The Board of Nursing is the state agency assigned to write the rules needed to implement laws related to nursing education, licensure, and practice. One such rule has to do with eligibility for initial licensure by examination. If you need to answer "Yes" to any of the eligibility questions below, you will have to submit a petition for declaratory order (DO) to the BON with additional information and documentation so a final ruling can be made about your eligibility for licensure. In certain circumstances, you may not be able to be licensed as a registered nurse in Texas.

Read the eligibility questions carefully.

Eligibility Questions

1. For any **<u>criminal</u>** offense including those pending appeal, have you:

A. Been convicted of a misdemeanor?
B. Been convicted of a felony?
C. Pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
D. Received deferred adjudication?
E. Been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
F. Been sentenced to serve jail or prison time or court-ordered confinement?
G. Been granted pre-trial diversion?
H. Been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
I. Been cited or charged with any violation of the law?

J. Been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment, punishment, or action?

NOTE: You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.

2. Are you currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation?
3. Has any licensing authority ever refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a professional license, certificate or multi-state privilege held by you now or previously, or ever fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?
4. Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder? If "YES" indicate the condition

- [ ] schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders
- [ ] bipolar disorder,
- [ ] paranoid personality disorder,
- [ ] antisocial personality disorder,
- [ ] borderline personality disorder

- Within the past five (5) years have you been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?

http://bon.state.tx.us/forms_declaratory_order.asp

Did you need to answer "Yes" to any of the eligibility questions? Begin the Declaratory Order (DO) process today! The DO process can take several weeks to several months depending on your case. You are encouraged to begin the DO process **prior to application for admission to the nursing program** to avoid admission delays. To begin the DO application, click here.

Criminal background checks are performed on all applicants for Licensure in Texas. When you apply for admission to the ADN Pre-Licensure Track,

your name and identifying information is sent to the BON staff for permission to complete a criminal background check (CBC) through the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The outcome of the CBC determines your eligibility for licensure by examination. You will be notified of your eligibility status in writing by the BON staff. A copy of the notification must be submitted to the Department of Nursing staff before you can be officially admitted to the ADN Program.

**Current nursing students must also submit a petition for Declaratory Order as soon as possible if the student answers "yes" to the Eligibility Questions at any time throughout the program.