Kansas Licensure History

- First examination given in December 1913
  - 10 candidates took the examination
    - 8 passed, 2 failed
    - Passing Score = 80%
  - Board of Nursing wrote the examination
    - Examination essay questions on cards
    - Wrote answers in blue books
  - 2 Board members graded each examination
Examination History

- State Board Test Pool
  - 1978 – July 1982
  - Score reported in 5 parts
  - Last used April 1982

- NCLEX-RN
  - 1982 - Change of name from SBTPE to NCLEX
CAT

- September 1982 – BOD directed staff to develop proposal to enable testing an electronic system of the administration of examinations.
- May 1985 – BOD directed staff develop grant proposal for funding for research and development of CAT
- 1994 - Last paper & pencil test
- 1994 - CAT in all states & territories
What is NCLEX

The examination is designed to test:

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Abilities

Essential to the safe & effective practice of nursing at the entry level.  

NCSBN
NCLEX® Development Process

- SCOPE OF NURSING PRACTICE
  - Practice Analysis/Job Analysis
  - Test Plan

- ITEM WRITING
  - Item Review
  - Editorial Review
  - Sensitivity Review
  - BON Review

- PRE-TESTING
  - DIF Panel Review
  - E.C. Review

- EXAMINATION ADMINISTRATION
NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN test plans:

- Serve as a guideline for examination content
- Reviewed by the NCSBN Examination Committee after incumbent job analysis
- Can be found to download at:
  - RN
    - [https://www.ncsbn.org](https://www.ncsbn.org)
      - Plan effective April 2010
  - PN
    - [https://www.ncsbn.org](https://www.ncsbn.org)
      - Plan effective April 2011
Test Plans are Developed Using:

- Practice analysis
- Legal scope of practice
PN Test Plan – New April 2011

- Safe and Effective Care Environment
  - Coordinated Care – (13-19%)
  - Safety and Infection Control – (11-17%)
- Health Promotion and Maintenance – (7-13%)
- Psychosocial Integrity – (7-13%)
- Physiological Integrity
  - Basic Care and Comfort – (9-15%)
  - Pharmacological Therapies – (11-17%)
  - Reduction of Risk Potential – (9-15%)
  - Physiological adaptation – (9-15%)
RN Test Plan - 2010

- Safe Effective Care Environment
  - Management of Care – (16-22%)
  - Safety and Infection Control – (8-14%)
- Health Promotion and Maintenance – (6-12%)
- Psychosocial Integrity – (6-12%)
- Physiological Integrity
  - Basic Care and Comfort – (6-12%)
  - Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies – (13-19%)
  - Reduction of Risk Potential – (10-16%)
  - Physiological Adaptation – (11-17%)

NCSBN
Who Develops the Questions

- Item writers are practicing nurses
- Second expert panel of practicing nurses reviews items
Passing Standards

- Passing standards are re-evaluated every 3 years by NCSBN Board of Directors

- Criterion used to set passing standards:
  - The minimum amount of knowledge, skills, and ability required for safe and effective entry-level nursing practice
What is Computerized Adaptive Testing?

- Each test is tailored to the examinee.
- Presents the examinee with items best for measuring ability.
- Computer re-estimates ability each time the question answered.
- Ability estimate gets more precise with each question answered.
- Computer selects next item to be challenging.
Items are selected from a large pool of items using three criteria

Criteria 1:
- Any item seen in the last year is excluded.

Criteria 2:
- Best match to test plan percentages
- Enough questions from each content area to match test plan

Criteria 3
- Challenging item selected by computer
Innovative Questions

- Multiple responses
- Fill in the blank
- Hot spot
- Chart/Exhibit
- Drag-and-drop
Pretest Items (Not yet in Test)

- Determines degree of difficulty of an item
- Not included when estimating the candidate’s ability or making pass-fail decisions

NCLEX-RN - 15 items (75 minimum)

NCLEX-PN - 25 items (85 minimum)
Your Tools

- Computer
- Computer mouse
- Drop down calculator on computer
- NCLEX Examination Tutorial
  - Can be reviewed at the NCSBN Web site at [www.ncsbn.org](http://www.ncsbn.org).
  - Click on testing services and follow the links to the tutorial.
When is the Test Over

- Minimum and maximum number of items that can be asked.
  - RN: 75-265
  - PN: 85-205

- Computer determines if ability is either **above** or **below** passing standard

- Run out of time
Testing Time & Questions

NCLEX-RN

NCLEX-RN
6 Hours
75-265 Items

2010 Test Plan
(April 2010)

(-0.16 logits)
Testing Time & Questions
NCLEX - PN

NCLEX – PN
5 Hours
85-205 Items

2011 Test Plan
(April 2011)

(-0.37 logits)
Registration Process

- Follow Candidate Bulletin

- If email address used when registering, **ALL** correspondence from Pearson VUE will arrive **ONLY** by email

- Register via Web, Mail, Phone, or Electronic Scan

- Pearson VUE registration valid for 365 days, Board of Nursing for 6 months
Electronic Scan Form Option Begins January 2009

- Accessible via NCLEX Candidate website
- Can pay by cashier’s check, money order or certified check
- Prevents incomplete scan forms from reaching Pearson VUE (delays registration)
- Once submitted – print confirmation
- Mail confirmation and payment promptly
Testing & Sites

- Topeka
- Wichita
- Hays

You are guaranteed a time to test within 30 days of when you request a time.

(45 for retest)

- If you have difficulty – call the Board of Nursing
- Arrive at least 30 minutes before scheduled testing time
Accommodations for Testing

- Allow more time for processing
- Required information is on web site
- Must be approved by Board of Nursing
- Documentation must be sent to NCSBN along with Board approval
- Must be approved by NCSBN
Guidelines for Documentation

- Includes reports, test results, evaluations and assessments of need for accommodations due to a disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities. (Mental & Physical)
- Within the last 5 years
Admission to Test Site

Strict candidate identification requirements

- Valid Picture ID with signature in English and
- Authorization to Test

If you arrive without these materials,

- Must register again
- Pay exam fee of $200.00
- Pay state fees RN-$75, PN-$50 (If more than 6 months)

(More information in Candidate Bulletin)
Name Change

If name has changed since application to test, must bring legal name documentation on day of test.

Only acceptable forms of legal documentation:
- Marriage license,
- Divorce decree and/or
- Court action legal name change document

All documents must be in English and must be the original document
Security Measures

- Digital fingerprint
- Signature
- Photograph
- Palm vein scan

Accompanies the examination result.
Security Measures

- Candidates observed at all times during examination.
  - direct observation
  - video and audio recording
Security Measures

- Divulging any aspect of the licensure examination content by faculty or students is unethical.

- NCLEX Confidentiality Agreement
  - Any violation may be grounds for disciplinary action and denial of licensure
Reportable Incidents

“Examination Irregularity”

Reports are completed for:

- Examinee misconduct or problems
- Hardware problems
- Software Problems
Results

- Examination results processed within 3-5 working days after receipt.

- If **Pass:**
  - Notification of passing OR
  - When all requirements met, license is sent

- If **Fail:**
  - Candidate Performance Report,
  - Packet of applications and instructions
Candidate Performance Report

- Provided to those who fail
- Gives number of items administered
- Includes summary of relative strengths and weaknesses based on the test plan
Review & Challenge

- Only failure candidates can review the examination
- Can review only incorrectly answered questions
- NCSBN fees for reviewing examination –
  - $400 to schedule,
  - $200 each item challenged
- KSBN fees
  - Time
  - Expenses
Retesting

- Exam can be retaken in 45 days
  - reapply and resubmit fees to KSBN and NCSBN
  - includes picture
  - fingerprints if over six months since last fingerprint check

- If not successful within 24 months
  - petition KSBN to retake the examination (petition is on www.ksbn.org)
Problems & Questions

- Candidate Bulletin contains problem list and telephone numbers
- Keep the Candidate Bulletin until results are received