

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



Registered Nursing (RN)

ABOUT Ozarka's AAS RN program:

https://www.ozarka.edu/program_details.cfm?prg_cod=0710

ABOUT RN employment in rural Arkansas (per bls.gov):

- Mean wages: \$51,000 annually in rural areas, \$60,300 in urban areas
- Job outlook: BRIGHT (750 projected job openings annually)

ABOUT the Registered 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 registered nurse in the state of Arkansas, you must be licensed through the Arkansas State Board of Nursing (www.arsbn.arkansas.gov).

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

The licensing process includes all of the following:

- Completion of an RN training program,
- Completing an online application for licensure at <https://www.ark.org/bon/licensure/index.php>,
- Registering at <https://portal.ncsbn.org> (the PEARSON VUE test site) to take the NCLEX-RN exam (NCLEX=National Council for Licensure Examination),
- Taking and passing the NCLEX-RN exam,
- Passing a criminal background check

(See <http://www.arsbn.arkansas.gov/licensing/Pages/examination.aspx> for more information, including frequently asked questions regarding the criminal background check)

There are testing sites in Little Rock, Fort Smith and Texarkana. Tests are given six days per week.

How much does the test/licensure cost? \$75 (\$100 effective 7/1/2016)

How can I pay for the test?

Suggestions:

- 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?

For information on test preparation, visit the Pearson Vue site, Pathway to Practice NCLEX examinations NCSBN Portal:

<https://portal.ncsbn.org/>