

Practical Nursing Certificate (NURC)

The Practical Nursing Certificate program at Lehigh Carbon Community College at the Main Campus located in Schnecksville, Pennsylvania, and the Morgan Center Site located in Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, and the Donley Center Site located in Allentown, Pennsylvania, is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, Ga. 30326, 404-975-5000, www.acenursing.org. The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Practical Nursing Certificate program is Continuing Accreditation.

This is an integrated college program spanning three semesters.

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 as set forth by the NLN.
- 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.

Prerequisites		Credits
Completed in Health Science A.S. program		
BIO 163	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
PSY 140	Introduction to Psychology	3
SOC 150	Introduction to Sociology	
or SOC 151	Modern Social Problems	3
		10

Pre-NURC Semester (Summer)		Credits
SDS 112	Introduction to Practical Nursing	1
BIO 164	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
PSY 145	Human Growth and Development	3
		8

Practical Nursing Certificate Program Sequence

First Semester (Fall)		Credits
NUR 106	Nursing I	11
		11

Second Semester (Spring)		Credits
NUR 116	Nursing II	11
		11

Third Semester (Summer)		Credits
Nursing 126	Nursing III	14
		14

Credit Total **54**

Practical Nursing is a restricted program. Students are accepted on a competitive basis based on available seats and meeting requirements for program entrance. Students interested in applying for Practical Nursing should enter the Health Science A.S. program and complete the prerequisites listed in the Practical Nursing Program Sequence. See the Admission Requirements for details on admission to the program.

To continue in the program, students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.20 and earn a C+ or better in all nursing courses. Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in required general education requirements to graduate. Students who have earned a "D" or "F" or have withdrawn are readmitted on a space-available basis only. A student may repeat only one nursing course (prefix NUR) in which a "C", "D", or "F" grade has been earned. Requirements of the program will be the requirements at the time of readmission.

Special program costs include health examinations, supplies, uniforms, standardized examinations, vaccinations, insurance, and SNAP membership (optional).

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.