

Practical Nursing Certificate (NURC)

The Practical Nursing Certificate program is fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing Inc. (ACEN).

The Practical Nursing Certificate program maintains full approval status with the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

This is an integrated college program spanning three semesters.

The program is fully approved by the PA State Board of Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, Ga. 30326; 404-975-5000; www.acenursing.org. Upon completion of the approved curriculum, the graduate receives a certificate as a practical nurse. Once the graduate successfully completes the Virtual ATI NCLEX-PN review course they are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensing Examination-Practical Nursing (NCLEX-PN).

The Practical Nursing graduate is prepared to assist in caring for medical and surgical patients, convalescents, and the disabled. Rewarding work experiences are available in extended care facilities, private homes, public health agencies, offices, and clinics. Advanced standing is available for those students who fulfill the necessary requirements. This advanced standing is awarded for NUR 106 only.

Upon successful completion of this program, graduates will be able to:

- integrate the concepts of person, environment, health, nursing, and basic needs to assist with the assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of individuals, families, and groups across the life span.
- understand the cultural/spiritual needs of a diverse population within a dynamic healthcare system.
- utilize critical thinking to implement the nursing process as a framework for the delivery of cost-effective, outcome-based nursing care to individuals, families, or groups.
- develop the ability to use therapeutic communication and technology to promote, restore, or maintain the health of individuals, families, or groups.
- recognize the need for lifelong learning and the active participation in continued professional development.
- demonstrate the core competencies of a graduate of practical nursing.
- practice within the ethical/legal standards of nursing care developed by the National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses Inc. and according to the state wherein employed.
- assume the roles of caregiver, interdisciplinary team member, manager, and community partner, as well as the responsibilities inherent in the scope of practical nursing as defined by the state wherein employed.
- employ the teaching-learning process to promote the optimum health of individuals, families, or groups within a framework of prevention and wellness care.

First Semester (fall)		Credits
NUR 106	Nursing I	11
BIO 163	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
PSY 140	Introduction to Psychology	3
		18
Second Semester (spring)		Credits
NUR 116	Nursing II	11
BIO 164	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
PSY 145	Human Growth and Development	3
		18
Third Semester (summer)		Credits
NUR 126	Nursing III	14
SOC 150	Introduction to Sociology	or
SOC 151	Modern Social Problems	3
		17
Credit Total		53

The student must earn a grade of "C" or better in all courses required for the Practical Nursing program to progress and graduate. A student may repeat only one nursing course (prefix NUR) in which a "C-", "D" or "F" grade has been earned. Requirements will be the requirements at the time of readmission.

Prior Learning Assessment: Previous job training, certificates and work experience that may qualify for college credit (*see academic advisor*).

Gateway Courses: Based on placement testing in reading, writing and math, these prerequisite courses may have to be taken before placement in College English or Mathematics beginning the first semester and concurrently.

RSS 099	Basic Skills Reading	3
RSS 100	Critical Reading	3
ENG 099	Basic Skills Writing	3
ENG 100	Fundamentals of Writing	3
MAT 090	Mathematical Literacy	6
ESL 251	English for Academic Purpose	6
		<i>(Required for ESL students only.)</i>

Please note, taking gateway courses will increase your time for completion.

Students planning to enroll part-time are strongly advised to complete all general education courses prior to registering for nursing courses.

Special program costs include health examinations, supplies, uniforms, standardized examinations, insurance and immunizations.

See page 19 for special program admission requirements pertaining to this program.

Special Admission Program Requirements

Additional admission information and requirements for the Practical Nursing Certificate program are as follows:

Note: Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission into the programs.

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- High school diploma or GED and successful completion of appropriate high school or post-secondary courses. Submission of official transcripts of all previous education (high school, trade, technical, college).
- Acceptable scores on LCCC skills assessment.
- Completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS). The fee for the examination is the student's responsibility (www.atitesting.com).
- Completion of an application for program admission. Admission is competitive based upon the TEAS score, previous academic achievement and complete program application.
- To participate in required clinical experiences a "no record" status must be reported on the Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance. The Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check results must fall within the guidelines of the law, as set forth by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. An FBI Background Check Transmittal Form is required. Admission to the program may be revoked upon receipt of these results.
- The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and healthcare agencies for clinical experiences have specific health requirements that must be met by each student before participating at the clinical agency.
- Anatomy and Physiology I and II (BIO 163 and 164) must be taken less than seven years before enrollment in the first nursing course.
- An advanced standing option is available for NUR 106 for CNAs and other healthcare providers who qualify. Applicants with previous practical nursing education are ineligible for advanced standing beyond Nursing I (NUR 106).
- The deadline for submission of the application for admission and completion of the TEAS is February 1 for admission to the nursing class beginning in fall.
- Completion of a high school algebra course with a "C" (or better) or completion of MAT 101, Beginning Algebra, with a grade of "C" (or better).