



# Product Update New updates are noted with italics.

## PAX to NEX

### Why?

To increase test security, update content blueprints, and improve reporting for students and nursing programs, the NLN is updating the PAX to the NEX.

The NLN based the decision on findings from an evaluation conducted by two independent consultants and input from the NLN's advisory nursing committee, communities of interest, and Subject Matter Experts (SMES) across diverse institutions and nursing programs.

	PAX	NEX
<b>Administration</b>		
<b>Time Allotment</b>	40 minutes per section	<i>60 minutes per section</i>
<b>Test Type</b>	Modified Random Parallel approach	<i>Modified Linear on the Fly approach</i>
<b>Virtual Proctoring</b>	2016 – Onsite only 2020 – Onsite and Virtual using "record- and-review" proctor	Onsite or Virtual with provisions to use <i>live virtual proctor only</i>
<b>Blueprint</b>		
<b>Number of Items</b>	<u>Verbal</u> : 60 scored <u>Math</u> : 40 scored <u>Science</u> : 60 scored	<i><u>Verbal</u>: 50 scored, 8 pretest/unscored <u>Math</u>: 40 scored, 5 pretest/unscored <u>Science</u>: 55 scored, 5 pretest/unscored</i>
<b>Verbal Ability Section</b>	<u>Reading Comprehension</u> : 30 items, 6 reading passages <u>Word Knowledge</u> : 30 items	<i><u>Reading Comprehension</u>: 25 items, 5 passages <u>Word Knowledge</u>: 25 items</i>
<b>Science Section</b>	<u>Physics</u> : 5 items <u>Biology</u> : 20 items <u>Chemistry</u> : 13 items <u>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</u> : 14 items <u>Health</u> : 8 items	<i><u>Physics</u>: 0 items <u>Biology</u>: 20 items <u>Chemistry</u>: 5 items <u>Anatomy</u>: 11 items <u>Physiology</u>: 11 items <u>Health</u>: 8 items</i>
<b>Mathematics Section</b>	<u>Mathematical Concepts</u> : 4 items <u>Geometry</u> : 3 items <u>Numbers &amp; Operations</u> : 29 items <u>Conversions</u> : 9 items <u>Algebra</u> : 5 items	<i><u>Numbers &amp; Operations</u>: 12 items <u>Measurement</u>: 14 items <u>Algebra</u>: 7 <u>Data &amp; Information</u>: 7 items</i>

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### Other Noteworthy Updates

- Each item is now assigned a difficulty level, ensuring greater fairness for all test-takers.
- There is one virtual proctoring service to maintain the highest level of exam security.
- Test scores are immediately available after concluding the exam.
- The item bank is continuously increasing.
- There will be a quarterly section review in addition to an annual holistic test review to identify any items that may need to be paused or retired based on performance or exposure.
- The transition from PAX to NEX (Nurse Entrance Exam) is to increase security and support more accurate student resources.