



New Mexico Board of Nursing

CERTIFIED MEDICATION AIDE REQUIREMENTS APPLICANTS CERTIFIED IN ANOTHER STATE

16.12.5 NMAC – Medication Aides

Individuals who have practiced as medication aides in other states or who have been certified in another state may apply for certification in the state of New Mexico if they:

- (1) provide a current CMA certificate from another state;
- (2) submit written verification of 100 hours as a medication aide during the 24 month period immediately preceding request to become certified in New Mexico directly to the board by their employer;
- (3) provide written verification by the board approved agency, on agency letterhead, of successful completion of 20 hours of supervised clinical practice, skills list, and the final examination results;
- (4) successfully complete the board's medication aide certification examination with a score of eighty percent or better;
 - (a) upon completion of requirements identified in Paragraphs (1) through (3) of Subsection F of 16.12.5.9 NMAC the medication aide must apply within six months to take the next available board approved medication aide certification examination; an initial certification by examination application with fee must be submitted, processed and accepted by the board according to examination required deadline;
 - (b) upon successful completion of the examination with a score of eighty percent or higher a certificate will be mailed to the medication aide;
 - (c) failure to successfully pass the medication aide certification examination shall require the medication aide to complete a board approved training program curriculum in its entirety.

They must also meet the following prerequisites:

- Be a high school graduate or complete the general education development course or provide proof of higher education
- Possess a current CPR card

Supporting documents are part of the application; failure to submit them will delay an applicant's eligibility to sit for the exam. Review the following items to expedite processing your application.

- **Online application.** The online application can be accessed from the Board of Nursing (BON) home page under *Online Services: Exam/ReExam/Endorsement Application*.
- **High school diploma, GED or proof of higher education.** Higher education refers to graduation from an institution of higher learning such as a community college or university.
- **Current CPR card.** If a CPR card has a line for the holder's signature, the applicant must be sure to submit a signed copy. Unsigned card copies will not meet the requirement.
- **Attestation of eligibility (written verification).** This document is prepared by the nurse educator and verifies that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements. It must be submitted directly to the Board of Nursing by the nurse educator.
- **International graduates** are required to submit an evaluation completed by a board-approved evaluation company to confirm that their degree is equivalent to a US degree. Approved evaluation companies can be found at this link: <http://nmbon.sks.com/initial-exam.aspx>. See Step 3. Note: The *Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools* only handles nursing degrees. Applicants may choose to obtain a GED in lieu of providing an evaluation of their international degree.

- **Name verification documentation.** If the applicant's name on a supporting document does not match the name on his/her application, they must also submit to the BON a document that will link and verify them, such as a marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court order.

Questions about individual exam applications. Applicants who have questions about the status of their applications should submit them through the message center in their Nurse Portal accounts.