

RN REFRESHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. What is the RN Refresher Course?

The RN Refresher course is an online class designed to help nurses return to the workforce by Refreshing their skills through online lectures, scenarios, tests and a hands-on clinical experience.

2. How do I know if I am required to take are fresher course?

The Colorado Board of Nursing ultimately determines if you need to take a refresher course. Typically, if you are licensed in a different state, the board will require you to take a refresher course in order to become licensed in Colorado. If you have let your license lapse, the board may make you take a refresher course based on how long you have been out of nursing. Their website it www.dora.colorado.gov.

3. When can I start the course?

The RN Refresher course can be taken at any time. There are no pre-determined start dates, but there is a one-year deadline to complete the course.

4. What prerequisites do I need to start Clinical?

We require that all of our students provide the following perquisites before starting clinicals:

- Lapsed or expired RN license #
- Proof of professional liability insurance
- Proof of current CPR
- Proof of current immunizations
 - Hepatitis B
 - MMR
 - T-DAP
 - Chicken Pox or Titer
 - Flu Vaccine
- Current TB test
- Healthcare Background Screening w/fingerprinting

The prerequisites do not need to be turned it at the beginning of the course. We will just need them before your start your clinical rotation.

5. Will I have an "instructor" and/or an "advisor?"

You will receive the best customer service and support that we can provide. However, since this course is self-paced, you will not have an instructor teaching you the material. You will be responsible for following and comprehending the material on your own. Our program coordinator is available to answer any questions you may have regarding the content of the course, but he/she is not the "instructor." The program coordinator can be contacted at 720-535-1684 or at gloria@centralcoahec.org.

6. What is on the Final Exam?

The final exam is an open-book, 100 question, multiple-choice test. It consists of critical thinking questions that are taken from the book and the case scenarios in which you have 3 hours to complete. The board requires refresher students to pass the test with an 80% or better in order to pass and move-on to the clinical portion.

7. How many times can I take the final exam?

Since the test is open-book, you can only take the test once. If you do not pass and want to take the test again, you will have to retake the entire course before you will be allowed to take the test again.

8. How and where do I get my clinical rotation?

The clinical rotation is acquired and set-up by the student at the facility of their choice. We will provide the student with a list of facilities that our previous students have used as a starting point. The students typically contact the nursing educator or recruiter at a facility and inquire about their availability to take on an RN Refresher Student.

9. What if I can't find a clinical site?

Unless all of the hospitals in Colorado simultaneously decide to stop taking refresher students, then "can't" should not be in your vocabulary. Finding a clinical site is not easy and you may not find one right away. Determination and perseverance with the various facilities around town goes a long way, and we will provide as much support as we can to help you secure a site.

10. Do I have to do my clinicals at a hospital or can they be done at a long term care facility?

The course is based on general medical surgical competencies. The best experience is in an acute care facility on medical surgical units. This is a stepping-off point to any other area so it is advisable to get your experience in such a facility. Depending on location and circumstances, a LPN may find the Long Term Care Facilities more appropriate.

11. Does this course meet the requirements of the Colorado State Board of Nursing to reactivate my license?

Yes. This had been designed as 120 hours of clinical and 120 hours of theory which meets the requirements of the Colorado State Board of Nursing (SBON) Policy number 10-17 "Continuing Competency Requirements for RN, LPN". This is the number of contract hours required for a 5-10 year lapse. Those with a license that has lapsed 10 or more years may require additional education or clinical hours. The SBON makes this decision. For more information, follow this link to the Colorado State Board of Nursing.

12. Is there any financial aid available through your organization to help pay for the tuition?

Unfortunately, we do not offer any financial aid to our students. However, you do have the option of setting up a payment plan. You would simply put a small amount of money down before you start the course then pay-off the remainder within a set amount of time. If this is not an option, visit your local work-force center and they can help you with some financial aid for the course.

If you have any other questions, please call Central Colorado AHEC Professional Education or [Professional Education <training@centralcoahec.org>](mailto:training@centralcoahec.org).