

2026 ACCREDITATION FEES

January 1 - December 31, 2026

PRE-ACCREDITATION CANDIDACY APPLICANT FEES

One applicant program	\$3,575
Two applicant programs	\$5,380
Three applicant programs	\$7,190
Four or more applicant programs	\$8,200
Programmatic system, one - two programs*	\$9,025
Programmatic system, three or more programs*	\$9,290

ACCREDITATION FEES (FLAT FEE, INITIAL, OR CONTINUING)

One - two programs	\$7,930
Three programs	\$8,930
Four programs	\$9,525
Five programs	\$10,100
Programmatic system, level 1**	\$10,800
Programmatic system, level 2**	\$11,900
Programmatic system, level 3**	\$12,865
Programmatic system, level 4**	\$13,730

FOCUSED SITE VISIT FEE

Focused site visit***	\$3,850
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ANNUAL FEES

One accredited program	\$3,135
Two accredited programs	\$3,855
Three accredited programs	\$4,520
Four accredited programs	\$4,875
Five accredited programs	\$5,235
Programmatic system, one - two programs*	\$5,175
Programmatic system, three - four programs*	\$5,795
Programmatic system, five or more programs*	\$6,430

ADDITIONAL NEW PROGRAM FEES

Per program added (to an already NLN CNEA accredited nursing program within an institution)	\$2,000
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APPEAL FEES

Fee for appealing adverse actions

\$15,000

*** Programs located outside the United States should contact the NLN CNEA for international fee structures which may differ from published fees. ***

EXPLANATION OF NLN CNEA FEE STRUCTURE

Pre-accreditation Candidacy Application Fees

The pre-accreditation candidacy application fee is submitted by a nursing program when application to pursue pre-accreditation status and initial accreditation with NLN CNEA is initiated. This fee is non-refundable and is typically a one-time fee. However, if a program applies for pre-accreditation candidacy and is not successful in its application or otherwise voluntarily withdraws from the process, the nursing program would need to submit another application fee with any subsequent re-application for pre-accreditation status.

Accreditation Fees

Accreditation fees are a flat fee paid by the nursing program when pursuing accreditation from NLN CNEA. The fees are used to cover expenses related to program evaluation visits and other related accreditation services when granting initial or continuing accreditation. The nursing program pays the flat fee directly to NLN CNEA, from which NLN CNEA will cover the travel expenses or other expenses of the site evaluation team.

Annual Fees

Upon achieving accreditation status with NLN CNEA, annual fees are invoiced to the nursing program and payable to NLN CNEA no later than February 15th of the respective calendar year. Payment of the annual fees is a requirement for maintaining NLN CNEA accreditation status. Failure of the nursing program to submit annual fees in a timely manner may result in the loss of NLN CNEA accreditation status.

Additional New Program Fees

After achieving accreditation with NLN CNEA for one or more programs within their institution, a nursing program may seek accreditation for an additional program (for example, the institution already may have their bachelor's program accredited by NLN CNEA and decides to seek accreditation for its master's program). The nursing program would pay the additional new program fee to begin the application process.

***Programmatic System**

A programmatic system is a certificate and/or degree granting nursing program in a higher education institution that offers the nursing curriculum at multiple campus locations that are geographically distant from the main or primary location of the program. This does not include programs that are offered via distance education or "off-site" outreach programs or branch campuses. The system holds the authority to legally operate at distant location(s) and domestic programs hold institutional accreditation. Contact the NLN CNEA staff before filling in an application to verify fee structure for your programmatic system nursing unit.

****Programmatic System, Levels**

Levels of systems are determined by the number, type, and locations of distant programs. Contact the NLN CNEA for determination of the system level. Depending upon the complexity of programs and number of locations, additional site visitors may be required. The program is responsible for the additional costs for each additional site visitors needed.

*****Focused Site Visit Fee**

This fee includes travel expenses; however, the NLN CNEA reserves the right to charge an additional fee if the site visit travel expenses exceed \$1,000.

Additional Information

Program is defined as a postsecondary program which leads to an academic degree, diploma, or certificate.

NLN Membership is NOT required for CNEA accreditation.

The NLN CNEA Board of Commissioners reserves the right to deny accreditation status, withdraw accreditation status, or cancel on-site program evaluation visits for programs that have not submitted payment in accordance with invoices sent to the program.

Fees are non-refundable.