

Compare your nursing pathways

Complete one column per approved program. Confirm details directly before paying.

Province/territory: _____ Date checked: _____

Check	Practical nursing	Registered nursing
Regulator and exact designation RPN means practical nurse in Ontario.	_____	_____
Program and approval status Keep the regulator listing and intake date.	_____	_____
Admission prerequisites Include science courses and upgrade time.	_____	_____
Study length and timetable Record part-time options and placement hours.	_____	_____
Tuition and compulsory fees Ask for a total-program estimate in CAD.	_____	_____
Travel, supplies and childcare Include placements away from home.	_____	_____
Paid hours you may give up Use your own schedule and after-tax budget.	_____	_____
Placement responsibilities Who arranges placements? Which locations?	_____	_____
Registration steps and costs Record regulator advice for your situation.	_____	_____
Bridging / transfer credits Confirm credits in writing; do not assume.	_____	_____
Three local job advertisements Note date, pay scale, licence and experience.	_____	_____
	_____	_____

A national vacancy rate is not your chance of receiving a job offer.

Use employer advertisements and regulator requirements to test local fit.

Check the job, then the budget

Use the same questions for each pathway. This is a decision worksheet, not a score.

Local job evidence

Target town and employers: _____

Role titles / advertisement URLs / dates: _____

Base pay, guaranteed hours, shifts and employment term: _____

Licence, specialty experience and orientation requirements: _____

Study budget in Canadian dollars

Tuition + fees + supplies + travel + extra care costs = _____

Lost earnings during study = _____

Confirmed grants or employer support (with conditions) = _____

Cash gap and funding source = _____

For internationally educated residents

Chosen regulator and its current application route: _____

Documents, translations and assessment requested by that regulator: _____

Further education / examinations / practice requirements to confirm: _____

Do not buy a bridging course until you confirm what your regulator will accept.

Your decision and unresolved questions

Which responsibilities and work settings do you want? _____

What would make this route unaffordable or impractical? _____

Who will verify the remaining points, and by when? _____

Official starting points

CNA regulator directory; your provincial/territorial regulator; Job Bank wage methodology.

Sources and definitions accompany the article and its downloadable comparison data.