

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU NEED TO SUCCEED?

Traveling for the first time can be scary. Everyone wants to be successful. Yet, how can you predict your success when trying something new? While you can't predict your experience, you can take preliminary steps that will improve the likelihood for success. In this article, I will share with you some advice I have given travelers in the past who were questioning their skills and how to maintain their skills.

Question:

“I work full time in an office setting, but only 1 day a week in acute care. Would I be able to adapt to a travel experience?”

This question is an example of a nurse who may have the skill, but not the comfort level to travel. If you find yourself relating to this question read further.

Travel nurse companies usually require a minimum of one year experience. However, you may not be comfortable yet in your skills to adapt easily to new situations. The more experienced you are...the more comfortable you will be. Personally, I suggest all nurses obtain at least 2 years experience before they travel.

If you don't want to wait or you are still unsure, a good way to test yourself without too much risk is to sign up with a local registry in town and work a day or two in different settings. See what your comfort level is like. Continue to do occasional registry work in town until you are comfortable going into a new setting and being put to work right away. After working at a variety of local places with comfort, you will be able to comfortably travel. Local registry gives you a chance to see what traveling is like without the risk of uprooting yourself first.