

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

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**I have an RN to BSN program but cannot find where to enter faculty information about this group.**

**My program is new and hasn't yet enrolled any students. Why am I being asked to complete this survey?**

**My program is closed/closing/in teach out. Do I have to complete this survey?**

**I've completed the survey, now what?**

#### **What is the Florida Center for Nursing (FCN)?**

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FCN is a state workforce center established in statute (F.S. 464.0195) in 2001 to monitor and address issues related to Florida's nursing shortage. FCN is the definitive source for information, research, and strategies addressing the dynamic nurse workforce needs in Florida.

To learn more about the work of the Florida Center for Nursing, please visit:

<https://www.flcenterfornursing.org/>

#### **Why am I being asked to complete this survey?**

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Florida Statute 464.019(10) requires the Florida Center for Nursing to study the implementation of the "Nurse Practice Act" (FS Chapter 464), as it relates to the approval of nursing education programs and the production of nursing program graduates in Florida nursing education programs.

FCN is required to evaluate (a) characteristics of program-specific data for each approved program and accredited program conducted in the state; (b) the Board of Nursing's implementation of approval and accountability processes; and (c) assessment of program-level compliance with accreditation requirements.

This data request corresponds with FCN's data collection efforts to meet program-specific assessment requirements.

#### **Am I required to complete this survey?**

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Yes. Participation by all programs is essential for FCN to accurately represent Florida's nursing education programs. Florida Statute 464.019(10) states that "... each approved program and or accredited program shall comply with requests for data from the Florida Center for Nursing."

The Florida Department of Health/Florida Board of Nursing issued a citation effective beginning with the 2018 *Annual Nursing Education Program Survey* to enforce the statutory requirement to comply with FCN's data requests.

The Florida Department of Health/Florida Board of Nursing will receive a list of all programs that do not respond to the FCN *Nursing Education Program Survey* to enforce their penalty of \$1,000, for failure of a program to perform statutory or legal obligation as found in section 456.072(1)(k) F.S., by not complying with a request for data as required by section 464.019(10), F.S.”

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**Is this the same as the Florida Board of Nursing’s Annual Report?**

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No. While we understand that many schools are required to submit annual reports to the Board of Nursing during the same time of year, the Florida Center for Nursing’s data request is different. The collection of this information is essential for the Florida Center for Nursing to comply with statutory requirements described above. Unlike the Board of Nursing Annual report, it is required of all nursing education programs. This means that you are required to submit a response, regardless of your current accreditation status. Like the Board of Nursing report, participation is considered mandatory.

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**Is this the same as the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) survey?**

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Yes, to an extent. In 2017, the Florida Legislature designated the Florida Center for Nursing responsible for the mandated reporting described above. This information was previously reported by OPPAGA. There may be some differences in the format and reporting between OPPAGA and FCN, but most of the elements are the same in order to be consistent with statutory requirements.

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**Will my information be shared publicly?**

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You should not be concerned about identifiable information reaching the public. Other than the following exceptions, all reported information will remain confidential. Findings will be aggregated into summary reports published on <http://www.flcenterfornursing.org> and, as required, for presentation to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

FCN also follows standard research guidelines, limiting the inclusion of potentially identifiable information when the aggregated number of participants in any given category is fewer than five (5).

You can find past examples of the Center’s reports on our website at the following link: <https://www.flcenterfornursing.org/StatewideData/FCNNurseEducationReports.aspx>

Exceptions:

- The accreditation status of a program that prepares students for the practice of professional nursing will be reported by program to determine compliance with statutory accreditation requirements (FS 464.019).
- A list of program names and NCLEX codes that did not provide responses prior to the deadline will be provided to the Board of Nursing for their enforcement of citations related to this data request.
- FCN’s requirement to evaluate program-specific data also includes graduate passage rates on the NCLEX. This is a separate report that includes NCLEX passage information by program name.

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**What do I do if I’m not the right person to complete this survey?**

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If you believe you received correspondence from FCN in error, you should do one or more of the following:

- a) Reply to the email invitation informing the Florida Center for Nursing that you are not the appropriate representative. If possible, provide FCN with the correct information to avoid future correspondence.

- b) If the correct representative is a colleague, you can forward the email to them and communicate internally to ensure everyone is on the same page about who needs to complete the survey.
- c) If you are still affiliated with the program but survey correspondence should go to one or more other representatives, you can log in with the information provided in the invitation email and change the name and email address for the program contact on the first page, then click Save and Exit.

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**What do I do if I encounter errors or have questions while completing the survey?**

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If you have any issues while completing the survey, you should direct questions to the Florida Center for Nursing's Assistant Director of Research, Dr. Alyssa Mullins. If possible, send an email with screenshots or a description of the concern to [NurseEduSurvey@flcenterfornursing.org](mailto:NurseEduSurvey@flcenterfornursing.org) and [Alyssa.Mullins@ucf.edu](mailto:Alyssa.Mullins@ucf.edu). You can also call 407-823-2290. Calls and emails are likely to be addressed within 24 hours, Monday - Friday.

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**I have an RN to BSN program but cannot find where to enter faculty information about this group.**

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Although we ask questions about RN to BSN students, we are unable to capture information on RN to BSN faculty at this time. The faculty section refers only to those teaching in the pre-licensure program corresponding with the NCLEX code you logged in with. If any RN to BSN program faculty also teach in your pre-licensure program(s), please include them where appropriate. Faculty that teach exclusively in RN to BSN programs do not need to be counted at this time.

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**My program is new and hasn't yet enrolled any students. Why am I being asked to complete this survey?**

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If your program was approved and listed on the state's database of all active nursing education as of the first week of September when the Florida Center for Nursing pulled the list of programs for inclusion in the survey sample, you will be asked to complete the survey. To be counted as a completed survey, you will be expected to log in and answer the questions on the first page. If your program did not have any students enrolled for the requested academic year, you will select the box next to question number two to be exempt from student/faculty questions throughout the rest of the survey.

2. ☒ Please select this box if your nursing program is **NEW** and did not have any students for classes during the Academic Year AY 2018-2019, **OR** if your program is older and **WAS NOT IN OPERATION DURING AY 2018-2019**, but retains an NCLEX Code.

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**My program is closed/closing/in teach out. Do I have to complete this survey?**

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If you are receiving this survey, your program was listed on the state's database of all active nursing education programs as of the first week of September when the Florida Center for Nursing pulled the list of programs for inclusion in the survey sample and will be expected to complete the survey. To avoid any fines issued by the Florida Department of Health, please answer all questions to the best of your ability regarding the students you have/had during the relevant academic year and census date. If your program did not have any students enrolled for the requested academic year, you will select the box next to question number two to be exempt from questions throughout the rest of the survey.

2. ☒ Please select this box if your nursing program is **NEW** and did not have any students for classes during the Academic Year AY 2018-2019, **OR** if your program is older and **WAS NOT IN OPERATION DURING AY 2018-2019**, but retains an NCLEX Code.

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**I've completed the survey, now what?**

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Once you've completed the survey and clicked "Submit" you can screenshot, save, or print your confirmation page for your records. Please be aware that the Florida Center for Nursing may contact you

if any essential data elements are missing or unclear. In order to be counted as a valid response, please reply to any potential correspondence from our office in a timely manner.

Surveys are issued by NCLEX code. If your school has multiple nursing programs, be sure to double check that you do not have any additional outstanding surveys to complete.

Once completed, aggregated reports will be posted on our website and shared with participating programs. You are welcome to use the information provided in our reports to provide data support related to any funding applications, program changes, expansion efforts, or other program management needs, and we encourage you to share feedback about how you've used our data to support your program or region's needs.