



National League of Nursing (NLN) Nursing Acceleration Challenge Examination (NACE) — Frequently Asked Questions —

What is the NACE?

The NACE, or Nursing Acceleration Challenge Examination (NACE), is a standardized exam proctored by the National League of Nursing (NLN). It is designed to assess knowledge and clinical competencies, assisting faculty in establishing credit and placement into the ASN program. LPN's applying for advanced placement in Rivier's ASN program are required to complete the Foundations of Nursing v1.2 exam.

Why do I have to take the NACE?

Successfully passing the NACE exam enables students to bypass the introductory Nursing Fundamentals course, allowing them to start their program in the Spring semester instead of the Fall. This acknowledges their established experience as an LPN and effectively reduces the overall program duration from 20 months to 16 months.

What is the format of the NACE?

The Foundations of Nursing v1.2 consists of 100 questions to be completed within 150 minutes, covering essential content related to the basic physiological and psychosocial needs of individuals. This exam is conducted online and proctored remotely by NLN. You will take the exam from home using the Proctor360 testing platform.

How do I prepare for the NACE?

There are a variety of online resources available for exam preparation. Please refer to NLN's website for more information.

How do I register for the NACE?

Rivier's Department of Nursing will provide details on exam registration. You will use the link from Rivier to create a new NLN account.

Is there a fee?

Yes. Any fees related to the NACE are listed on the NLN website. Payment must be made using a credit or debit card.

What is a "passing" score?

Rivier University has a holistic review process, which means that all application materials are considered. Strongest consideration for 2025-2026 would be based on a 69% or higher on the NACE. The exam may be taken twice with a recommended interval of at least one month between attempts.

Can I take the exam online?

All NACE exams taken after August 1, 2026, must be completed in person at an approved testing facility or testing center. Any questions please reach out to admissions@rivier.edu.