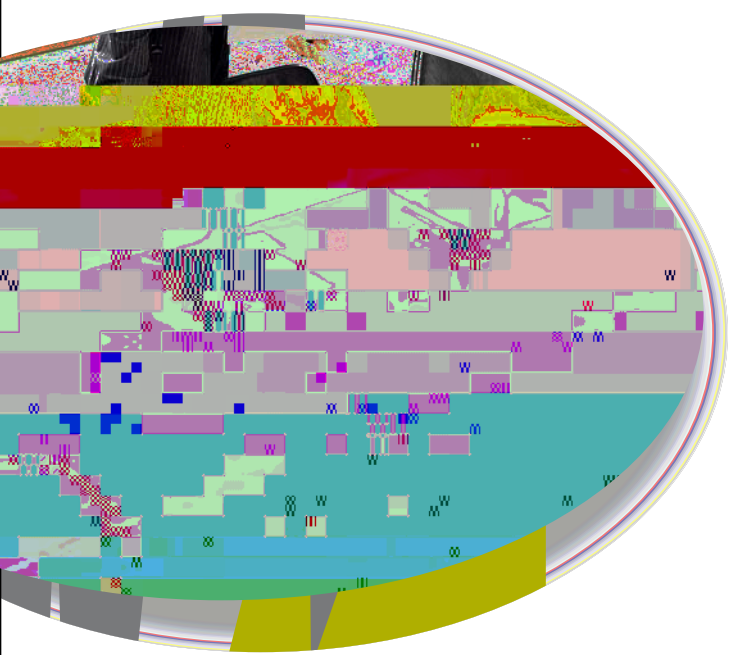


Geordina Odom, an LPN from Illinois



Q: Do the states differ with regard to their requirements for approving (some states call it "accrediting") nursing programs?

A: Yes. While there are many similarities among states, there are also some differences. To assist the board of nursing in achieving its intent, NCSBN has developed model administrative rules and a model practice act (available on the NCSBN Website at www.ncsbn.org). The model rules were designed for use as a guideline, and the board has the potential to be helpful to the board of nursing. The 2002 Profile of Member Board identifies some of the differences among states. Please note: the numbers below may be slightly different because of changes since 2002.

Of the 60 boards of nursing, 58 approve/accrédit prelicensure nursing programs.

20 boards approve RN-baccalaureate completion programs; 22 boards approve/accrédit direct master's programs; 17 boards approve/accrédit direct doctoral programs; and 17 boards approve/accrédit graduate nursing programs.

Approval/accréditation is granted in terms ranging from 1-10 years. Of the 60 boards, the board is eligible for national accreditation by NLNAC or CCNE.

45 boards elect a certification portfolio to the NCLEX. The other 15 boards do not. The other 15 boards do not elect a certification portfolio to the NCLEX. The other 15 boards do not elect a certification portfolio to the NCLEX. The other 15 boards do not elect a certification portfolio to the NCLEX.

