

Fax: (780) 484-9069

E-mail: [giane@clpna.com](mailto:giane@clpna.com)

Website: [www.clpna.com](http://www.clpna.com)

### **Resources:**

Obtaining accreditation information:

[CLPNA Internationally Educated Nurses](#)

Internationally Educated LPNs Programs:

[NorQuest College: Practical Nurse Refresher Program for Internationally Educated Nurses](#)

[NorQuest College: Practical Nurse Diploma for Internationally Educated Nurses](#)

[NorQuest College Application for International Students](#)

[Bow Valley College: Practical Nurse Equivalency Program](#)

[Bow Valley Application Procedure](#)

Examinations:

[Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination](#)