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## Overview

eNLC	No
Temporary license	Yes
Nursys participation	Yes

## Fees

Prescriptive authority	Yes
Endorsement application fee	\$350
Temporary license	\$100
Fingerprint card (Out of state)	\$49

## Timing

Permanent license	10-12 weeks
Temporary license	2-3 weeks

Ensuring you or your providers become licensed Registered Nurses (RN) in California doesn't have to be an intimidating process. With the right planning and understanding of each step, it can be an exciting journey toward a rewarding career for your providers and growth for your organization.

Our guide will walk you through the fees, timelines, renewal processes and key things to know to get an RN license in the Golden State.

## License renewals

### Cadence: Every two birth-years

Keeping your license active is just as important as getting it. Your first California RN license is issued for two birthdays, not two years, and will expire the last day of the month following your birth date. From that date on, it will expire every two years, if renewed timely.

### Renewal fee

The fee to renew is \$190.

### Required contact hours

There's a requirement of 30 contact hours of continuing education within the renewal period.

### Where to renew

Renewals are done through [BreEZe Online](#). Registered nurses are responsible for renewing their licenses even if they do not receive a renewal notice.

### Provider work status

Your provider can work while their license is pending, provided the renewal fees have been submitted on time and renewal requirements are met.



## For a permanent license

### Application submission

Begin by submitting an application online and paying the necessary fee. Although there's an option to mail in your application packet, the Board highly recommends the online process for its speed and efficiency. Note: for California, you can apply for RN and NP simultaneously.

\*When applying for an NP license, select "Apply for Furnishing License" (no fee). If not, you will have to pay a \$400 fee to apply for a furnishing license at a later time.

### Licensure verification

If your original state of licensure and current state of employment participate in Nursys, you can request licensure verification through it. If they don't, reach out to that state's Board of Nursing and request that they send verification to the California Board of Nursing.

### Transcript submission

Your education verification is a crucial step in your licensure process.

<b>For California graduates</b>	Approved California nursing programs will send your transcripts electronically to the Board upon your program's completion.
<b>For out-of-state graduates</b>	If you studied in another state, you can have a certified third-party vendor, such as Parchment or National Student Clearinghouse, send your transcripts electronically to the Board. You can also have them sent directly from your school to <a href="mailto:brn.etranscripts@dca.ca.gov">brn.etranscripts@dca.ca.gov</a> .
<b>For international graduates</b>	If your provider attended a nursing program abroad, their official transcripts need to be sent to the Board by mail.

## For a temporary license

If you desire a provisional license while your permanent one is being processed, indicate this in your application. Temporary permits, valid for six months, allow you to begin practicing during the waiting period.



## Three tips to know

1

### Disclosure

The California Board of Registered Nursing takes full disclosure seriously. Be sure to disclose any convictions or disciplinary actions, even if they've been expunged.

Foreign nursing school graduates may face additional requirements, like English proficiency exams and educational evaluation from an approved agency.

While all nurses must pass an initial national exam (NCLEX), obtaining license to practice can vary greatly from state to state. For California, an Interim Permit may be issued while you await NCLEX-RN results. It is valid for six months and becomes invalid once your NCLEX-RN results are received.

2

### Application processing

Initial evaluation of an application must be completed within 90 days of receipt of application. They are also processed in the order that they are received.

It takes around 10-12 weeks for the California Board of Registered Nursing to process applications and issue permanent licenses. But you can opt for a temporary license, which takes around 2-3 weeks, to potentially begin practicing sooner.

It's worth mentioning that processing timelines are subject to change and contacting the Board for application status while within these timeframes may cause processing delays. For updates on processing times be sure to keep a close eye on the [Board's website](#).

3

### Digital fingerprinting

For California residents: A crucial step in your application is a background check with fingerprints. Digital fingerprinting at a designated site within the state is available. For non-California residents or those unable to access digital fingerprinting services, the manual fingerprinting method using an FD-258 card is an alternative.





# Evaluating which states to license in and finding your strategic advantage

## Things to consider

When determining which states to pursue medical licensure in, it's essential to weigh the potential benefits against the complexity and cost of the process. For instance, while California offers a vast and diverse patient population and numerous professional opportunities, it's also known as one of the more challenging states for licensing due to its rigorous requirements and extended processing times.

If you're seeking a quicker return on investment or wish to practice sooner, you might consider states with a more streamlined licensing process.

On the other hand, if you're aiming to position yourself in a competitive market with vast opportunities, the investment in a California license might prove advantageous in the long run. Evaluate your long-term goals, available resources and timeframe to strategically choose your licensing paths.

## Getting RN licensure in California is simplified with Medallion

If you and your providers are pursuing licensure as a Registered Nurse in California, you need more than just a step-by-step checklist: you need Medallion.

Medallion makes it easy to navigate the licensure process for healthcare professionals. We help keep you on track and compliant with all state-specific requirements and regulations.

With Medallion, obtaining your RN license becomes a streamlined process. We assist with the completion of necessary documentation, guide you through the application process and provide resources

for continuing education requirements - all from one centralized platform. Learn more and get in touch [here](#).

Remember to stay organized, be patient and always keep up-to-date with the California Board of Registered Nursing's latest guidelines. Good luck!

