English is the official language of Yukon and it is important that health professionals know it well. An overview of the language requirements is available on the website of the Yukon Registered Nurses Association (YRNA) at www.yrna.ca. It is highly recommended that you fulfill the language proficiency requirements first before you apply for qualification recognition under Step 2.

**STEP 2: QUALIFICATION RECOGNITION**

Initial registration in Yukon is based, in part, on confirmation that an applicant is entitled to practise as a Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner in another Canadian jurisdiction. To get your qualifications assessed, please apply to the National Nursing Assessment Service (NNAS) at www.nnas.ca for an advisory report. With the NNAS Advisory Report in hand you can then apply to one of the provincial regulators listed on the website of the Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators at www.ccrnr.ca.

**STEP 3: BRIDGING PROGRAMS**

A bridging program is a program that introduces you to the practice of registered nursing in Canada and helps you prepare for the entry-to-practice exam and for the work as a Registered Nurse in Canada. Whether or not you need to take a bridging program or certain courses will be determined during the assessment of your qualifications. Bridging programs are offered at several nursing schools. This is just a small selection:

- The Bridge to Canadian Nursing (BCN) Program at Mount Royal University in Calgary, AB
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University in BC
- Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC.

**STEP 4: NATIONAL ENTRY-TO-PRACTICE EXAM**

Every applicant needs to pass the national entry-to-practice exam called the “NCLEX-RN” before they can get registered as an RN. The exam is used to test entry-level nursing competence. Internationally educated nurses first need to get approval from one of the Canadian provincial RN regulators before they can register for the exam. NCLEX-RN exam information including a practice test can be found on the website of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing at www.ncsbn.org.

**STEP 5: LICENSURE**

The Yukon Registered Nurses Association (YRNA) is the regulatory authority for Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners in Yukon ("the Yukon regulator"). Once you are eligible for registration in a Canadian province, please contact their office for further information.

In general, a Nurse Practitioner will need to be eligible for licensure as a Registered Nurse first.

**STEP 6: RELATED CAREERS**

If licensure as a Registered Nurse is not an option, you could pursue licensure as a Licensed Practical Nurse. For other career options please contact one of the career counsellors in Whitehorse. A contact list is available at www.yukoniehp.ca.