



"Think. Work. Serve."

College of Health Sciences
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37209
Phone: (615) 963-5924
Fax: (615) 963-5935

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Students completing programs in the College of Health Sciences are eligible to take the licensing or certification exams listed below for their respective programs of study. However, successfully passing a licensing or certification exam may only be one of the requirements for unencumbered practice. Since each state and territory defines its own requirements for licensure, certification, and practice, students need to inquire with the appropriate licensing board or certification body about additional state-specific requirements such as background checks, years of professional experience, jurisprudence exams, etc. The College of Health Sciences provides the following information for current and prospective students interested in health programs that may require professional licensure to practice.

- Health Sciences Programs, Credentials, and Methods of Disclosure
- Programs in the College of Health Sciences Leading to Professional Licensure
- State Licensing Board Information Relevant to Health Professions Regulation
- Other Relevant Resources

Current or prospective students with a concern directly related to professional licensure should contact the Chair of the department offering the degree.

HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAMS, CREDENTIALS, AND METHODS OF DISCLOSURE

Major Name	Credential	Method of Disclosure
Dental Hygiene	2.3 AAS	COHS Main Webpage
Cardiorespiratory Care Science	2.5 BS	COHS Main Webpage
Health Information Management	2.5 BS	COHS Main Webpage
Nursing	2.3 AAS	COHS Main Webpage
Nursing	2.5 BS	COHS Main Webpage
Nursing	4.2 MSN	COHS Main Webpage
Family Nurse Practitioner	4.1 C4	COHS Main Webpage
Occupational Therapy	4.2 MOT	COHS Main Webpage
Physical Therapy	4.4 DPT	COHS Main Webpage
Speech & Hearing Science	4.2 MS	COHS Main Webpage

PROGRAMS IN THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES LEADING TO PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Program: Dental Hygiene – AAS

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Registered Dental Hygienist, (RDH)

Examination: For the Regional Test – Southern Regional Testing Agency ([SRTA](#)) / Council of Interstate Testing Agencies ([CITA](#)) / For the National Test – National Board Dental Hygiene Examination ([NBDHE](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice in the state or territory where licensure is active

Program: Cardiorespiratory Care Sciences – BS

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT), Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT); licensure by credential at the state level, certification and registry by national board examinations.

Examination: Therapist Multiple Choice and Clinical Simulation Examinations administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care ([NBRC](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice in the state or territory where licensure is active:

Program: Health Information Management – BS

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) Certification

Examination: The national Registered Health Information Administrator Examination is administered by the American Health Information Management Association ([AHIMA](#))

Scope of Practice: Certified HIM professionals can practice in any state

Program: Nursing – AAS

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Registered Nurse (RN)

Examination: National Council Licensure Examination – Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) administered by the National Council of the State Boards of Nursing ([NCSBN](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice as a registered nurse in state of examination. Some states afford multistate licensure designation.

Program: Nursing – BSN

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Registered Nurse (RN)

Examination: National Council Licensure Examination – Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) administered by the National Council of the State Boards of Nursing ([NCSBN](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice as a registered nurse in state of examination. Some states afford multistate licensure designation.

Program: Nursing – MSN

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Family Nurse Practitioner – Certified (FNP-C)

Examination: Certification exam administered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center ([ANCC](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice in the state or territory where licensure is active

Program: Nursing – MSN

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Family Nurse Practitioner – Board Certified (FNP-BC)

Examination: Certification exam administered by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners ([AANP](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice in the state or territory where licensure is active

Program: Occupational Therapy – MOT

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Occupational Therapist Registered (OTR)

Examination: Certification Exam administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy ([NBCOT](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice in the state or territory where licensure is active

Program: Physical Therapy – DPT

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Physical Therapist (PT)

Examination: National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy ([FSBPT](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice in the state or territory where licensure is active

Program: Speech and Hearing Science – MS

Licensure/Certification/Regulatory Designation: Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)

Examination: PRAXIS National Examination in Speech-Language Pathology commissioned by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association ([ASHA](#)) and facilitated by the Educational Testing Service ([ETS](#))

Scope of Practice: Licensed to practice in the state or territory where licensure is active

STATE LICENSING BOARD INFORMATION RELEVANT TO HEALTH PROFESSIONS REGULATION

Alabama	Alaska	Arizona	Arkansas	California
Colorado	Connecticut	Delaware	Florida	Georgia
Hawaii	Idaho	Illinois	Indiana	Iowa
Kansas	Kentucky	Louisiana	Maine	Maryland
Massachusetts	Michigan	Minnesota	Mississippi	Missouri
Montana	Nebraska	Nevada	New Hampshire	New Jersey
New Mexico	New York	North Carolina	North Dakota	Ohio
Oklahoma	Oregon	Pennsylvania	Rhode Island	South Carolina
South Dakota	Tennessee	Texas	Utah	Vermont
Virginia	Washington	West Virginia	Wisconsin	Wyoming

OTHER RELEVANT RESOURCES

- The [Professional Licensure Resource](#) page of the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) provides a listing of licensing agencies for *Counseling*, *Nursing*, *Psychology*, *Social Work*, and *Teacher Education*, as well as a searchable directory for additional areas of study.
- Licensing Board for Selected Territories and the District of Columbia: [Puerto Rico](#), [Virgin Islands](#), [Washington DC](#)

