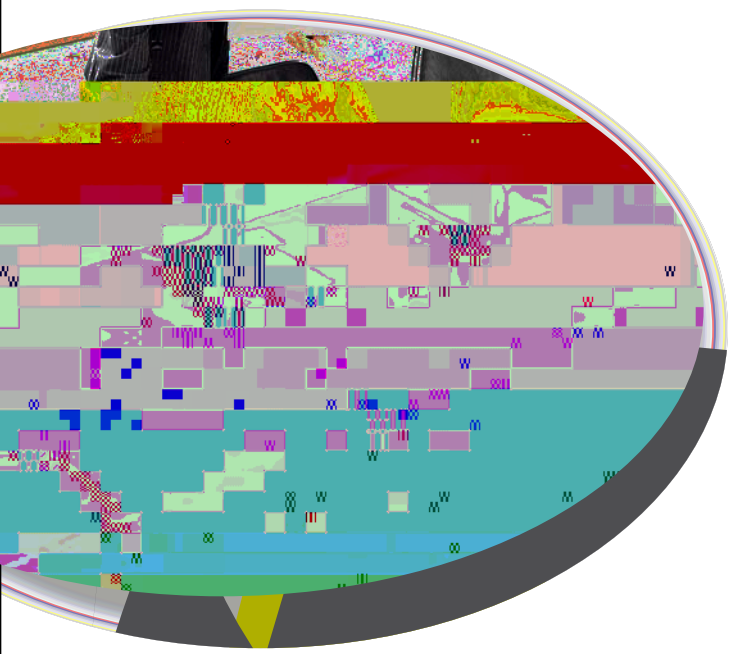


Gregory Odom, an LPN from Illinois



Q: Do the states differ with regard to their requirements for approving (some states call it "accrediting") nursing programs?

A: Yes. While there are many similarities among states, there are also some differences. To assist the board of nursing in achieving its intent, NCSBN has developed model administrative and model practice act (available on the NCSBN Website at [www.ncsbn.org](http://www.ncsbn.org)). The model is designed for use as a guideline, and the board has the potential to be helpful to the board of nursing. The 2002 Profile of Member Board identifies some of the differences among states. Please note: the number below may be slightly different because of changes since 2002.

Of the 60 boards of nursing, 58 approve/accrédit prelicensure nursing programs.

20 boards approve RN-baccalaureate completion programs; 22 boards approve/accrédit direct master's programs; 17 boards approve/accrédit direct doctoral programs; and 17 boards approve/accrédit graduate nursing programs.

Approval/accréditation is granted in terms ranging from 1-10 years. Of the 60 boards, the board is eligible for national accreditation by NLNAC or CCNE.

45 boards elect a certification portfolio to the NCLEX. The average approval/accrédit portfolio time is 36 months. 50% of the 46 states are in NLNAC or CCNE.

