

## Alberta Licensed Practical Nurses Competence Examination

The Alberta Licensed Practical Nurses Competence Examination (ALPNCE) is designed to assess current knowledge, skills, and attitudes of applicants seeking Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) registration within the province of Alberta. The exam is designed to assess an applicant's competency level in comparison to that of a recent graduate of a College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) approved Practical Nursing Program of Alberta.

### Who is ALPNCE for?

ALPNCE is for applicants with a nursing credential for whom the CLPNA is seeking evidence of sufficient equivalency or prior learning. You may be referred to ALPNCE if you are:

- An internationally educated graduate of a nursing education program outside of Canada
- A previously registered LPN or RPN in any jurisdiction or province in Canada
- An out of province Canadian educated graduate seeking registration for the first time and within Alberta
- Seeking LPN registration reinstatement within Alberta

### What is the format of the exam?

The exam is completed over a single day and takes place at the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

ALPNCE consists of two parts:

1. Knowledge-based Multiple-Choice Question (MCQ) Exam
  - Up to 90 questions, 139 minutes
2. Performance-based Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)
  - Up to 10 stations, 130 minutes
  - Examinees rotate through a series of timed stations that simulate clinical interactions with highly trained standardized patients. These interactions are scored by LPN examiners using a standardized rating tool and predefined competencies.

### Why take ALPNCE?

If you are eligible to complete ALPNCE, it may be the quickest route for you to become or be reinstated as an LPN in Alberta. After completing the exam, your results will be shared with the CLPNA registration committee for next steps, and you will receive an individualized report that provides a profile of your strengths and weaknesses based on your performance in the exam.

### How Do I Register?

To register for this exam, you must obtain a referral from CLPNA ([registration@clpna.com](mailto:registration@clpna.com)). Once you have been approved to challenge the exam, CLPNA will provide your information to Touchstone Institute (the exam administrators), who will send an official invitation with instructions to register and submit payment. The exam fee is CAN\$ 2,250.

To learn more about what an OSCE is and what to expect on the test day, you can visit the [Touchstone Institute](#) website and access the [Examination Blueprint](#) and [Examinee Orientation](#).