

Maine State Board of Nursing Criminal Background Checks

Maine has passed a law to allow it to become a member of the enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC). If you are applying for initial licensure or licensure by endorsement, and declaring Maine as your primary state of residence, you must meet the new Uniform Licensure Requirements (ULRs).

The ULRs require that an applicant for initial licensure or licensure by endorsement submit fingerprints or other biometric-based information for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the agency responsible for retaining Maine's criminal records. 32 M.R.S. 2173(3)(F). A criminal background check (CBC) must be completed through the Maine Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the FBI based on a set of fingerprints provided to Identigo. The BON cannot accept fingerprint cards or criminal background check results mailed by you, or results that were completed for another facility, even if the previous check was completed through the DPS and the FBI.

Requirements

- Effective January 19, 2018, all RN/LPN licensure applicants are required to have a fingerprint-based criminal background check (CBC) under 32 M.R.S. 2173(3)(F).
- For more information, see [Criminal Background Checks FAQ](#)

Application Process

- CBC requirement is only a part of the [application process](#) and applicants must comply with all other application requirements.
- Once you successfully complete the online/paper application process for an RN/LPN license (by examination or endorsement you are eligible to request a fingerprint-based background check through Identigo, the vendor responsible for processing your fingerprints.
- Online applicants may also view their MSBON [application status](#) through their applicant checklist.

Fingerprint Process:

NOTE: Fingerprint results expire after 90 days

- **Inside Maine applicant** fingerprints will be done electronically through Livescan, digital fingerprint image technology, which provides a faster and more accurate collection process and the cost is \$52.00.
- **Outside Maine applicants** may also be done electronically through Livescan. Identigo has many, electronic Livescan fingerprinting locations in all 50 states. Applicants simply enter their city/state/zip code when registering for fingerprinting and may choose the nearest Identigo service location.
- Identigo is the exclusive vendor for the MSBON and is a nationally recognized service provider.
- Identigo provides 24/7/365 fingerprint scheduling through their web-based portal.
 - **Schedule your fingerprint appointment online at [Identigo](#).** Identigo's web portal will include details for creating your secure account and steps for entering the required information so that your appointment may be scheduled at your convenience.
 - Contact [Identigo](#) for questions at 855-667-7422.

PLEASE NOTE:

FINGERPRINT CARDS MUST NOT BE SENT DIRECTLY TO THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING. WE ARE UNABLE TO PROCESS FINGERPRINT CARDS AND UNABLE TO SEND BACK TO YOU OR TO IDENTIGO. PLEASE PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO IDENTIGO INSTRUCTIONS.

Results

- Notification of the results are typically available to the MSBON within 48-72 hours; results for applicants **outside of Maine** will require additional processing time due to manual processing and mailing times. However, if an applicant has a criminal history, the actual results may not be available for 30 days or more, dependent on the FBI and/or Maine Department of Public Safety (DPS).
- Applications with an associated criminal history record will take longer to process since they must be reviewed by the Board or a designated Board staff member. The MSBON Criminal Background Check staff will notify applicants by phone, mail or email regarding results that may require additional information.
- For additional information or questions regarding the MSBON CBC process see [Frequently Asked Questions](#).