

Requirements for Nursing Licensure

The Board of Nursing is concerned about the number of individuals with criminal conviction histories who apply for licensure as registered nurses. The Board's concern stems from the fact that nurses care for clients and families in a variety of settings where there may be no direct supervision. Individuals to whom care is given are often vulnerable, both physically and emotionally. The nurse has access to personal information about the patient and/or his/her family, has access to the client's property, and provides intimate care to the client.

The Board believes that persons who receive nursing care in Tennessee should be able to have confidence that an individual licensed by the Board does not have a history of mistreatment, neglect, violence, cheating, defrauding the public or otherwise taking advantage of another person. The Board will presume that an applicant is not entitled to licensure, and will therefore deny any application for initial licensure, temporary permit, or renewal following the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act to a person who has been convicted, and on which conviction the time for appeal has expired, as an adult of any of the following crimes within five (5) years preceding said application of renewal:

- a. Aggravated Assault, as in T.C.A. 39-13-102;
- b. First degree Murder, as in T.C.A. 39-13-202;
- c. Second degree Murder, as in T.C.A. 39-13-207;
- d. Voluntary Manslaughter, as in T.C.A. 39-13-211;
- e. False Imprisonment, as in T.C.A. 39-13-302;
- f. Kidnapping, as in T.C.A. 39-1-303;
- g. Aggravated Kidnapping, as in T.C.A. 39-13-304;
- h. Especially Aggravated Kidnapping, as in T.C.A. 39-13-305;
- i. Robbery, as in T.C.A. 39-13-401;
- j. Aggravated Robbery, as in T.C.A. 39-13-402;
- k. Especially Aggravated Robbery, as in T.C.A. 39-13-403;
- l. Aggravated Rape, as in T.C.A. 39-13-502;
- m. Rape, as in T.C.A. 39-13-504;
- n. Aggravated Sexual Battery, as in T.C.A. 39-13-504;
- o. Sexual Battery, as in T.C.A. 39-13-505;
- p. Statutory Rape, as in T.C.A. 39-15-506;
- q. Theft of Property, as in T.C.A. 39-14-103 or of services, as in T.C.A. 39-14-104, except as to be a Class A misdemeanor, as in T.C.A. 39-14 105(1);
- r. Forgery, as in T.C.A. 39-14-114;
- s. Falsifying of Educational and Academic records, as in T.C.A. 39-14 136;
- t. Arson, as in T.C.A. 39-14-301;
- u. Aggravated arson, as in 39-14-302;
- v. Burglary, as in T.C.A. 39-14-402;
- w. Aggravated Burglary, as in T.C.A. 39-14-404;
- x. Incest, as in T.C.A. 39-15-302;
- y. Aggravated Child Abuse, as in TC.A. 39-15-402;
- z. Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, a in T,C.A. 39-17-1003;
- aa. Aggravated Sexual Exploitation of a Minor as in T.C.A. 39 -17 1004;
- bb. Especially Aggravated Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, as in T.C.A. 39-17-100
- cc. Assisted Suicide, as in T.C.A.

39-13-216;
dd. Rape of a child, as in T.C.A.
39-13-522.

The Board of Nursing will also deny an application for initial licensure, temporary permit, or renewal, following the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, to persons who were convicted as a juvenile of the following crimes within five (5) years preceding said application or renewal:

- a. First Degree Murder, as in T.C.A.
39-13-202;
- b. Second Degree Murder, as in T.C.A.
39-13-207;
- c. Kidnapping, as in T.C.A. 39-13-207;
- d. Aggravated Kidnapping, as in T.C.A.
29-13-304;
- e. Especially Aggravated Kidnapping, as
in T.C.A. 39-13-305;
- f. Aggravated Robbery, as in T.C.A.
39-13-402;
- g. Especially Aggravated Robbery, as in
T.C.A. 39-13-403;
- h. Aggravated Rape, as in T.C.A.
39-13-502;
- i. Rape, as in T.C.A. 39-13-503.

Any individual who applies for initial licensure, temporary permit, or licensure renewal and supplies false or incomplete information regarding the individual's criminal record to the Board on an application for licensure will be denied said initial licensure, temporary permit, or renewal.