

## **RN or LPN: what will it be?**

**I am very interested in being a traveling nurse. I will have my LPN Oct 2007. I am planning on getting my RN, but I am thinking about getting my RN a little later. Would this opportunity benefit me right now while I have no children and am not married? If you could get back to me with general information it would be greatly appreciated.**

As an LPN, you can travel. However, it is more difficult to find assignments for LPN's that it is for RN's. Most of the assignments out there are geared towards staffing nurses.

Furthermore, you must have a year of experience in whatever field you wish to travel with before you can travel.

It is much more difficult to go back to school later to try and finish while you have other distractions and responsibilities of a family.

You could spend this next year working as a LPN, getting experience and making money. During that year, call up some travel nursing companies and see for yourself what kind of opportunities there would be out there for you as a LPN.

Then, depending on how young you are and what your goals are, you can decide whether to stick it out to get your RN and then consider traveling or whether to wait awhile.

When I became a RN, I knew that I wanted to travel as soon as I could. I also wanted to get my masters in Nursing some day. What I ended up doing was traveling for about two years. During the second you, I researched where I would like to go to school and applied. I then stopped traveling for awhile while I went back to school for my masters.

Being a traveler, made it really easy to relocate to a new area for schooling. On the other hand, it was difficult to go back to school after being out and in the working world. It was also difficult to stop traveling for awhile once I had started.

I did manage to get my Masters in Nursing and then went back to traveling. Now a days many nurses advance their degrees online which can be done while traveling. I precepted a traveler once who had an AA degree, but wanted her 4 year degree in nursing. She took her classes online while traveling and had picked our hospital to do her internship or clinical work. She would email reports about her experiences back to the school and managed to get her 4 year degree while traveling.

There are many ways to accomplish your goals. Sometimes, the hardest part is becoming clear about what you want.