

Pre-Admission Examination (PAX-RN)

Overview of the NLN Pre-Admission Exam (PAX)

The National League for Nursing Pre Admission Examination (NLN PAX) for registered nursing programs "PAX-RN" is a standardized entrance exam for potential nursing students who seek admittance into nursing schools nationwide.

Northwest State Community College is requiring students to take the pre admission exam and receive a score \geq 50th percentile for each of the three areas tested in order to be admitted to the nursing program. It is recommended that students complete the admission requirements of Biology, Chemistry, MTH 090 and any developmental English courses needed prior to attempting the pre admission exam.

The NLN PAX-RN is comprised of three main areas: Verbal skills, which consist of both word knowledge and reading comprehension; Mathematics, which includes basic calculations, word problems, and incorporates algebra, geometry, conversions, graphs, and applied mathematics; and Science, which examines general biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science.

Each Pre-Admission Exam includes three one-hour multiple-choice tests. (Exams contain experimental items for purposes of future test development. These items are not included in the examinees' scores.) The first section is Verbal Ability, followed by Mathematics and Science. The entire NLN PAX must be taken during one session.

Sample NLN PAX Questions (*correct answers identified)

Verbal Ability

The staff inferred from the manager's remarks that their work was performed satisfactorily.

To infer means to make

- A. An allusion
- B. An error
- C. A proposal
- D. A deduction*

Mathematics

An equal-arm balance is leveled when 20 washers are on one side and 10 bolts are on the other. Four bolts are added to one side. How many washers must be added to the other side to maintain balance?

- A. 2
- B. 8*
- C. 4
- D. 14

Solve $2.76 \times 1.04 =$

- A. 2.67
- B. 2.87*
- C. 3.04

Science

What type of immunity is present when the body develops antibodies after illness?

- A. Natural.*
- B. Inborn.
- C. Passive.
- D. Artificial.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can take the NLN PAX?

The NLN PAX-RN is open to individuals applying for admission to an RN nursing program that requires the NLN PAX test score report and to interested individuals considering a career in nursing.

How can I study for the PAX-RN?

To help you study for the PAX-RN, the NLN offers the following book, *NLN Review Guide for RN Pre-Entrance Exam*, which provides an overview of the verbal, math, and science content necessary for admission to RN programs in nursing. The book contains approximately 1,000 practice questions and features three practice exams in each of the three content areas: verbal ability, math and science. The book also includes helpful tips for test preparation and for becoming a more effective learner and test taker. *The NLN Review Guide for RN Pre-Entrance Exam* is available in the Northwest State Community College bookstore or directly through Jones & Bartlett Publishers.

Registration - How much does the exam cost and are refunds given?

The cost of taking the exam at Northwest State Community College is \$60.00. You will register and pay for the exam at www.nlnonlinetesting.org. You need to register and set up an account. Click on Create Account button to create an account. After you create an account, you must click on the Registration Store button to register for the exam. Make sure to register for the correct exam-**RN Pre-Admission Exam**. Please read through the exam policies on this site. The NLN does not issue refunds for this exam. **You can apply for **ADA special accommodations**: see information on NLN website.

How do I pay for the exam?

Forms of payment include major credit cards such as VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. Money orders are accepted when paying at least 10 days before the registration closes. Personal checks are NOT accepted.

Where is the NLN PAX administered?

The NLN PAX is used by many nursing schools to help determine an individual's readiness for entry into an RN program. Test dates will be available at Northwest State Community College throughout the year. **There is limited seating (40) available for each testing period, so be sure and register in advance to assure a seat.**

Who receives the test scores and how do I know if I passed?

You can access your online exam score immediately from your testing account. Once the test is completed just refresh the welcome page and click on Review Exam. Each school sets its own admission standards. The passing standard at Northwest State Community College is $\geq 50^{\text{th}}$ percentile on all the areas tested. The NLN is not involved in this process, nor does the NLN establish a "passing" or "failing" mark on the test. Test results show how your scores compare with those of other applicants who have taken this examination.

What if I don't pass the exam?

Students may retake the NLN pre admission exam ONE time only. You must wait six months after the original exam before retesting.

When and where is the NLN PAX to be administered at Northwest State Community College?

Date - Time – Northwest State Community College	<u>Last day to register****No Registration on Site</u>
October 19, 2012 1 pm- 5 pm	October 16, 2012
December 17, 2012 9 am – 1 pm	December 12, 2012
February 15, 2013 1 pm-5 pm	February 12, 2013
April 19, 2013 1 pm-5 pm	April 16, 2013
June 21, 2013 9 am-1 pm	June 18, 2013

What should I bring to the exam session?

A printed copy of your "Exam Confirmation"
Student photo ID
NO CALCULATORS
Bring pencils with erasers

It is important that you arrive at least 10 minutes prior to exam time. The testing session starts promptly with 15-20 minutes of pre-test instructions and registration information and students cannot be admitted once the session starts.

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