

NLN NEX Exam  
ENTRANCE EXAM FOR DACC NURSING PROGRAM

The Nursing Entrance Exam (NEX) is a battery of three computer-based subject tests delivered in a single test administration with a live proctor remotely. All exam items are multiple-choice format with four response options. Items are scored as correct or incorrect without penalty for guessing. Unanswered items are counted as incorrect. Scoring is set as percentile ranks based on a national norming group derived from operational testing. Each test is timed, with 60 minutes per subject. All tests must be completed to generate a score report.

**Verbal Ability:** The Verbal Ability test consists of two sections: word knowledge (25 items) and reading comprehension (25 items) representing skill levels often expected in high school or the first year of college.

**Science:** The Science test consists of 55 scored items and 5 pretest items (unscored). It is designed to measure an applicant's competency in general science knowledge and principles that provide the foundation for success in the nursing curriculum. The content of this section is intended to be set primarily at the high-school level with some college 100-200 level content possible. The subjects include biology (around 20 items), human anatomy and physiology (around 22 items), chemistry (around 5 items), and health (around 8 items). Specific dimensions of science include the cognitive skills of knowledge/comprehension; application of principles, basic research, and measurement; and interpretation of charts, graphs, and diagrams.

**Math:** The Mathematics test consists of 40 scored items and 5 pretest items (unscored). It is designed to measure an applicant's competency in solving basic arithmetic problems in (a) numbers and operations; (b) measurement; (c) algebra, and (d) data and information. This section includes computation and word problems which give applicants the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to perform basic mathematical operations and problem-solving skills, reflective of the foundation needed for success in the nursing curriculum. Content assessed reaches as far back as Grade 8 and extends to 10th-grade Algebra I.

DACC Program Minimum NLN NEX Scores Required

Verbal	Science	Math	Composite Score
64%	62%	60%	138

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Nursing applicants may take the NLN NEX remotely via Proctor360. Applicants are only able to test twice per semester with a total of four times maximum in a lifetime. After failure to achieve the minimum score on the admission NLN exam after four attempts, the student will be referred to advising to discuss other options for a career degree plan. There is a mandatory 30-day waiting period between exams. All NLN scores will be valid for a period of two years from the exam date.

## **Who is the NLN?**

Dedicated to excellence in nursing, the National League for Nursing as the nation's first nursing association serves as the leading voice for nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education. The NLN offers professional development, networking opportunities, assessment services, nursing research grants, and public policy advocacy for nearly 45,000 individual and over 1,000 institutional members. NLN members represent nursing education programs across the spectrum of higher education, health care organizations, and agencies.

Founded in 1893 as the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses, the National League for Nursing was the first nursing organization in the United States. Headquartered in Washington, DC, the NLN is led by a board of governors elected at large by the membership for three-year terms. The volunteer board chair works closely with the NLN's president and chief executive officer.

## **REGISTERING and PAYING FOR THE EXAM**

The **NLN NEX** exam is offered on a regular basis remotely. It is recommended that applicants prepare for the exam early and register to take the test as soon as they feel prepared. The NLN Portal requires Google Chrome, and you must sign in using a desktop or laptop. Phones, tablets, and other devices will not allow site access. Registration and payment for the **NLN NEX** test are done online through the **NLN Assessment Services Portal**.

<https://www.nln.org/education/assessment-services/student-resources>

## **PREPARATION FOR THE NLN NEX**

**Students are strongly encouraged to prepare for this exam.** Review materials can be purchased through the NLN here <https://www.nln.org/education/assessment-services/student-resources/selecting-and-purchasing-your-exam>

## **IS THE EXAM TIMED?**

Yes, you will be given two and a half (2.5) hours to complete the exam. At the end of 2.5-hours, the exam shuts off. You must attempt and complete the exam within the 2.5-hour period. Otherwise, your score report will be considered incomplete. Students who have

incomplete scores for any of the academic subject areas will not be eligible for the nursing program admission review process. Please manage your allotted 2.5-hour test time accordingly.

### **SCORING**

Students receive their individual **NLN NEX** score reports immediately upon completion of the exam. Students can also access their score reports by logging into their accounts. NLN makes the student's scores available to the Nursing Program for the student's file. However, students must also submit a copy of the scores with their completed program application packet.

### **WILL DACC ACCEPT MY NLN NEX SCORE I HAVE TAKEN AT ANOTHER COLLEGE?**

DACC will accept an applicant's NLN NEX scores if the applicant has taken the exam within the previous 24 months from the time of application, and if the score report indicates completion and passing scores of all sections of the exam required by the DACC nursing program.

### **RETEST POLICY**

Students can retake the exam (per test administration fees paid by applicant) twice per semester, with a total of four times maximum in a lifetime. There is a mandatory 30-day waiting period between exams to allow for remediation. NLN NEX exam scores are valid for two years at which time the exam must be retaken.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

DACC will not provide information to any external sources regarding an individual's test scores unless written permission is received from the student. This policy is in accordance with the student confidentiality policy of DACC.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Accommodations are available to students with documented disabilities. All ADA accommodation requests must come directly from the institution. DACC Students should speak with a Nursing Program Academic Advisor regarding the process. The process to assess for accommodations may take several weeks to a few months. There may be an additional wait period of 2 to 4 weeks to arrange your testing date once your disability has been registered. We suggest that any student requiring special accommodation begin this process as soon as possible.

## REMOTE TESTING

Once you have scheduled your exam session, Proctor360 will send you an email with instructions to complete a System Inspection prior to your actual exam date. This process **MUST** be completed prior to your scheduled exam time in order to ensure that your computer and internet access are sufficient to take the exam online. Be sure to complete the System Inspection well in advance of your scheduled exam session so you have plenty of time to resolve any issues that may arise. Please note, you will need either a laptop **OR** an external webcam to complete the environment check and while testing.

When your System Inspection is complete, you will receive another email from Proctor360 confirming that you have completed the process, and a link will be provided to check into your session on the day of your exam. If you do not receive this email within an hour after completing the System Inspection, please contact Proctor360's Support Staff for assistance.

One basic 4-function calculator and one 8.5x11 whiteboard is allowed to be used during exams. The whiteboard must be clean before the exam begins and wiped clean by the candidate before the exam is over.

You will be able to take the exam online with a Proctor360 proctor who oversees the examination process remotely.

<https://www.nln.org/education/assessment-services/student-resources/completing-your-onsite-assessment>

## WHERE CAN I TAKE MY REMOTE EXAM?

Your remote testing environment must meet the following requirements:

- The testing location must be indoors (walled), well-lit, and free from background noise and disruptions.
- You should be at a desk or table (not in bed, on a couch, etc.)
- No third party may be present in the room or enter the room for the duration of the exam. If this occurs, your exam will be terminated and/or your results invalidated.
- Your workstation and surrounding area must be free of pens, paper, notes, study guides, electronic devices, etc. No content that could potentially provide an unfair advantage during your exam, including that posted on walls or within your immediate area, **should** be present during your exam session.
- No headsets or earbuds are allowed during the test.
- Absolutely no cell phones are allowed in the testing area at any time during the session.

- You may only have ONE monitor connected to your computer during the exam session. Your proctor will not let you begin the exam until all other screens have been disconnected and removed from your testing space.
- No food or beverages are allowed in the testing area at any time.
- The testing area must be silent with no other background noise. There is no speaking allowed during your test. This is required in order to maintain equity with students who test in person.
- No Smart Watches or similar IOT devices are allowed. Make sure you remove any watches or similar devices before beginning the check-in process for your exam session.
- There are no restroom breaks allowed during the majority of the assessments, so please plan accordingly.

### **GLOBAL TEST CENTER SECURITY PROCEDURES**

Proctor 360 takes the role of providing a secure test environment seriously. During the check-in process, you will be required to submit a scan of your desktop and the surrounding space in order to verify that you have no prohibited materials accessible during the exam. They may also inspect any and all eyeglasses, jewelry, and other accessories to look for camera devices that could be used to capture exam content.

### **IDENTIFICATION POLICY**

You will be required to present one form of non-expired, government-issued, photo and signature bearing ID (e.g., driver's license or passport).

### **RESCHEDULE / CANCEL POLICY**

If you need to reschedule your exam session, you must do so at least 24 hours in advance. Failure to do so will result in a \$30 rescheduling fee. Please note there is a no refund policy.