



Registered Nurse

Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) Examination

Candidate Handbook

7 July 2026

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
National Boards

GPO Box 9958 Melbourne VIC 3001 [Ahpra.gov.au](https://www.ahpra.gov.au) 1300 419 495

Ahpra and the National Boards regulate these registered health professions: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice, Chinese medicine, chiropractic, dental, medical, medical radiation practice, midwifery, nursing, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, paramedicine, pharmacy, physiotherapy, podiatry and psychology.

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Introduction

This handbook contains information for internationally qualified registered nurses (IQRN) who are required to complete the registered nurse multiple-choice question examination (RN MCQ) approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (the Board). The RN MCQ approved by the Board is the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Following completion of the Self-check, IQRNs will be advised which stream they are in based on assessment of their qualifications. IQRNs assigned to Stream B are required to complete the Board's outcomes-based assessment (OBA) process to become qualified for registration in Australia. The OBA includes a multiple-choice question (MCQ) exam and an objective structured clinical exam (OSCE).

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) develops and delivers the NCLEX-RN through Pearson VUE test centres.

Frequently used terms within this handbook

Term or acronym	Explanation or expanded acronym
Ahpra	Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
ATT	Authorisation To Test
Candidate	An IQNM who is required to sit an exam
CAT	Computerised adaptive testing
CPR	NCLEX Candidate Performance Report
IQNM	Internationally Qualified Nurse or Midwife
IQRN	Internationally Qualified Registered Nurse
MCQ	Multiple-Choice Question examination
NCLEX-RN	National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses
NCSBN	National Council of State Boards of Nursing
OSCE	Objective Structured Clinical Examination
Pearson VUE	Organisation who delivers the NCLEX-RN on behalf of the NCSBN examination
TA	Test Administrator
The Board	Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

Exam governance

Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Committee (Assessment of overseas qualified nurses and midwives)

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (the Board) decided under section 43 of the National Law to establish the Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Committee (Assessment of overseas qualified nurses and midwives) (NMAC) to carry out functions relating to the assessment of internationally qualified nurses and midwives (IQNM) wanting to register in Australia.

The functions that the NMAC carries out under Part 6 of the National Law are described in its terms of reference as including:

- oversight of the pre-registration assessment of the knowledge, clinical skills and professional attributes of IQNM wanting to register in Australia, and
- making recommendations and giving advice to the Board about issues relating to the pre-registration assessment of IQNM and associated matters.

The pre-registration assessment of IQNM includes:

- Qualification Self-Check
- Orientation Part 1
- Qualification Portfolio assessment
- Multiple-choice question (MCQ) examination
- Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

The NMAC works with Ahpra to carry out its functions in accordance with its terms of reference. In relation to oversight of the MCQ examination and OSCE, the NMAC works with Ahpra to oversee the examinations, including:

- Appointment of expert members to examination committees
- Selection of Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) examiners
- The maintenance, policy, delivery and content of the MCQ examinations and OSCEs, and
- Selection of suitable examination facilities for delivery of the MCQ examinations (as relevant) and OSCEs.

The NMAC convenes committees and expert groups and selects examiners to assist it to carry out its functions. This includes two examinations committees to assist in the oversight of the multiple-choice question examination (depending on the committee set out in the Terms of Reference) and the OSCE.

Ahpra, in consultation with the NMAC:

- Recruits and approves appropriate experts to committees and expert groups, and as examiners; and
- Implements systems to evaluate the performance of committees, expert groups and examiners to continuously improve its policies and processes for selection, appointment and training.

More information about the NMAC can be found on the Board's [website](#).

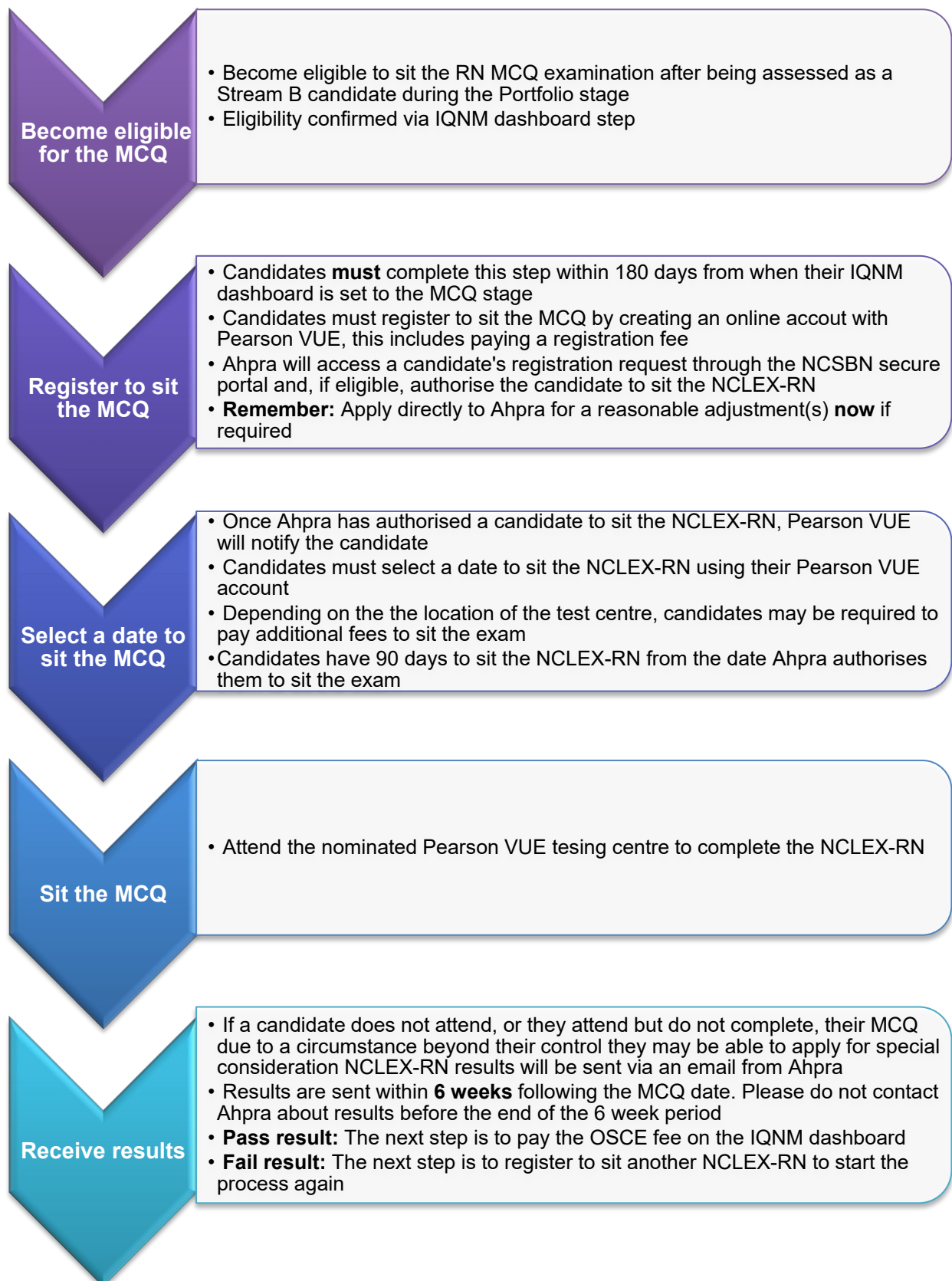
Internationally Qualified Nurse Examinations Committee

The Internationally Qualified Nurse Examinations Committee (IQNEC) is established by the NMAC to help oversee the examination stages of the pre-registration assessment of IQNs. The IQNEC is part of NMAC's arrangements to ensure the examination stages reflect good assessment practice and examination governance.

The IQNEC operate within a policy framework and are accountable to NMAC. Its work is important in managing risks related to the examination stages by facilitating:

- the reliability and validity of examination tools and processes
- the transparency and defensibility of examination results, and
- the consistency across examination sessions.

Registered nurse MCQ candidate process



Overview of the RN MCQ examination

Structure of the RN MCQ examination

The RN MCQ examination is the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). The NCLEX-RN is a computer-based exam and is provided in the computerised adaptive testing (CAT) format. The NCLEX-RN is designed to test knowledge, skills and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level.

Candidates will be given a short tutorial on how to use the computer before starting the exam. The NCLEX-RN can be anywhere from 75 to 265 items. Of these items, 15 are pre-test items that are not scored. Regardless of the number of items administered, the time limit for the exam is five hours.

More information about the structure of the NCLEX-RN can be found on the [What the NCLEX Looks Like](#) page of the NCSNB website.

Scoring the NCLEX-RN

Most NCLEX-RN items are multiple-choice but there are other formats as well. All item types are scored as either right or wrong and there is no partial credit.

NCLEX-RN testing locations

The NCLEX-RN is delivered at dedicated Pearson VUE test centres in most countries. Candidates can locate a test centre using the Locate a Test Centre button on the [Testing Locations](#) page of the NCLEX website.

Key NCLEX-RN contacts

Activity	Who to contact
Scheduling or changing an appointment online	Pearson VUE portal
Scheduling or changing an appointment via telephone	Pearson VUE Candidate Services
Requesting a reasonable adjustment	IQNM Exams Team
Authority to test (ATT) enquiries	
• Release of ATT, changes to dates	Pearson VUE Candidate Services
• Processing and extensions ¹	IQNM Exams Team
Release of results (after 6 weeks)	IQNM Exams Team

¹ Extensions are only available to candidates under extenuating circumstances defined in the [ATT extensions](#) section of this handbook.

Before the examination

Registering to sit the NCLEX-RN examination



- Candidates **must** complete this step within 180 days from when their IQNM dashboard is set to the MCQ stage
- Candidates must register to sit the MCQ by creating an online account with Pearson VUE, this includes paying a registration fee
- Ahpra will access a candidate's registration request through the NCSBN secure portal and, if eligible, authorise the candidate to sit the NCLEX-RN
- **Remember:** Apply directly to Ahpra for a reasonable adjustment(s) **now** if required

Candidates must register and pay an NCLEX registration fee to Pearson VUE. Information about how to register with Pearson VUE can be found on the [Registration](#) page of the NCLEX website.

Registration is only valid for one exam sitting. If a candidate needs to re-sit the exam, a new registration must be submitted. It is important that candidates do not submit duplicate registrations for the same nursing regulation body because they will not be able to receive a refund for duplicate registration fees. See the [Refunds](#) section of this handbook.

Once candidates register, the Ahpra IQNM Exams Team will verify the candidate's information and, if eligible, authorise them to sit the examination. After Ahpra authorises candidates to sit the examination, Pearson VUE will email the candidate to confirm they have been authorised to sit the examination and provide information about how to schedule their exam.

Candidate registration information

When creating a Pearson VUE profile to register for the NCLEX-RN, candidates must make sure that the following information entered in the profile exactly matches the information in their Ahpra profile. Candidates can review and update their Ahpra profile by logging into their Ahpra portal.

- Name: The candidate's name must be spelt exactly as written on their passport as much as possible within the character limitations in the Pearson VUE system. For instance:
 - First name field: **(Limit: 15 Characters)** The candidate's first name(s) and middle name(s) must be entered in the order that they appear on their passport. It does not matter if the additional name(s) are cut off or only partly recorded because of the character limitation in the Pearson VUE system, as long as they have recorded as much of the name(s) as possible within the field.
 - Last name field: **(Limit: 22 characters)** If the candidate has a last name, it must be entered in the order that appears on their passport. It does not matter if the additional name(s) are cut off or only partly recorded because of the character limitation in the Pearson VUE system, as long as they have recorded as much of the name(s) as possible within the field.
- Contact information: Residential address, phone number and email address
- Graduation date field: The graduate date is the month and year the candidate completed all components of their qualification, which may not be the same as the date they were awarded the qualification.

Candidates who do not enter their details into the Pearson VUE profile exactly as it displays on their Ahpra profile **will experience** processing delays with their authorisation to test while Ahpra reconciles their details with them.

Examination fees

The NCLEX-RN fees are set by the NCSBN. Each registration fee is unique to an exam sitting. Fee information can be found on the [Fees & Payments](#) page of the NCLEX website.

Refunds

Ahpra cannot help candidates receive a refund of fees paid to sit the NCLEX-RN examination. The NCLEX refunds policy can be found on the [Fees & Payments](#) page of the NCLEX website.

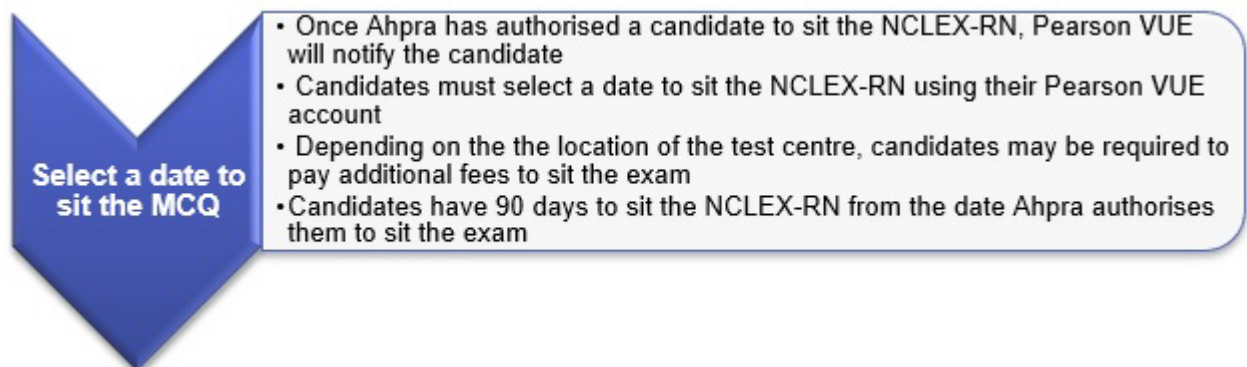
Reasonable adjustments

Reasonable adjustments, referred to by Pearson VUE as testing accommodations, are special arrangements for the administration of the exam to provide candidates with disabilities either physical and/or mental impairment, full access to the exam where possible and appropriate. Adjustments will only be made in line with the inherent requirements for nursing practice in Australia and must not compromise the integrity of the exam. The expected level of competence is the same for all candidates and cannot change as part of a reasonable adjustment arrangement.

Immediately after registering for the NCLEX-RN examination with Pearson VUE, and before Ahpra authorises the candidate to sit the exam, candidates must submit their request for reasonable adjustment to Ahpra. Alternatively, if the candidate's circumstances change after Ahpra authorises them to sit the exam, they must apply for a reasonable adjustment as soon as possible after their circumstances change and no later than 21 calendar days before the scheduled examination date.

For more information about reasonable adjustments, including what adjustments are available for the exam, how to apply, when to apply and evidence requirements, see the Board's [Reasonable adjustments policy](#).

Scheduling or changing an examination



- Once Ahpra has authorised a candidate to sit the NCLEX-RN, Pearson VUE will notify the candidate
- Candidates must select a date to sit the NCLEX-RN using their Pearson VUE account
- Depending on the the location of the test centre, candidates may be required to pay additional fees to sit the exam
- Candidates have 90 days to sit the NCLEX-RN from the date Ahpra authorises them to sit the exam

Candidates can schedule their exam appointment after they have received an authorisation to test (ATT) email from Pearson VUE. Information about how to schedule or change an exam appointment can be found on the [Scheduling](#) page of the NCLEX website.

Authorisation to take (ATT) validity period

The ATT is valid for 90 days from the date Ahpra authorises the candidate to sit the exam. Candidates must sit their exam within this timeframe. If candidates fail to sit their exam within the 90 days, they will need to re-register and pay the fees again.

ATT extensions

The 90-day ATT validity period may be extended in extenuating circumstances with approval by Ahpra. Candidates must have booked their NCLEX-RN exam date and provide supporting evidence to substantiate their reason for requesting an extension. The supporting evidence must connect the extenuating circumstance to the confirmed exam date.

Possible circumstances that are unplanned and beyond a candidate's control include:

- acute illness or injury (such as hospital admission, onset of serious and/or infectious illness) – the request must include a medical certificate which explicitly states that the candidate was not fit to undertake the exam and the specific date
- loss or bereavement (such as death of close family member) – the request must include appropriate supporting documents or an explanation why these are not included
- hardship or trauma (such as being a victim of crime, severe disruption to domestic life) – the request must include appropriate supporting documents or an explanation why these are not included
- unforeseen call-up for service (such as military service, court appearance, Jury service, emergency service) – the request must include a letter from the relevant authority that includes specific dates
- unforeseen work commitments - the request must include a letter from the candidate's employer with specific dates on company/organisation letterhead
- unforeseen religious or cultural commitments - the request must include appropriate supporting documents such as a letter from a religious or cultural leader
- community emergency such as a natural disaster, bomb threat or similar such event necessitating the evacuation of the examination centre - no supporting documents are required with the request because Ahpra will verify the event.

Missing an exam appointment

If a candidate fails to arrive at their exam appointment or fails to reschedule/unschedule without giving the appropriate notice, they will forfeit their registration and any other exam fee(s) they paid and their ATT will become invalid. Candidates will be required to reregister and pay another registration fee and any applicable exam fee(s). Failure to take the exam will be noted in their registration as an incident report and will be made accessible to the IQNM Exams Team.

Examination preparation test plans

Candidates are encouraged to review the NCLEX test plans before their exam appointment. The test plans serve as blueprints to outline the content to be tested and guide the item writing process.

The test plans may include questions related to midwifery and practice specific to the United States of America. These questions do not appear in the question set candidates may receive when authorised by Ahpra to take the exam.

The current NCLEX test plan can be downloaded from the [Test Plans](#) page of the NCLEX website.

RN MCQ examination candidate rules

A candidate who breaches the general rules or test centre rules will be managed under the [IQNM assessment process misconduct policy](#).

General rules

Candidates must understand the below RN MCQ examination candidate rules, which apply at **all stages** of the RN MCQ examination process. By sitting the exam, candidate inherently agree to these rules.

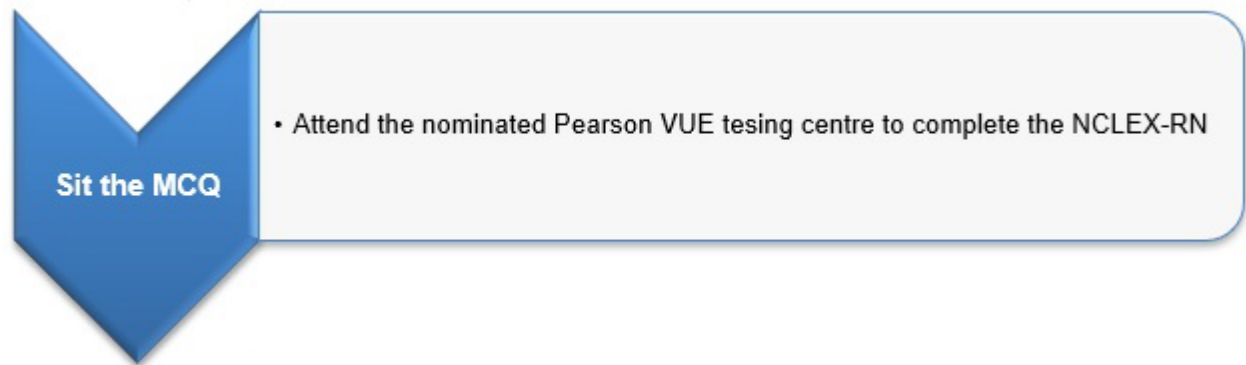
1. Candidates may not disclose or discuss with anyone, including instructors, information about the items or answers seen in the examination (this includes posting or discussing questions on the internet, social media, and any other online forums).
2. Candidates may not reconstruct examination items using the memory of their exam or the memory of others. Candidates may not copy or reconstruct examination items during or following their examination for any reason.
3. Candidates must not assist other candidates, including taking any action that gives or attempts to give them or another candidate an unfair advantage in the examination.
4. Candidates must not seek help from any other party in answering items (in person, by phone, text or by email) during the examination (including breaks).
5. Candidates must not allow, induce or assist any other person to present for examination in their place.
6. Candidates must not present for the examination in another candidate's place.
7. Candidates must obey and observe all proper instructions or directions given by the Test Administrator.
8. Candidates must provide reasonable assistance to any investigation by the IQNM exam team in relation to a suspected breach of RN MCQ examination candidate rules or any other investigation that needs to be conducted.
9. Candidates attending a RN MCQ examination will be provided with the necessary materials and equipment.
10. Candidates must not possess mobile phones and electronic devices that are capable of storing, receiving or transmitting information or electronic signals, such as recorded music and video players, organisers, dictionaries and computerised watches, during a RN MCQ examination.
11. Candidates detected with any device defined in rule 10 must, upon the direction of a Test Administrator, surrender that device for inspection.
12. Candidates must not bring into or possess in the examination room any drinks or food, except under special circumstances as approved and directed by a Test Administrator.
13. Candidates must not communicate with any other candidate while the RN MCQ examination is being conducted.
14. Candidates must not cause any nuisance, annoyance or interference to any other candidate during the RN MCQ examination.
15. Candidates must not remove examination items and/or responses (in any format) or notes about the examination from the testing room except where permitted.
16. Candidates must not remove any response material, used or unused, from the examination room.
17. Candidates must not be in possession and/or access any educational, test preparation and/or study materials during the exam time, including during break times.
18. Candidates must raise their hand if they wish to communicate with a Test Administrator.
19. Candidates must not leave their place until permitted by a Test Administrator.
20. Candidates will not be permitted to leave the examination room until permitted by a Test Administrator.
21. Candidates must cease writing when instructed to do so by the Test Administrator.
22. Candidates must remain silent and seated at the end of the RN MCQ examination until response materials have been collected, checked, and an announcement is made permitting candidates to leave the examination room.
23. If candidates witness any of the above behaviour, irregular or unprofessional behaviour that is in violation of the RN MCQ examination candidate rules, candidates are required to report it to the Ahpra IQNM Exams team and comply with any follow up investigation. Suspicious behaviours may be reported to Ahpra IQNM Exams team by emailing IQNMExams@ahpra.gov.au

24. In the event Ahpra and/or NMBA determines a candidate has engaged in any of the above behaviour, candidates may face disciplinary action if involved in examination misconduct in accordance with the [IQNM assessment process misconduct policy](#).

Test centre rules

A current version of the test centre rules can be found on the [NCLEX Rules](#) page of the NCLEX website.

On the examination day



Arriving at the test centre

Candidates should plan to arrive at the examination centre at least 30 minutes before the examination start time. If a candidate is more than 30 minutes late, they may be required to forfeit their NCLEX examination appointment and will be required to reregister and pay another exam fee.

Information about the examination day can be found:

- In the What to expect during your exam section of the [Exam resources and FAQs](#) page published on the Pearson VUE website, and
- On the [Be ready for Exam Day](#) page of the NCLEX website.

Check-in

Candidates will be required to store electronic devices, including cell/mobile/smart phones, tablets, pagers or other electronic devices, in sealable plastic bags provided by Pearson VUE at the test centre. Candidates who refuse to store their electronic devices in the Pearson VUE provided plastic bag upon check-in will not be allowed to test. They will be required to reregister and pay another exam fee for any additional NCLEX appointments.

Occasionally, technical problems may require rescheduling of an exam. If circumstances arise causing a candidate to wait more than 30 minutes after their scheduled appointment time or a restart delay lasts longer than 30 minutes, candidates will be given the choice of continuing to wait or rescheduling their appointment without an additional fee.

Friends, relatives and/or children are not allowed to wait in the test centre or contact candidates while they are taking the examination.

Candidates will be directed to read the [Candidate Statement](#) published on the NCLEX Rules page of the NCLEX website and provide an electronic signature, agreeing to the terms and conditions of the NCLEX.

Identification

Candidates must present a physical identification document which meets the requirements specified on the [Acceptable ID](#) page of the NCLEX website. It is important that the candidate's personal details on their identification match the candidate's details on their Pearson VUE registration or they will be refused entry to sit the exam and will be required to reregister and pay another exam fee.

Personal belongings

Candidates are required to leave their personal belongings outside of the testing room. Small, lockable storage is available. However, candidates are not allowed to access any prohibited personal items at any time during their exam, including breaks. Test centres assume no responsibility for candidate's personal belongings.

Hats, scarves, gloves and coats are not allowed in the testing room. However, provisions have been made for specific religious/cultural apparel.

Candidates will be required to remove any large jewellery or other accessories before entering the testing room.

In the testing room

Equipment

The test administrator (TA) will provide each candidate with an erasable note board that may be replaced as needed during testing. Candidates may not take their own note board, scratch paper or writing instruments into the exam.

Examination time and breaks

Candidates will have up to five hours to complete the RN MCQ examination. The total exam time includes a short tutorial, two pre-programmed optional breaks and any unscheduled breaks a candidate may take.

The first optional break is offered after two hours of testing. The second optional break is offered after three and a half hours of testing. If a candidate chooses to take either of these breaks:

- They must leave the testing room during the whole break time.
- All personal items accessed during breaks, including purses, wallets, etc, maybe inspected by the TA.
- They will be required to provide a palm vein scan before and after their break.
- All breaks count against testing time.

Candidates must not be in possession or have access to educational, test preparation or study materials during examination break times.

Noise

Test centres administer many types of exams including some that require essay-type responses. Test centres have no control over noises made by candidates typing during another exam. Earplugs are available upon request.

Post exam experience questionnaire

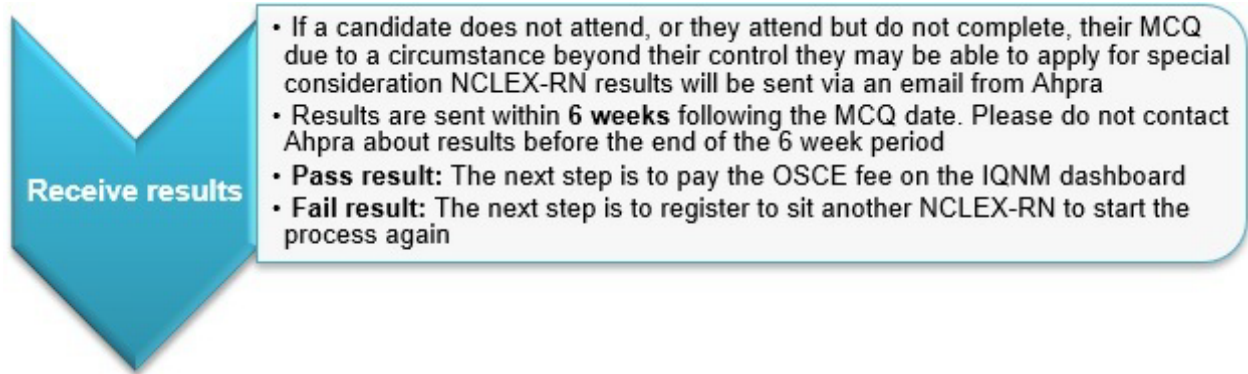
After the exam is finished, candidates will be asked to complete a brief computer questionnaire about their testing experience. When they have finished the questionnaire, they should raise their hand to summon the TA who will collect and inventory all note boards before dismissing the candidate.

Grounds for dismissal or cancellation of results

A candidate who violates the test centre regulations or rules, or engages in irregular behaviour, misconduct and/or does not follow the TA's warning to discontinue inappropriate behaviour may be dismissed from the test centre and their exam fee will not be refunded.

Additionally, a candidate's examination result may be withheld or cancelled, and Ahpra may take other disciplinary action misconduct in accordance with the [IQNM assessment process misconduct policy](#). Behaviours that constitute irregular behaviour or misconduct can be found in the Test Centre & Violations section of the [NCLEX Rules](#) page on the NCLEX website.

After the examination



Special consideration

Candidates can apply for special consideration if they were unable to attend or complete their scheduled MCQ examination due to exceptional circumstances beyond their control. Only those candidates who can demonstrate that adverse events occurred, outside of their control, which prevented them from completing their allocated MCQ examination are eligible for special consideration. A request must be submitted within seven full business days following the candidate's scheduled examination date.

More information about special consideration, including how to apply, deadline to apply, and evidence requirements, can be found in the Board's [Special consideration policy](#).

Examination results

Information about how the examination is scored can be found in the [Scoring the NCLEX-RN](#) section of this handbook.

Although the exam is scored as a candidate completes each item, no results are released at the test centre. Test centre staff do not have access to the exam results.

Examination results will be made available to candidates via email from the IQNM Exams Team approximately six weeks after sitting the exam. If more than six weeks have passed and a candidate has not received their result, they may contact the IQNM Exams Team on IQNMexams@ahpra.gov.au to request their result. Candidates **must not** call Pearson VUE NCLEX Candidate Services, the test centres or NCSBN to request exam results.

Some nursing regulatory bodies in the United States of America allow candidates to access their results after 48 business hours through the quick results service. The quick results service is not available for candidates' authorised by Ahpra to sit the NCLEX-RN.

Double checking results

For quality control purposes, every NCLEX is scored twice. Once by the computer at the test centre and then again after the exam record has been transmitted to Pearson VUE.

Test security and invalid results

NCSBN strives to report results that accurately reflect the ability of each test taker. Accordingly, NCSBN standards and procedures for administering exams have two related goals:

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Ahpra and the National Boards regulate these registered health professions: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice, Chinese medicine, chiropractic, dental, medical, medical radiation practice, midwifery, nursing, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, paramedicine, pharmacy, physiotherapy, podiatry and psychology.

- Giving test takers comparable opportunities to demonstrate their abilities, and
- Preventing any test takers from gaining an unfair advantage over others.

To promote these objectives, NCSBN reserves the right to cancel or withhold any test results when, in its judgement:

- a testing irregularity occurs
- there is an apparent discrepancy in, or falsification of, a test taker's identification
- a test taker engages in misconduct or irregular behaviour
- a test taker violates the candidate rules or otherwise breaches his/her Confidentiality Agreement
- the results are believed to be invalid for any other reason, notwithstanding the absence of any evidence of a candidate's personal involvement in irregular activities.

NCSBN may cancel or withhold a candidate's results if, in NCSBN's judgment, there is a good faith basis to question the validity of the results for any reason, notwithstanding, the absence of any evidence of a candidate's personal involvement in irregular activities. Evidence of invalid results may include, but are not limited to, unusual answer patterns or unusual score increases from one exam to another. If a candidate's result is cancelled, revoked or invalidated without a finding that the candidate engaged in irregular behaviour, the candidate may appeal the decision and/or will be offered a free retest. An appeal is a candidate's exclusive means of redress regarding NCSBN's decision to take this action.

Pass candidates

Candidates who passed the RN MCQ examination are eligible to sit the RN Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). The candidate's IQNM dashboard will reflect their results, which will be updated within one business day of the candidate receiving their result notification by email.

Once the candidate's IQNM dashboard has been updated, they will be able to pay their OSCE fee, which starts the process for sitting the OSCE.

Fail candidates

Candidate Performance Report

Candidates who fail the exam, will receive a NCLEX Candidate Performance Report (CPR). Candidates who fail the exam can use the CPR as a guide to prepare them to re-sit the exam.

What is the Candidate Performance Report (CPR)?

The NCLEX CPR is an individualized, two-page document sent to a candidate if they fail the NCLEX-RN. If a candidate did not answer at least 60 questions, then they will receive an abbreviated CPR, which tells them how many questions were answered and how many are required to be evaluated. No further diagnostic information is provided.

What can the CPR tell me about my exam?

On the front side of the CPR, candidates are given a brief explanation about how Computerized Adaptive Testing (CAT) works, how many items they answered, and some suggestions on how to use the information on the second side of the page. The number of questions they answered is an indication of how close they were to the passing standard. Only those candidates whose performance was close to the passing standard had to answer the maximum number of questions, which is 130 questions. For candidates whose performance was further away from the passing standard, fewer items were required before a confident pass or fail decision could be made.

The second page of the CPR provides information regarding a candidate's performance within the 8 NCLEX Test Plan content areas of the exam. The content areas are grouped by the quality of the candidate's performance (ability): "Below the Passing Standard," "Near the Passing Standard" or "Above the Passing Standard." Next to each content area (called "Client Subneed") is a description of the content area, its percentage of the test, and a list of topics related to the content area. These descriptions can be used to determine in which areas of the Test Plan a candidate has shown the greatest weakness and as a guide to prepare when they re-sit the exam. Candidates should concentrate first in those areas listed

under "Below the Passing Standard" and work up to those areas listed in "Near the Passing Standard." Furthermore, even though their ability for a given content area may indicate that it is above the passing standard, these areas should be studied as well in order to maintain proficiency.

This report is only intended to provide indications of a candidate's strengths and weaknesses. The NCLEX is not graded in sections. Only overall performance on the exam determines a candidate's pass/fail status.

An example of a NCLEX-RN CPR can be found on the [Candidate Performance Report](#) page of the NCLEX website.

Resitting the NCLEX-RN

Candidates who have failed the RN MCQ examination and wish to re-sit the examination are required to wait a minimum of 45 days between each examination in accordance with the [IQNM Exam Policy - Examination re-sits](#).

To re-sit the examination, candidates must start the process again. [See Registering to sit the NCLEX-RN examination](#) section of this handbook.

Examination procedural review

Candidates who sit the RN MCQ examination can contact NCSBN directly to apply for a procedural review of their MCQ examination or to submit a complaint in accordance with the Board's [Examination procedural review policy](#).

In accordance with the NCLEX FAQs, candidates have two weeks from their examination date to contact the NCSBN to report any problems or complaints regarding the NCLEX and/or its administration. Candidates should not wait to receive their exam result to contact NCSBN. More information, including NCSBN contact details can be found in the NCLEX FAQs published on the [Exam Results](#) page of the NCLEX website.

Nurse and Midwife Support

The Nurse and Midwife Support service is a free and confidential service available to all nurses and midwives registered in Australia. MCQ examination candidates, whether residing in Australia or overseas, are also eligible to access this support service while they are participating in the Board's IQNM Assessment Process.

The service can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week at <https://www.nmsupport.org.au/accessing-support>.