

Test accommodations are available to applicants who have been diagnosed with a recognized disability. Applicants needing accommodations on the NCLEX exam, should complete the **Special Accommodations** section of the licensure by examination application. The **Special Accommodations** page from the online exam application is shown below.

Special Accommodations ?

Answer yes below if you are requesting any special testing accommodations for the NCLEX.

Submit supporting documentation to the board regarding your request for testing accommodations due to a disability. At a minimum the documentation must include: a letter from an appropriate professional confirming the disability and providing information as to what accommodations are appropriate; and a letter from the Disability Services department of your school indicating what modifications, if any, were granted by the program.

1.	Extra Time	Yes
	<small>Specify one: 30 minutes, 1 hour, 2 hours, 3 hours, extra time-double time 2 days, or extra time-other (if you request "extra time - other" please specify the amount of extra time you are requesting)</small>	
	<input type="text" value="2 hours"/>	
2.	Separate Room	No
3.	Separate Room & Reader	No
4.	Separate Room & Recorder	No
5.	Separate Room & Sign Lang Interpreter	No
6.	Other	No

Release of Information

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The board's online service system allows applicants to upload supporting documents with their application; however, it is preferred that the applicant email the accommodation documentation directly to the Education Program Assistant, for faster processing. When an application with accommodations is submitted to the board, the Program Assistant sends the applicant an email within 1-2 business days. The email instructs applicants on the required documentation needed to continue processing their accommodation request. **The following documents are required for all accommodation requests:**

1. a recent letter or evaluation report, written within the last five years, from a medical provider/qualified professional that includes a recognized disability diagnosis, DSM/ICD code, the provider's recommendations for all appropriate test accommodations, the provider's name, signature, and credentials.
 - a. The Board refers to the provider's recommendations when granting specific test accommodations. For an accommodation to be approved by the board, the provider must include a recommendation for that specific accommodation in their letter/evaluation report.
2. a letter from the Disability Services department at their school of nursing indicating what accommodations were granted while the applicant attended the nursing program.
 - a. If an applicant did not receive accommodations while in their nursing program, they would be required to submit a letter/email to the board with a brief explanation as to why they did not request/receive accommodations during their nursing program.

Applicants are instructed to email the accommodation documentation to the Program Assistant, Melissa Wolfe at melissa.d.wolfe@state.mn.us. Less common accommodations, such as a request to bring a personal item into a separate testing room may require further documentation such as photos, a detailed description of the item, etc. If additional documentation is required, the Program Assistant will include that information in their initial email to the applicant.

Anxiety/Test Anxiety and English as a Second Language

Anxiety or test anxiety by themselves are considered symptoms and not recognized diagnoses. If an applicant has been diagnosed with an anxiety disorder, for example, the provider would be required to include the recognized disability diagnosis found in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* and the DSM/ICD code in their letter/report to the board.

Accommodation requests based on English as a Second Language are not acceptable as ESL is not considered a disability and would not meet the requirements to receive test accommodations.

Pearson Vue Comfort Aids:

- Pearson Vue testing centers includes some basic items on a “comfort aid list” that do not require special accommodation. Some of the comfort aids include:
 - Cough drops (must be unwrapped and not in a container)
 - Inhaler
 - Pills (Should be unwrapped and not in container, unless packaging states they must remain packaged)
 - Canes, Crutches, Walkers, or Wheelchairs
 - Tissues/Kleenex
 - Earplugs or Noise Reducing headphones (will be provided by testing center upon request)

Additional accommodation considerations:

- **Scratch paper/pencil in the testing room.** The testing center provides each candidate with a dry erase board during testing; an accommodation request is not required. Pearson Vue does not allow candidates paper and pencil during the exam.
- **Ability to speak aloud during the exam** (talk out the question). Pearson Vue does not allow candidates to speak aloud while in the testing room, even if they test in a separate room.
- **Breaks during testing.** Applicants are allowed as many unscheduled breaks as needed during their exam. Break time is included in the total testing time. The clock does not “stop” for breaks.
- **Exam time limit.** The exam length is 5 hours for LPN and RN candidates. An accommodation request of double time will result in two testing days. Most applicants will change their request to 3 hours of extra time (8 hours total), to avoid having to test over two days.
- **Food and drink are not allowed in the testing room.** Applicants can keep food/drink in their locker and access those items during breaks. If it’s a medical necessity to have food/drink with them in the testing room, the candidate will be required to test in a separate room and provide further documentation to the board for approval of the accommodation.

Additional Testing Information:

- [NCLEX Resources – Candidate Bulletin, Information Flyer, Candidate Tutorial, Test Plans](#)
- [NCLEX – Register and Prepare for Exam Day](#)