

# Oregon State Board of Nursing

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Non-Oregon Based Program Students and Clinical Practice in Oregon

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#### 1. Which programs require authorization for students to complete clinical learning experiences in Oregon?

The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) requires a review and authorization of clinical learning experiences completed in Oregon by all pre-licensure and advanced practice registered nursing (APRN) students enrolled in programs based outside of Oregon. This includes:

- APRN programs leading to licensure:
  - nurse practitioner (includes nurse midwifery) programs, nurse anesthetist programs and clinical nurse specialist programs) provided by a non-Oregon based program;
- Nursing programs leading to licensure at the RN or PN level provided by a non-Oregon based program; and
- Reentry programs or pharmacologic management practicums for the purpose of obtaining prescriptive authority in Oregon.

#### 2. What is meant by “non-Oregon based program”?

OSBN has authority to review and approve only Oregon based programs. Non-Oregon based programs are those physically located or based outside of Oregon and do not have an Oregon campus housing faculty or learning facilities. Theory learning for these programs is often provided via distance to Oregon residents and requires the completion of clinical practicum experiences within Oregon.

#### 3. Why isn't there a list of approved non-Oregon based programs?

OSBN 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. A list of those programs located outside Oregon that have had clinical practicum experiences approved in the past is posted for reference. Any nursing program may seek approval for clinical placements.

**Note:** The [List of Non-Oregon Based Programs Granted Clinical Placement Petitions](#) is updated periodically, but may not include programs that are currently in the process of seeking clinical placement approvals.

#### 4. What must a program do to obtain pre-approval for individual student clinical experiences through the Oregon State Board of Nursing?

A pre-licensure or APRN non-Oregon-based program is required to submit a petition requesting approval from the OSBN to have students complete clinicals in Oregon. All instructions listed on the petition must be followed and the appropriate documentation submitted in order to demonstrate compliance with Oregon law regarding faculty, preceptors, licensure, and accreditation status. Prior to the start of student clinical placements, a program must receive an OSBN approval letter for the submitted petition, student list and preceptor agreements.

**Note:** Approval through [SARA](#) (State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement) or the Oregon Office of Degree Authorization (ODA) is required before the petition is submitted to OSBN.

**For non-SARA states or institutions not approved through SARA, contact:**

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

ATTN: Office of Degree Authorization

3225 25<sup>th</sup> St. SE

Salem, OR 97302

Ph. 503-947-5716

Website: <https://www.oregon.gov/highered/institutions-programs/private/Pages/office-degree-authorization.aspx>

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

Each program enrolling students who plan to participate in 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 confirmation of required approvals.

**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 **must not be counted** towards practicum hours required for licensure. Additionally, there are potential fines for those preceptors who provide out of state student clinical supervision 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?**

Programs offering degrees that do not lead to additional licensure in Oregon, for example: RN-BSN; Masters in Nursing Education or Administration for already licensed nurses; PhD and DNP programs for students who are already licensed as APRNs.

**Note:** These programs still require approval either through SARA or ODA (see above, question 4 - Note) before enrolling students who are Oregon residents.

**8. Why does the Board need to review clinical experiences in advance?**

The Oregon State Board of Nursing protects the public by regulating nursing education, licensure and practice. The Board, therefore, has oversight of clinical learning experiences preparing individuals for licensure.

**9. What if the Board has already approved the clinical and plans change for a practicum?**

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