Important dates
Dec. 1, 2021: REx-PN registration opened
Jan. 4, 2022: REx-PN writes begin

REx-PN EXAM NEWS

The latest on the Regulatory Exam – Practical Nurse™

Providing you with the latest information about the new regulatory exam for RPN applicants, the REx-PN.

REx-PN: All set for Jan. 4 implementation

Registration is now open for the REx-PN! Applicants can begin writing the new exam as of Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2022. It is available online seven days a week, with no writing windows, by scheduling a time to write with Pearson VUE. We recommend applicants schedule their writing date and time as soon as they register for the exam, so they have more exam time options.
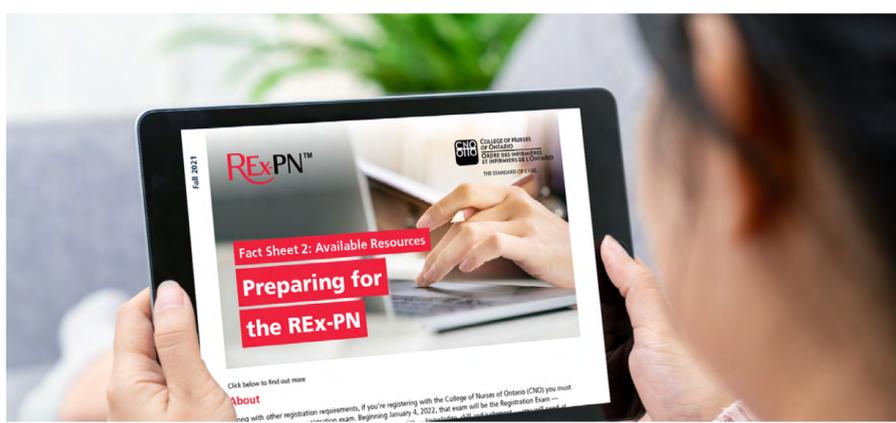
Thank you!

We are grateful for your help developing the exam. PN educators advised CNO on the exam in a number of ways. You participated in our PN Transition group or discussed the exam with us over the last three years. You provided feedback on the competencies used in the exam's Test Plan, helped develop and review REx-PN questions and assisted in reviewing the translation. Many of you attended information webinars and sessions to learn more about the exam and how to write CAT-style questions, or attended the recent first annual REx-PN conference. You shared information and guidance with your students, and provided our project team with feedback every step of the way. THANK YOU!

NEW resources for educators

NCSBN has a new website with several resources for educators and applicants. If you missed the November 2021 REx-PN conference, the recordings and Q&As are now available. The recordings cover information about:

- the registration process
- standard setting
- the practice analysis and test plan
- computerized adaptive testing (CAT testing)
- the item development process
- test security and accommodations
- item review: sensitivity and differential item functioning

Resources to help students prepare

Your students may ask how they can prepare to write the REx-PN. It's important to remind them that the REx-PN will test competencies nurses need at the beginning of their careers, which are competencies covered in your program's curriculum. As the REx-PN is a Computerized Adaptive Test (CAT), they may also benefit from pre-exposure to this type of testing.

Resources available

NEW Webcast for students and applicants: Background on the REx-PN and information about how to register to write the REx-PN

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NEW REx-PN Candidate Bulletin: A detailed guide from before to after writing the REx-PN, including contact information, how to register, rules and results processing

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NEW REx-PN Candidate Tutorial: Sample of question types

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REx-PN test plan: Detailed information about the content areas, including weighting on the exam, testing requirements and sample exam items and scenarios

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Computerized Adaptive Test (CAT) educational video

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REx-PN practice exam set: Exposure to CAT-style questions (fee charged)

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Fact sheet 1: REx-PN general information

A general overview of the exam, including information about the purpose of the exam, content included, exam format, number and types of questions, how a pass is determined and number of writes possible

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Fact sheet 2: Preparing for the REx-PN

More about how to prepare to write the REx-PN. Provides information on gaining access to additional preparation material being developed, including a "look-and-feel" practice exam, a REx-PN tutorial explaining how to answer each of the types of questions, and a Candidate Bulletin with full details about the exam

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Fact sheet 3: Writing the REx-PN

Information on applying to CNO, registering to write the REx-PN, scheduling an exam date and brief details on what to expect before and after the exam

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Answers to your questions

You can find answers to REx-PN frequently asked questions here:

CNO REX-PN FAQS   NCSBN: REx-PN

Who to contact
We are always available to answer your questions.
You can reach out to us at RExPN@cnomail.org