

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS WITH CRIMINAL HISTORY

1. If you have ever been arrested for, and convicted plead guilty or “no contest” to, a felony violation regardless of adjudication of:
 - Chapter 409 (Social Welfare)
 - Chapter 817 (Fraudulent Practices)
 - Chapter 893 (Drug Abuse)the Florida Board of Nursing will NOT issue a license unless probation or pleas ended more than 15 years prior to application for licensure.
2. Except for minor traffic violations not related to the use of drugs or alcohol, all convictions, guilty pleas and “no contest” pleas must be reported to the Florida Board of Nursing with your application for licensure at the completion of your nursing program, even if adjudication is withheld. This includes misdemeanors, felonies, "driving while intoxicated (DWI)" and "driving under the influence "(DUI)." Crimes must be reported even if they are a suspended imposition of sentence. All prior or current disciplinary action against another professional license must be reported, whether it occurred in Florida or in another state or territory.
3. If you have been adjudicated guilty of a felony, you must submit documentation of restoration of civil rights at the time of application for licensure. The only permanent barrier to licensure in Florida is not having your civil rights.
4. If you are submitting the Court records with your application for licensure, each document page must have the Court seal on it. (The applicant is advised to keep a “certified and true copy” of the Court records for personal files.)
5. If the record has been sealed, you must submit the Court Order sealing the record. This is required because the charge may still appear when the Board of Nursing requests the background check.
6. If official records are not available, you must submit a letter from the Court and/or law enforcement agency on official letterhead with the Court or Agency seal on it stating that the record has been purged.
7. Board of Nursing staff will inform the applicant if an appearance is required before the Board of Nursing. Board appearance is always required when court ordered probation is still in effect.

For more information, go to the Florida Board of Nursing website

(http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nursing/nur_prospective.html) or call 850-488-0595.