

BOARD BEGINS CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS ON RENEWAL

Why am I being asked to fingerprint for renewal of my license/certificate?

The Board began requiring fingerprinting for all initial applications, effective January 1, 2000. The Board began requiring fingerprinting upon renewal effective October 1, 2010. If it has been six years since your initial license was issued, you are being asked to submit prints now. All renewal applicants will be subject to criminal background checks every six years or as directed by the Board.

How will I know I need to fingerprint for the Board?

A notification postcard will be sent to you approximately two months before your license/certificate is due to expire. If you renew online, you will also receive notification during the renewal process.

Do I need to get fingerprinted before I can renew my license/certificate?

While the Board recommends getting fingerprinted as soon as possible, you do not have to submit your fingerprints prior to renewing your license/certificate. When you do renew, your license/certificate will be renewed for six months only to allow for processing of the criminal background report. You are urged to fingerprint immediately upon notice.

Can I ask for an extension of the six-month renewal?

No. The six-month renewal will not be extended except under **very** limited and restricted circumstances.

I recently had my fingerprints taken for my license in another state. Can I use those reports to satisfy the Nevada requirement?

Even if you have previously had your fingerprints processed for licensure in another state or for your employer, you will need to submit a new set of prints to the Board. FBI regulations prevent the sharing of criminal history reports.

Can I just submit my fingerprints now so I can satisfy the requirement?

No. The Board must ensure that each applicant is given adequate time for the Criminal History Repository and the FBI to complete each fingerprint report, and for Board staff to receive and process the information. Only those identified by the Board will be accepted to complete this requirement.

If you submit fingerprints prior to being notified, you may be required to submit them again prior to renewal of your license/certificate.

What if I realize now that I did not answer the question regarding criminal convictions correctly on previous applications?

The Board will review each criminal background to determine if there has been a violation of the Nevada Nurse Practice Act that may subject the applicant to discipline.

Do I need to come to the Board office to complete my fingerprints?

No, but you must have your fingerprints completed utilizing the code numbers provided by the Board. You may go to any provider authorized to submit fingerprints to the Nevada Department of Public Safety. It is strongly recommended that whenever possible, you choose a site that has the ability to submit your fingerprints by electronic submission. To see of list of private and law enforcement fingerprint sites in Nevada, visit www.nvrepository.state.nv.us/fingerprints.shtml.

Both Board offices offer fingerprint capture, by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Board, (888) 590-6726. Appointment hours are 8:30-11:30 and 2:00-4:00 in Reno; and 8:30-11:30 and 2:00-4:30 in Las Vegas.

If you reside outside of Nevada, you will need to request that fingerprint cards be sent to you. Electronic submission of fingerprints is not available outside of Nevada. Fingerprint cards can be requested via the Board's website or by calling the Board office. You may take the fingerprint cards to any law enforcement agency or other entity in your state or country that will capture fingerprints. Self rolling of fingerprints using an inkpad is not recommended and usually results in the fingerprints being rejected.

If the agency you are using for fingerprint capture utilizes FD-258 fingerprint cards, you may use those cards and do not wait for the Board to send you a fingerprint card.

Who pays for the cost of processing fingerprints?

All fingerprint fees are the responsibility of the licensee/certificate holder. Fees for electronic submission of fingerprints vary by site. The total fee for prints captured electronically at a Board office is \$50. The fee for processing fingerprint cards submitted to the Board is \$51.25.

How long will it take for the Board to receive my fingerprint reports?

Processing times vary, but applicants should expect that processing of fingerprint cards will take 2-4 months. While it is possible that fingerprint reports may come back sooner than 2 months, the Board is unable to quote an exact timeframe as the processing of fingerprints is beyond our control.

If you have not received notification that your fingerprint reports were processed within 60 days of submitting them to the Board, please contact the Board so that the disposition of your fingerprint reports can be ascertained.

My fingerprints were rejected. What does this mean?

It is not uncommon to have fingerprints rejected by Nevada Department of Public Safety and/or the FBI. If your fingerprints are rejected due to poor quality, it does not mean that you have

been found to have a criminal conviction.

If your prints have been rejected, you will be required to submit a second set of prints for processing. There is no charge for processing your 're-print'.

My 6-month renewal is about to run out and the Board has not received my fingerprint reports. Can I have my reports expedite by the Department of Public Safety and/or the FBI?

The Department of Public Safety and the FBI process thousands of fingerprints each day. Expedited processing of your fingerprints is not possible.