



FACT SHEET

Interim Licensure

The Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador (ARNNL) is the regulatory body for all registered nurses (RNs) and nurse practitioners (NPs) in the province. The primary mandate of ARNNL is public protection through regulating the profession. ARNNL achieves this by ensuring all RNs and NPs meet the requirements for registration and annual licensure and by promoting standards for safe, competent and ethical nursing practice.

What is interim licensure?

An interim license is a time-limited permit to practice nursing in Newfoundland and Labrador while finalizing requirements for registration. Outstanding requirements for registration include:

- Successful completion of the registered nurse examination approved by Council; NCLEX-RN
OR
- Receipt of a satisfactory professional reference, where required.

Who is eligible for an interim license?

An interim license may be issued to **new graduates and internationally educated nurses (IENs)** who has been granted provisional registration (see ARNNL [Provisional Registration Fact Sheet](#)). Applicants must submit an interim licensure application and pay the licensure fee.

- New Graduate – eligible following confirmation of graduation from approved nursing education program¹.
- IEN – Contact ARNNL regarding eligibility².

What is an Interim License-II (“IL-II”) and who is eligible to apply?

If unsuccessful following the first attempt of the registration examination, an individual’s interim license is revoked and they must immediately cease nursing practice and notify their employer(s). Individuals may apply to ARNNL for an interim license-II (“IL-II”) by contacting ARNNL for the [IL-II application](#).

An IL-II is a time-limited permit to practice nursing in Newfoundland and Labrador following registration examination failure, first attempt. The IL-II is subject to conditions and restrictions; specified in the application. If unsuccessful on second attempt of the registration exam, the IL-II is revoked and the individual is no longer eligible to practice nursing until they have passed the registration examination.

What nursing title is the interim license holder permitted to use?

New graduates and IENs who hold a valid interim license should introduce themselves as a ‘Graduate Nurse’ and should sign their name with the initials ‘GN’. Interim license holders are not permitted to use the title Registered Nurse until they have met all requirements for registration and have obtained a practicing license.

¹ To be eligible for an interim license the graduate must have graduated from an approved nursing education program in the 36 months immediately preceding the application for a license.

² IEN eligibility determined following ARNNL’s receipt and review of the National Nursing Assessment Service (NNAS) Advisory Report. All IENs seeking registration/licensure in Canada must apply to NNAS prior to submitting an application to ARNNL.

How long is an interim license valid?

An interim license is valid for four (4) months from the date of issue. IL holders must schedule and attempt the NCLEX exam during the IL period.

IL-II is valid for six (6) months from the date of issue. IL-II holders must schedule and complete their second exam attempt (NCLEX) during the IL-II period.

Note: The IL and IL-II is revoked following examination failure.

Does ARNNL place restrictions and/or conditions on an interim license?

IL – no conditions or restrictions placed on license by ARNNL. However the employer may place conditions or restrictions on the practice of the graduate nurse or IEN in the employment setting.

IL-II– Yes

Conditions on an IL-II include the Employer must:

- Provide a satisfactory employer reference confirming the Provisional Registrant is practicing at a safe and competent level for a graduate nurse
- Agree to comply with restrictions placed on the IL-II holder's license
- Agree to provide supervision to the provisional registrant
- Confirm the provisional registrant has provided a copy of his/her NCLEX Candidate Performance Report to the employer
- Provide a listing of any remedial courses identified by the Employer and agree to notify ARNNL if the Provisional Registrant fails to complete the remedial courses
- Agrees to immediately notify ARNN: if the Provisional Registrant is not functioning safely and competently in the provisional of patient care

Restrictions on an IL-II include the Provisional Registrant must:

- Not practice without the supervision of a Registered Nurse (See FAQ's for definition of Supervision)
- Abide by any restrictions deemed necessary by his/her employer
- Successfully complete any remedial course as required by his/her employer

For more information on IL-II, please see [FAQ's](#).

ARNNL does recognize that these new graduates and IENs are transitioning into the workforce and can value from dedicated supports. See ARNNL Position Statement – [Transition to Practice for Newly Licensed RNs](#).

Will my name appear on the online Member Search?

Yes. The [ARNNL Member Search](#) is an online tool intended for employers and the public to verify the licensure status of all ARNNL members who hold a current practicing license, interim license, or non-practicing membership, and whether there are any conditions or restrictions on an individual's practice. Links are provided to the definitions of membership categories and statuses (ie. practicing, non-practicing, interim license). However, the Member Search will not list an individual member's conditions/restrictions; further links to additional information is provided where applicable.

Questions regarding interim licensure may be directed to registration@arnnl.ca.

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