

State-of-the-art ID verification

Palm vein pattern recognition for the NCLEX® examination



Palm vein recognition offers a comprehensive level of security for the NCLEX® exam program. Using a safe, near-infrared light source like that in a TV remote control, palm vein recognition examines the unique patterns in a candidate's palm veins. This method of ID verification is fast, highly accurate, and secure, protecting candidates' privacy while resulting in only a single record for each test-taker that is virtually impossible to forge. In fact, even identical twins have different patterns!

Why is NCSBN using palm vein technology?

NCSBN uses the palm vein recognition system at Pearson Professional Centers because it offers a form of positive identification that is much more accurate than older identity verification technologies like digital fingerprinting. Palm vein recognition allows NCSBN to accurately identify people trying to take the NCLEX under an assumed test-taker identity. By preventing proxy testers, this technology helps NCSBN maintain the integrity of the NCLEX exam.

How does the palm vein recognition system work, and how do candidates use it?

Palm vein recognition scans the veins inside of a candidate's hand and creates a digital template that represents their unique vein pattern. Candidates simply place a hand on the device that holds the sensor, which records the pattern of their palm veins on a digital template.

What can candidates expect at the test center?

Candidates will have their palm vein patterns recorded when they arrive at the test center to check in for the NCLEX exam. The palm vein pattern will be scanned and matched again when candidates return to the testing room after a break.

How will palm vein patterns be used and stored?

Information from palm vein scans is stored as a digital template. When candidates finish their exam, the digital template is sent via encrypted transmission with their test results to Pearson VUE. Each candidate's vein pattern template is stored separately from other information about them in the system. For more information please refer to NCSBN's Biometric Data Policy here: https://policies.ncsbn.org/biometric_data_policy.html