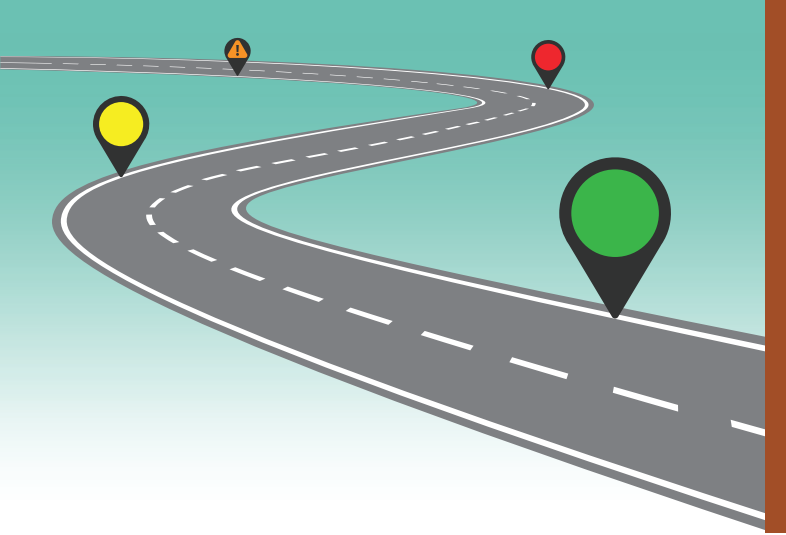


A photograph of a nurse in teal scrubs holding a blue stethoscope. The background is a blurred hospital hallway. A graphic of a winding road with white dashed lines is overlaid on the bottom right of the page.

APPLYING FOR A NURSING LICENSE WITH PRIOR CONVICTIONS APPLICATION ROADMAP

Applying for an RN or LVN license for the first time or via Endorsement from out of state with any prior arrests or convictions is a confusing road to navigate. The BRN and BVNPT have very specific requirements for disclosing prior arrests and convictions, but the "what, when, and how" are often hard to determine. RN Guardian's legal experts and attorneys have put together this Application Road Map. It will help you navigate the twists and turns of applying for your nursing license or a nursing program.

Please give me a call at 1-800- 506-9766 or fill out the online submission form, and I will get right back to you.



GREEN LIGHT- GO!

ARRESTED, NO CHARGES OR CONVICTIONS

- If you were previously arrested, but the charges were never filed or were filed and later dropped, you do not need to disclose this to the BRN or BVNPT. **You're good to go!**

JUVENILE OR SEALED RECORDS

- Juvenile and sealed records do not need to be disclosed. **Proceed ahead!**

OLD AND EXPUNGED CONVICTIONS

- If you were previously arrested, but the charges were never filed or were filed and later dropped, you do not need to disclose this to the BRN or BVNPT. **You're good to go!**
- If your prior misdemeanor conviction(s) is more than 7 years old AND has been expunged, you can 100% confidently move forward with applying for a nursing program and applying for your RN or LVN license. You will not encounter any problems with schools running your background check, clinicals accepting you into their program, or issues with the BRN or BVNPT denying your application. **Floor it!**
- If your prior conviction was a felony but was later reduced to a misdemeanor and expunged, you are good to go.

GREEN LIGHT - LOOK BOTH WAYS, THEN GO!

FULLY EXPUNGED

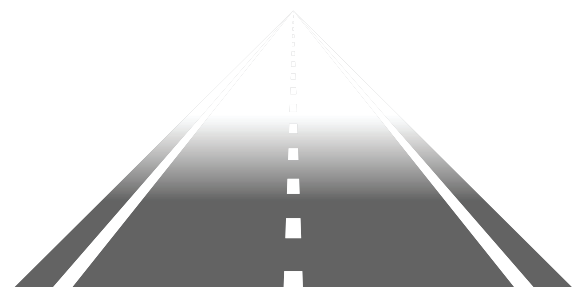
- In the vast majority of cases, even if the conviction is less than 7 years old but has been expunged, you should not encounter any issues with acceptance into nursing schools, clinicals, or with your nursing license application. We can help you determine this relatively quickly by providing a brief review of your Livescan results. Our fee for this is nominal.

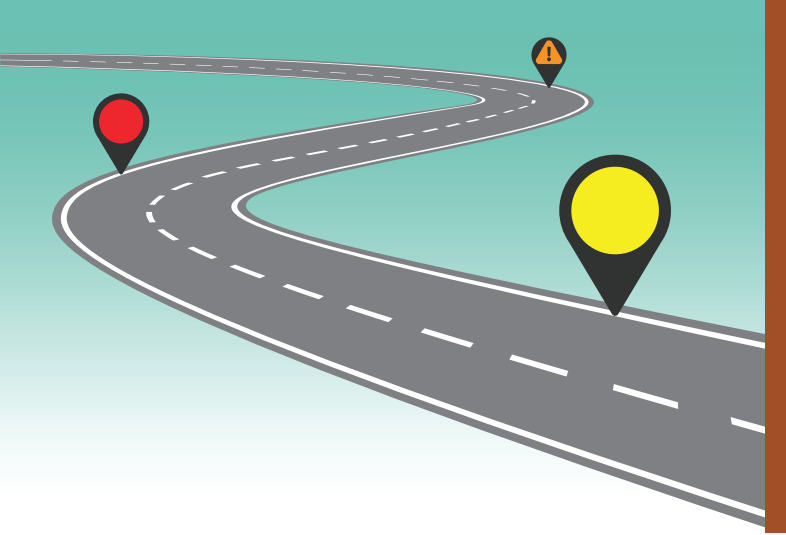
COMPLETED COURT DIVERSION OR DEFERRED JUDGMENT

- If you completed a court-ordered diversion program or received a deferred judgment and the time has passed, and your conviction has cleared, you should not encounter any issues with acceptance into nursing schools, clinicals, or with your nursing license application. We can help you determine this relatively quickly by providing a brief review of your Livescan results. Our fee for this is nominal.

FELONY WITH CERTIFICATE OF REHABILITATION

- If your prior conviction was a felony, but you have obtained a Certificate of Rehabilitation, this will be treated the same as a misdemeanor, see above.





YELLOW LIGHT- SLOW DOWN AND WAIT

MORE THAN 3 YEARS OLD/ NOT EXPUNGED

- It does not matter how old the conviction is. Even if it is more than 10 years old and "off your record," you still need to have it expunged. If it is

a felony conviction, you will need to have it reduced to a misdemeanor and expunged, or you will need a certificate of rehabilitation. In this case, you should have the conviction expunged before applying for nursing school and clinicals. However, **you absolutely need to have it expunged before applying for your license.** If you've paid all your fines and done everything required of you by the courts and are off of Summary Court Probation, you should have no problems getting the conviction expunged. Expungements take 3-6 months, so plan accordingly. If you were to apply for clinicals at this stage, you might be denied admission to the hospital based on your prior criminal conviction. If you apply for your license at this stage without an expungement, **your application will be denied.** We will head down that road later. If you need to have your conviction expunged, we can help. Just give us a call.

OUT OF STATE CONVICTIONS - if you have a prior conviction from another state, you will need to find an attorney in your state to expunge your conviction. Some states do not offer expungements. We will head down that road further on.

18 MONTHS TO 3 YEARS/ STILL ON PROBATION

- Best practice would be to apply for early termination of probation and expungement before enrolling in a nursing program, but some schools will accept you even on probation. Again, you will want to try to get the conviction expunged prior to clinicals. The hospital will likely deny you admission into clinicals if you are on Summary Probation with the courts. You absolutely must get your conviction expunged before applying for your license. Even if this means delaying your license application until you have been granted the expungement, you must do this. **Applying on probation will result in an automatic denial of your license.** Early terminations and expungements take 6-12 months, so plan accordingly. We can represent you. Please give us a call.

OUT OF STATE CONVICTIONS - if you have a prior conviction from another state, you will need to find an attorney in your state to terminate your probation and expunge your conviction. Some states do not offer expungements. We will head down that road further on.

INCOMPLETE COURT DIVERSION OR DEFERRED JUDGMENT

We highly recommend completing your Court-Ordered Diversion requirements and waiting for your record to be cleared before applying for nursing programs, clinicals, or a license. Please call us if you are still in a Court Diversion or haven't completed your requirements to obtain the expungement.



ROADBLOCKS, DELAYS, AND DETOURS

DENIAL AND APPEALS



- If you are arrested while still in the nursing program or after graduation, but prior to getting your license, you may have no choice other than to accept the delay and Denial of your license and head down the road of Appeals. If you find yourself on this road, here is what you need to know
 - The BRN and BVNPT **will not process your application** until your criminal case has a final decision. Your application will be on hold, so try to get the DUI resolved as quickly as possible. Then you can move forward with the disclosure. DUIs typically take 4-6 months to resolve from your first court date.
 - You will be required to disclose any conviction in your license application. It is vital to get some help with this, as it will be used as evidence when it comes time to appeal the Denial. Disclosures take about 1 month.
 - Your license application will get denied in all but very few cases. It can take the Board around 13 weeks to notify you of the Denial. You will be given the opportunity to appeal the Denial or wait a year and reapply. In some cases, this is the better option. We can help you determine this.
 - If you decide to move forward with the appeal, your case will be assigned to a Deputy Attorney General (DAG), who will file a Statement of Issues. This is a public document that states the details of your arrest and convictions and never goes away. It takes about 6-9 months for the DAG to file the Statement of Issues.
 - Our attorneys argue against the Statement of Issues to convince the BRN or BVNPT to grant you your license. To date, we have a 99%+ success rate in winning our client's appeals. 2-3 months for this process.
 - You will be granted your license either on probation or with a Letter of Reprimand, both of which are public records, indefinitely. If you go the Appeal route, it takes about 1 year from Denial to License.



RED LIGHT- STOP!

LESS THAN 18 MONTHS OF PROBATION

- You should consider halting enrolling in your nursing program or taking a leave of absence and returning once you have completed all your probation requirements, paid all your fines, and completed at least 18 months of probation. Then you can

apply for early termination of probation and expungement. See above.

RECENT FELONY CONVICTIONS

- Felonies take longer to process, are more difficult to reduce and expunge, and probation lasts longer. Any felony conviction will halt your progress with obtaining your license. It's best to stop and return to your nursing program or license application **once the felony has been dealt with.**

ARRESTED WHILE IN NURSING SCHOOL OR AFTER GRADUATION

- This is one of the most difficult situations because other than dropping out or taking a leave of your nursing program; you don't have much choice other than to proceed ahead, knowing that you may be denied the ability to participate in clinicals and knowing your nursing license application will be denied. **A denial is not the end of the road for your nursing career,** but it certainly sends you on a long, delayed detour. You are going to have to navigate the BRN or BVNPT appeal process.

ROAD TRIP TO CALI!

OUT OF STATE APPLICANTS

- The most significant roadblock you will face as an applicant from another state with prior convictions is that **your state and California or Arizona may not have the same laws**. Many states do not allow expungements or offer something similar like a certificate of completion or rehabilitation in lieu of expungement. Your best option is to consult with a criminal defense attorney in your state to determine the closest equivalent to an expungement and make that happen before applying for a new license or via Endorsement in California. **We can then help you determine if you will need to disclose it.** If you do have to disclose a prior conviction that cannot be expunged, we can certainly represent you and have been successful in getting hundreds of out-of-state applicants licensed in California.



YOU HAVE ARRIVED AT YOUR DESTINATION!

As you can see, a prior arrest or conviction can create a minor bump in the road or a long-delayed detour, but we want you to know **regardless of where you find yourself on this journey, we will absolutely get you to your destination!** We are so proud of our record in getting nurses through the application, disclosure, and appeal process, and 99+% of our clients go on to get their nursing licenses and are able to practice in their careers! If you have any questions after reading this, please don't hesitate to call.



Please give me a call at 1-800- 506-9766 or fill out the online submission form, and I will get right back to you.