Earning the bachelor of science in nursing degree is the first step toward becoming a Registered Nurse. Graduates must also take and pass the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX-RN) to receive their nursing license and begin their careers as nurses in hospitals, community health and mental health agencies, industrial health centers, nursing homes, family planning centers, crisis care centers, and beyond. A nursing license gives an individual permission to practice nursing, granted by the state where he or she met the requirements.

The School of Nursing works with students as they complete graduation requirements and the two-step process to register for the NCLEX. Specifically the school verifies graduation and assists students as they register for the exam. Most students take the NCLEX within three months of graduation. More than 90 percent of School of Nursing graduates pass the NCLEX on first attempt.

### Certification/Licensure

National Council of State Boards of Nursing NCLEX-RN ([https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Exam</th>
<th>UW-Madison Graduates: First Attempt</th>
<th>National: First Attempt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April-September 2021</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April-September 2020</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April-September 2019</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: UW-Madison BSN Graduates pass rate reflects all UW-Madison Bachelor of Science-Nursing graduates who tested during the April-to-September test period for the first time, including recent and previous graduates.

### Professional Certification/Licensure Disclosure (NC-SARA)

The United States Department of Education requires institutions that provide distance education to disclose information for programs leading to professional certification or licensure about whether each program meets state educational requirements for initial licensure or certification. Following is this disclosure information for this program:

**The requirements of this program meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:**

**The requirements of this program do not meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:**
- California, New York

**The requirements of this program have not been determined if they meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:**
- Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington, American Samoa, Puerto Rico