



## Purpose

The final step in the process to become a Licensed Practical Nurse in Manitoba is to write and pass the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Exam (CPNRE). This fact sheet will provide you with an overview of the requirements related to the CPNRE.

## GPN Registration and the CPNRE

All CPNRE candidates must hold *current* graduate practical nurse (GPN) registration with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba (the CLPNM) prior to writing the CPNRE. GPNs must write the CPNRE at the first opportunity and failure to do so, for any reason, will be considered a failed attempt.

GPN registration is valid for only four months. After four months your GPN registration is considered expired and you are no longer eligible to practise. You must apply to the CLPNM to renew your GPN registration **before** the expiry date. The CLPNM will assess your file to determine eligibility for renewal. The onus is on you to track your expiry date (which may be subject to change after writing the CPNRE). You can view your registration status at any time on CLPNM's public register. The public register can be found on CLPNM's website at [www.clpnm.ca](http://www.clpnm.ca).

All GPNs are granted twenty-four (24) months in which to write and pass the CPNRE. After 24 months, you will no longer be eligible for GPN registration; therefore, you would no longer be eligible to write the CPNRE.

## The CPNRE

The CPNRE is administered by Yardstick Assessment Strategies (YAS) and is delivered through computer-based testing. It is a pan-Canadian exam consisting of 170-180 multiple-choice questions, all which directly relate to the Entry-to-Practice Competencies of the profession.

## Preparing for the CPNRE

To help you prepare for the CPNRE, there are two items available for purchase from the YAS website ([www.cpnre.ca](http://www.cpnre.ca)). You are encouraged to purchase the most current Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination (CPNRE) Prep Guide, as it was developed to assist candidates in preparing for the CPNRE. Also available on the YAS website is the CPNRE Predictor Test. This is an online practice test, consisting of 85 multiple-choice questions and was designed to help you gauge your readiness to successfully undertake the CPNRE. At this time, the only supplier of CLPNM-approved CPNRE preparation material is YAS.

## Scheduling and Writing the CPNRE

You are provided three opportunities to attempt the CPNRE and each CPNRE writing opportunity must be taken as directed by the CLPNM. You must apply to the CLPNM to write the CPNRE at the first opportunity that you become eligible. Being eligible means that you have

graduated from an approved program and/or you have been deemed to have met the educational requirements, you have applied for both GPN and the CPNRE, you have provided all information required and requested by the CLPNM, and you have paid all applicable fees.

Provided that you meet all eligibility requirements, once the CLPNM has received a transcript from your school demonstrating successful completion of the required education, your GPN registration will be approved and you will be notified by both email and mail.

It is imperative that the CLPNM has your current email address on file at all times for within one (1) week of receiving notification of GPN registration approval, you should receive an email from Pearson VUE (the approved testing centre) inviting you to schedule your writing of the CPNRE. The onus is on you to ensure the CLPNM has the correct information on record.

## Is There a Fee to Schedule?

Fees are set and collected by Pearson VUE. The fee to schedule a writing with Pearson VUE is \$105.00 plus GST. It is your responsibility to retain your receipts; additionally, if you pay with a pre-paid credit card, you should retain the credit card until after you have completed the examination.

## When is the CPNRE Offered?

The CPNRE is offered multiple times a year and the dates of upcoming writing opportunities are listed on the CLPNM website. You are expected to sit at the next CPNRE test writing window and once you schedule your exam, Pearson VUE will provide you, by email, details surrounding the exam and the requirements of the specific testing site.

## Where do I Write the CPNRE?

Pearson VUE is the approved CPNRE writing centre in Canada, and as such, Pearson VUE centres are open to any eligible writer in Canada. This means that Manitoba candidates may write the CPNRE anywhere in Canada that has an approved writing centre; likewise, it also means that candidates from outside of Manitoba may schedule their exam in a Manitoba writing centre. You are strongly encouraged to contact Pearson VUE to schedule your writing opportunity as soon as possible to ensure availability.

## What if I Miss the Writing Opportunity?

Once you receive a Pearson VUE invitation to schedule, do not hesitate to schedule as preferred dates and times may be scheduled by other writers. Please note that missing a CPNRE writing opportunity may be considered a failed attempt.

## CPNRE Results

Once the CLPNM receives notice from YAS that you have passed the CPNRE, your GPN registration will automatically expire after thirty (30) days, or sooner if your original expiry date is less than 30 days. Upon receipt of the exam results, time-sensitive correspondence will be emailed to you regarding your eligibility for active practising registration. Please be aware that should you miss the imposed deadlines in that correspondence, your file may incur additional fees and may also require an assessment by the Executive Director.

In the event that you do not pass your first attempt of the CPNRE, you will be advised by the CLPNM. Your GPN registration will have a condition applied, which advises employers that should you fail the CPNRE on your second attempt, your GPN registration will be immediately cancelled.

In the event that you do not pass your second attempt of the CPNRE, your GPN registration will be immediately cancelled. The Executive Director will assess your file and you will be required to undergo, at your own expense, a competency assessment and/or practical nurse refresher education prior to being eligible to renew your GPN registration and attempting the CPNRE for the third and final time.

In the unlikely event that you do not pass your third writing of the CPNRE, your GPN registration will be immediately cancelled. You will not be eligible for GPN registration with the CLPNM until such time as you complete an entire Board approved entry-level practical nurse program.

If you have any questions related to graduate practical nurse registration or the CPNRE, please check the CLPNM website [www.clpnm.ca](http://www.clpnm.ca) or contact us at [info@clpnm.ca](mailto:info@clpnm.ca), 204-663-1212, or 1-877-663-1212 toll free.