

Frequently Asked Questions

Students and Clinical Practice in Oregon

1. Which programs require pre-registration in order to do clinical hours of practice in Oregon?

The Oregon Board of Nursing requires registration by all pre-licensure and APRN programs based outside of Oregon for any **clinical experiences conducted in Oregon**. This includes:

- APRN programs leading to licensure (NP, includes Nurse Midwives, CRNA and CNS) provided by a non-Oregon based program;
- RN or PN pre-licensure programs provided by a non-Oregon-based program; and
- Reentry programs or pharmacologic management practicums for the purpose of obtaining prescriptive authority in Oregon.

2. How can I determine whether my program is a non-Oregon based program?

The Oregon Board of Nursing has authority to review and approve programs which are based in Oregon only. Programs not on this list occur outside of the Oregon approval process. The Board's list of approved programs in Oregon can be found here:

<https://osbn.oregon.gov/OSBOnlineReports/default.aspx?ReportName=OregonApprovedNursingPrograms>.

3. Why isn't there a list of approved out of state programs?

The Oregon Board of Nursing lacks the authority to review and approve programs in other states. The Board approves clinical placements rather than entire programs for non-Oregon based institutions. Program information is reviewed at the time an applicant applies for licensure in Oregon to assure consistency with Oregon regulations.

Note: The [List of Non-Oregon Based Programs Granted Clinical Placement Petitions](#) available on our website provides the names of the nursing programs that currently have students completing clinical placements in Oregon.

4. What must a program do to obtain pre-approval for clinical hours with the Oregon State Board of Nursing?

The non-Oregon-based program is required to file a **petition** to place students in Oregon which demonstrates compliance with Oregon law regarding faculty, preceptors, licensure, and accreditation status.

Note: Program approval through the Oregon Office of Degree Authorization (ODA) is required before the petition is submitted to the Board of Nursing. If you are in a state that has a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement SARA: <http://nc-sara.org/sara-states-institutions>, please be sure your educational institution is included in the agreement.

ODA Contact: Alethia Miller, Academic Program Evaluator, Out-of-State Institutions

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Website: <http://www.oregonstudentaid.gov/oda-degree-authorization-academic-programs-apply-outofstate.aspx>

The Oregon Petition for Non-Oregon Based Programs Offering Clinical Experience in Oregon:

- The petition must be approved by the OSBN prior to the start of a student's clinical placement. All instructions listed on the petition must be followed and the appropriate information submitted in order to obtain OSBN approval.

5. **Where can a student obtain proof that a program has confirmed approval to place students from the Oregon State Board of Nursing and/or from the Oregon Office of Degree Authorization?**

Each program enrolling students who plan to do clinical in Oregon is responsible for demonstrating to students that they meet all state and federal laws and requirements. Students must contact their program directly for a copy of these letters of approval.

6. **What if a program cannot supply the needed information?**

The clinical experience cannot begin in Oregon until the approvals have been completed. Hours completed in Oregon without prior approval **may not be counted** towards practicum hours required for licensure. Additionally, there are potential fines for preceptors who authorize and supervise students without approval by the Board. **Preceptor penalties include fines up to \$5000.00 for non-compliance with Oregon law.**

7. **Which programs *do not* require prior approval by the Oregon State Board of Nursing?**

Clinicals which do not lead to additional licensure in Oregon (example: RN-BSN, Masters in Nursing Education for already licensed nurses, PhD and DNP programs for students who are already licensed as APRNs).

Note: These programs may still require approval through the Oregon Office of Degree Authorization before enrolling students who are Oregon residents.

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8. **Why is the Board approving clinical experiences in advance?**

The Board's mission is to safeguard the public's health and well-being by providing guidance for, and regulation of, entry into the profession, nursing education, and continuing safe practice. The Board therefore has oversight when clinical practice prepares for initial licensure in Oregon (RN, LPN, APRN) and/or when clinical practice exceeds the current level of licensure (true of all APRN programs that lead to advanced licensure).

9. **What if the Board has already approved the clinical and plans change for a practicum (e.g.: date extension, change of preceptor, additional site for practice within same supervision agreement)?**

The Board will accept a revision of a previously approved placement. Any modifications to an approved clinical placement must be submitted before the revisions can become affective.