

You've learned the skills. You have the knowledge. NOW GO FOR THE INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION . . .



Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN)

ABOUT Ozarka's Technical Certificate, Licensed Practical Nursing program: Ozarka College is approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) to offer the Licensed Practical Nursing Program. Ozarka College is currently working toward national nursing program accreditation to further enhance opportunities for graduates (ASBN, 2024).

https://www.ozarka.edu/program_details.cfm?prg_cod=4660

ABOUT LPN employment in Arkansas (per <https://www.onetonline.org/>):

- Median wages: \$49,160 annually in rural areas; \$52,286 in non-rural areas
- Job outlook: BRIGHT (54,000 projected annual job openings from 2023-2033)

ABOUT the Licensed Practical Nursing credential/licensure in the state of Arkansas:

"Established by the Arkansas Legislature in 1913 to safeguard the life and health of its citizens, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) achieves its mission by developing standards for safe nursing care, approval of nursing schools and regulating licenses to practice nursing." To practice as a licensed practical nurse in the state of Arkansas, you must be licensed through the Arkansas State Board of Nursing (<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/arkansas-board-of-nursing>).

When, how, and where can I take the licensure exam?

The licensing process includes all of the following:

- Completion of an LPN training program,
- Completing an online application for licensure at: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/arsbn-licensing>
- Registering at <https://www.pearsonvue.com/us/en/test-takers.html>, the PEARSON VUE test site) to take the NCLEX-PN exam (NCLEX=National Council for Licensure Examination),
- Taking and passing the NCLEX-PN exam,
- Passing a criminal background check

(See <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/arsbn-criminal-background-checks>

for more information, including frequently asked questions regarding the criminal background check)

How much does the test cost? Estimated total cost: 350.50

How can I pay for the test?

If you are receiving federal or state financial aid, plan in advance to reserve some of your Pell refund, student government loan disbursement, or other financial aid disbursement so that you have the funds available at the end of the semester. (Consider the cost of the test as part of the cost of your education—save money to COMPLETE your education.)

How can I best prepare for the test?