National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. (NCSBN)

- Not-for-profit organization.
- Membership is comprised of the boards of nursing in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and four United States territories---American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands.
- The Delegate Assembly serves as the organization’s policy-making body.
The Mission of NCSBN

- NCSBN, composed of Member Boards, provides leadership to advance regulatory excellence for public protection.
The Purpose of NCSBN

- The purpose of NCSBN is to provide an organization through which boards of nursing act and counsel together on matters of common interest and concern affecting the public health; this includes the development of licensing examinations in nursing.
Background

- NCSBN is responsible to its members—the boards of nursing in the U.S. and its member board territories—for the preparation of psychometrically sound and legally defensible licensure exams.
Overview

- NCSBN develops two licensure examinations: the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN®) and the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN®).
Overview

- Both licensure examinations are used by member boards of nursing to assist in making licensure decisions.

- Each candidate must pass the NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN in order to receive a license and practice nursing in the U.S. and its member board territories.
Why is the NCLEX Content Confidential?

- Each candidate who sits for the NCLEX must be able to use their own knowledge to answer each item.
- Each candidate who sits for the NCLEX must be able to demonstrate entry-level nursing competence.
- Each candidate must be able to practice safely in order to protect the public.
What Does the NCLEX Confidentiality Agreement State?

- ...candidates will not divulge any items, including response options, to any individual or entity.

- ...candidates understand that unauthorized possession, reproduction, or disclosure of any examination materials before, during or after the examination is in violation of the law.
Candidates and the NCLEX Confidentiality Agreement

- Candidates must agree to the “terms of confidentiality” before testing.

- Candidates can learn more about the Confidentiality Agreement by accessing the NCSBN Web site at www.ncsbn.org.
Candidates Must Adhere to the NCLEX Rules

- No study aids (textbooks, notebooks, notes, etc.) are allowed in the test center.

- Candidates cannot access study aids or seek assistance of any third party in answering items, in person or by any electronic devices (i.e. cell phones) after the exam has begun.
Candidates must adhere to the NCLEX Rules

- No copying exam items
- No reconstructing exam items
- No removing exam items and/or responses/notes from the testing room
A Candidate May Break the Confidentiality Agreement By…

- Talking with classmates about examination content.
- Sharing examination content with faculty members, test preparation instructors, or others.
- Reconstructing examination content and attempting to share the information with others.
Maintaining the Confidentiality of NCLEX Content…

- Protects you
- Protects your license
- Protects the public
Sharing NCLEX Examination Content…

- Is a violation of the confidentiality agreement
- Is illegal, unethical and unprofessional
Model Professional Behavior
- Do not ask about the content of a student’s examination.
- If a student volunteers examination content ask them to stop.

Encourage students to maintain the integrity of the NCLEX Examination.
Reporting Suspicious or Unprofessional Behavior

- **NCLEX Tip lines**
  - 1.866.496.2539 Pearson VUE
  - pvtestsecurity@pearsonvue.com
  - 1.866.293.9600 NCSBN
  - nclexinfo@ncsbn.org
Additional Information on NCLEX Security

- 2008 NCLEX® Candidate Bulletin
- Exam Security
  - https://www.ncsbn.org/1268.htm
- NCLEX Candidate Tutorial
  - https://www.ncsbn.org/1213.htm
Questions