



FACT SHEET

Provisional Registration

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. ARNNL achieves this by ensuring that 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 Provisional Registration?

Provisional registration is governed by the [RN Regulations \(2013\)](#) and means an individual granted provisional registration has submitted an application for registration and met all the requirements for registration¹ with the exception of one of the following:

- Successful completion of the registered nurse examination approved by Council; NCLEX-RN or
- Receipt of a satisfactory professional reference,² where required.

Examples of whom may be granted provisional registration:

- New graduate who has completed an approved nursing education program in Newfoundland and Labrador or another Canadian province/territory and is waiting to write the NCLEX-RN exam.
- Internationally Educated Nurse who has completed the National Nursing Assessment Services (NNAS)³ and ARNNL application process and their nursing education program was considered to be comparable to a Canadian nursing program.
- Internationally Educated Nurses who have completed partial or full bridging education from an approved bridging program.

How long is provisional registration granted?

Provisional registration is granted for a three year period. Individuals must meet outstanding registration requirements during this timeframe. If an applicant has not met outstanding requirements at the end of the three year period their name is removed from the provisional register.

Does Provisional Registration authorize a nurse to practice and use the title of Registered Nurse?

No. Provisional registration alone does not mean an individual can practice nursing in Newfoundland and Labrador. Individuals who are granted provisional registration are assigned a temporary number.

Practicing nursing without a valid interim or practicing license is in violation of the Registered Nurses Act (2008) and the individual is subject to unauthorized practice fee and possible disciplinary action. In addition, practicing without a license means that a nurse does not hold professional liability protection, a requirement of licensure, may be placing themselves at risk for civil and legal action and could impact employment.

¹ Requirements for Registration include:

- Completion of an approved nursing education program,
- Submission of identity documents,
- Proficiency in English language,
- Submission of a certificate of conduct,
- Declaration of fitness to engage in the practice of nursing, and evidence of good character.

² International Educated Nurses (IEN) must obtain a Newfoundland & Labrador professional reference prior to writing the RN Registration exam. Satisfactory professional reference may be obtained through:

- Completion of a minimum of 400 hours of nursing practice with an NL employer, or
- Successful completion of the Newfoundland & Labrador IEN Bridging Program – [Professional Reference option](#).

³ National Nursing Assessment Service (NNAS) is a national online application service developed by 22 nursing regulatory bodies across Canada. NNAS coordinates a consistent approach for IEN seeking registration/licensure to practice in Canadian jurisdictions.

Will my name display to the Online Member Search

No. The ARNNL Member Search, available at www.arntl.ca, 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/restrictions on an RN's license.

ARNNL maintains a provisional register of those individuals granted provisional registration. This register is not publically available.

Question regarding Provisional Registration may be directed to registration@arntl.ca.

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