



Change Advisory: NPA Updates to Division 31 (and repeal of Division 53)

Details

On January 1, 2026, amended Chapter 851 Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Division 31 Licensure Requirements for Nurses go into effect. Amendments made align the OARs with requirements of House Bill 3044 (2025) and consolidate all nurse licensure requirements under one OAR Division. These amendments will impact all licensure applicants.

This Change Advisory is for informational purposes only. Readers are encouraged to access OAR 851-031 directly at www.oregon.gov/osbn/Pages/laws-rules.

Summary

Division 31		
Rule Number	Pre 2026 Rule Summary	Jan. 1, 2026, Updates
Division Title	Standards for Licensure of Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses	License Requirements for Nurses – reflecting the addition of APRNs.
031-0006 (Amended)	General Eligibility Requirements for All Initial Applications for License, License Renewal, and License Reactivation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limits eligibility for those with discipline in another jurisdiction. List minimum scores for nursing examinations. 	Initial Licensure by Examination – Practical Nurse (PN) and Registered Nurse (RN) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidates U.S./international pathways. Defines credential evaluation components and when it is required. Establish a remediation plan if the NCLEX is not passed in four attempts.
031-0008 (New Rule)		Competency Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 1, 2028, Renewal cycle continuing education (CE). Specific CE hour requirements for Reinstatement, Disciplinary Reinstatement, and Emeritus. All applicants must complete pain management and cultural competency CE. (Reference CE Chart)

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031-0039 (Amend)	Licensure by Endorsement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have either 400 hours of practice or graduated from a nursing program in last 2 years. Primary source verification of passing the NCLEX and transcript Internationally educated applicants are required to provide a Board-approved credential evaluation. 	Initial Licensure by Endorsement – PN and RN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed practice hours requirement. Clarifies proof of graduation includes an official transcript or for international applicants without an NCLEX code, a credential evaluation. Requires CE as in OAR 851-031-0008.
031-0042 (New Rule)	Formerly held in Division 53	Initial Licensure – APRN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official Transcript for all applicants. National certification for CRNA and NPs. Internationally educated applicants must provide a credential evaluation.
031-0043 (New Rule)	Formerly held in Division 53	Prescriptive and Dispensing Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education must show 45 CEs in pharmacology and clinical education. Pre-2011 graduates may qualify with continuous APRN licensure and full authority in another U.S Jurisdiction.
031-0048 (Amend)	Renewal of License <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must meet practice hour requirement. Late Renewal is processed up to 30 days past license expiration. Renew on birthday after initial application. 	Renewal of License <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed practice hours requirement Nurses may renew up to 90 days past license expiration date. Nursing licenses are valid for 2 years from the issue date. Effective January 1, 2028, requires CE as stated in OAR 851-031-0008.
031-0051 (Amend)	License Reactivation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> License reactivation is required if license has been expired for more than 30 calendar days. Show evidence of practice hours based on time since expiration of license. If unable to meet practice hour requirement, must complete re-entry per OAR 851-031-0061. 	License Reinstatement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replaces term “reactivation” with “reinstatement.” Applies to applicants who have a license that has been expired for more than 90 days. Requires CE hours as in OAR 851-031-0008.
031-0055 (Amend)	License Reinstatement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligibility is based upon Board order for revocation or voluntary surrender. 	Disciplinary Reinstatement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligibility is based upon Board order for revocation or voluntary surrender, but new term is disciplinary reinstatement.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a re-entry per OAR 851-031-0061. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires CE as in OAR 851-031-0008. Subject to requirements of OAR 851-001-0015.
031-0087 (Amend)	Nurse Emeritus License <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attest to 12 hours of continuing nursing education in the past 12 months. License is valid for one year from the date of issue. 	Nurse Emeritus License <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires CE hours as in OAR 851-031-0008. Nurse emeritus license is valid for two years from the issue date.

Division 53		
Rule Number	Pre 2026 Rule Summary	Jan. 1, 2026, Updates
053-0005, -0010, -0015, -0020, -0025, -0030, -0035 (Repeal)	APRN licensure requirements. Prescriptive Privilege and Dispensing Authority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repealed all Division 53. APRN licensure requirements, prescriptive privilege and dispensing authority amended into Division 31.