

Oklahoma Board of Nursing
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Oklahoma City, OK 73106
(405) 962-1800

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS FOR LICENSURE OR AUA CERTIFICATION WITH HISTORY OF ARRESTS, CONVICTIONS, OR PRIOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Applicants for licensure or AUA certification in Oklahoma who have ever been arrested for or convicted of any offense, including a deferred sentence or expunged offense; **or** have ever had disciplinary action taken against another health-related license or certification; **or** have ever been judicially declared incompetent are required to notify the Oklahoma Board of Nursing. Failure to report such action may be a violation of the *Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act*. All applicants for licensure as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse must have submitted a criminal history records search conducted by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation not more than three (3) months prior to submission of the application [59 O.S. §567.5].

Effective November 1, 2003, a candidate for a license to practice as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse shall submit to the Oklahoma Board of Nursing “certified written evidence that the applicant has never been convicted in this state, the United States or another state of any felony, unless five (5) years have elapsed since the date of the criminal conviction or the termination of any probation or other requirements imposed on the applicant by the sentencing court, whichever shall last occur, or a presidential or gubernatorial pardon for the criminal offense has been received” [59 O.S. §567.5].

Therefore, applicants for licensure in Oklahoma with one or more felony convictions cannot apply for licensure for at least five years after completion of all sentencing terms, including probation and suspended sentences, unless a presidential or gubernatorial pardon is received.

The applicant must submit the following information to the Board:

1. Application for licensure and licensure fee
2. A signed letter from the applicant describing the location and circumstances of the offense, date, court action taken and current status
3. OSBI criminal history search not more than three (3) months old
4. If applicable, **certified** copies of the information sheet, charges, judgment, and sentencing, and verification that the sentencing requirements are complete (these documents may be obtained from the courthouse in the county in which the arrest took place). Please ensure that the copies are certified, e.g., they are stamped with the court seal. If the offense has been expunged, provide a letter from the court clerk verifying that there are no records on file regarding any arrest.

Failure to submit the above information in a timely manner may result in a delay in processing the application. After Board staff reviews this information, the applicant will be notified of any additional action that must be taken. The applicant may be required to appear before the Board. Additional documentation that may be requested prior to this appearance, includes, but is not limited to, letters of reference from a clinical faculty member, the director/dean of program, a probation officer, employer or others. Please be aware that an applicant may **not** be eligible for licensure or endorsement to surrounding states due to individual states’ restrictions, even if the applicant is able to be licensed in Oklahoma. Individuals who plan to apply for licensure in other states must check with that state’s board of nursing to obtain information on requirements.