

2. Credential Evaluation Explained

What is credential evaluation?

Credential evaluation examines nursing education completed outside the United States and compares it with applicable U.S. standards. Credential verification checks the authenticity of qualifications and professional records.

For example, TruMerit, formerly CGFNS International, offers a **Credentials Evaluation Service Professional Report**, which assesses nursing education and authenticates relevant credentials. The report supports an application; it is not a nursing license. [TruMerit CES Professional Report](#)

Why choosing the correct service matters

There is no single report that automatically works for every state and every purpose.

Before ordering, confirm:

1. The organization your state accepts.
2. The exact service or report required.
3. Where the completed report must be sent.
4. Whether the state follows a different verification or direct-review process.

A professional licensing report, an academic-admission report, and VisaScreen serve different purposes. Do not purchase a service simply because its title contains “nursing” or “credentials.”

Prepare before you apply

Ask your nursing school and licensing authority how they handle official document requests. Gather accurate names, addresses, attendance dates, graduation details, and registration information.

Follow the selected service’s instructions about:

- Which documents you may upload yourself.

- Required forms and signatures.
- Accepted translations.
- Delivery methods and deadlines.

Do not assume an uploaded scan replaces an official record requested from your school.

Follow up systematically

Create a simple tracking record:

Item	Requested on	Sent by institution	Accepted by recipient
Education records			
License verification			
Required translation			
Other requested document			

A document marked “received” may still need review. If something is rejected, find out exactly what must be corrected before sending it again.

Avoid common mistakes

Do not guess clinical hours, change documents yourself, or omit previous names to make records appear consistent. Explain discrepancies and obtain corrected records from the issuing organization when necessary.

Your next action: Confirm the exact evaluation or verification service required by your chosen state before paying.