

Practical Nursing Career Certificate

511613 LPN

Available: Shoals Campus
 Advisors: P. Ford (5306) pford@nwscce.edu
 S. Smith (6207/5337) shelia.smith@nwscce.edu
 C. Tidwell (5305) cindy@nwscce.edu

This certificate is designed for training capable individuals who desire to become Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN). The Practical Nursing program enables the student to obtain the skills and knowledge leading to employment in the health care field. Topics related to safe, knowledgeable, and efficient nursing care are included. The certificate is approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing. Graduates are eligible to apply to take the state licensing examination (NCLEX-PN) for licensure as Practical Nurses. Graduation from the program however, does not guarantee Board of Nursing approval to take the NCLEX-PN licensing examination. See Standards of Conduct in the Registered Nursing section of the catalog.

The Practical Nursing Plan is three semesters in length. Students are admitted in the Fall Semester.

The admission criteria is currently under review and is subject to change.

Students are admitted according to the following priority:

1. First time students
2. Readmissions
3. Transfer students with previous nursing education

PRACTICAL NURSING GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Minimum admission standards for Practical Nursing include:

1. Unconditional admission to the college.
2. Receipt of completed application for the Practical Nursing Program by April 1 for the fall admission annually.
3. Have a minimum of 2.50 cumulative grade point average based on the most recent 24 credit hours of college work.
4. Eligibility for English 101 and Math 116, MTH 100 (Intermediate College Algebra) or higher as determined by college policy.
5. Good standing with the college.
6. A score of 76 or higher on the COMPASS Reading Examination (or related ACT Reading Score of 17 or higher) current within three years of application deadline.
7. Meeting the essential functions or technical standards required for nursing. (See Essential Functions in Registered Nursing section of the catalog.)

Admission to the PN program is competitive. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee acceptance.

The College reserves the right to adjust requirements or use additional criteria to determine admission.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

After acceptance each student must:

1. Submit completed medical examination forms (at student expense) that provide evidence the student is free of communicable disease and chemical dependency, and is physically and psychologically able to participate fully in both classroom and clinical aspects of the program. The nursing faculty reserves the right to require at any time (at student expense) an additional medical examination in order to evaluate the student's state of physical, mental, and/or emotional health such as during pregnancy, infectious diseases, interference with mobility, emotional instability, chemical dependence, etc. When an examination or treatment is required, written proof must be provided by the physician attesting to the student's ability to carry out both classroom and clinical requirements of the program.

NOTE: Northwest-Shoals Community College reserves the right to remove from the program any student who is refused use of facilities by clinical agencies.

2. Meet the Essential Functions with or without reasonable accommodations. These standards relate to physical, mental, and emotional capabilities of prospective students and are available in writing from the Nursing Department. Additional health criteria are required by clinical agencies.
3. Purchase regulation uniforms and specified accessories.
4. Possess current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation at the health care provider level (BCLS). Community CPR is not acceptable. If a student is not certified with the appropriate CPR, the student may take EMS 100 Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation I. This course meets the CPR requirement for two years.
5. Receive certain immunizations at the student's expense.
6. Purchase professional liability insurance through the College.
7. Participate in and pay for periodic standardized testing.
8. Participate in and pay for drug testing as directed by Health Studies Division.
9. Participate in and pay for background checks as directed by Health Studies Division.

It is recommended that each student carry health insurance because neither the College nor affiliated clinical agencies provide health care for students.

NOTICE: The Alabama College System Standardized Curriculum is continuing to be reviewed and analyzed. Modifications will be made as needed.

Refer to the Registered Nursing sections for the following information which applies to both the RN and LPN programs: Essential Functions and Standards of Conduct.

Progression Policy: Please refer to the Progression Policy for Nursing Programs for the Alabama College System found in the Registered Nursing Section.

Transfer Policy: Please refer to the Transfer Policy for Nursing Programs for the Alabama College System found in the Registered Nursing Section.

The following are specific policies for the PN Program for students wishing to transfer:

1. You will receive no credit for any nursing education that was acquired more than one (1) year prior to the transfer.
2. You must complete two semesters of the program at NW-SCC.
3. You must have attended a comparable nursing program approved by the appropriate State Board of Nursing.

EXPENSES:

The tuition rate is the same as that for other NW-SCC students, but nursing program students will incur other expenses, which are listed below. Note that the amounts listed are approximations and that they are subject to change without notice.

Textbooks and course outlines	\$1,000.00
Professional liability insurance	\$20.00
Drug Screening	\$35.00
Laboratory kit	\$55.00
Uniforms(s) and necessary equipment	\$345.00
(stethoscope, watch with second hand, pen light, etc.)	
Physical examination	\$350.00
(Immunizations, if needed)	
Standardized Exams	\$100.00
Background Check	\$45.00

Additional expenses anticipated during the final semester of the PN program are approximate. These are as follows:

ABN application	\$85.00
NCLEX application	\$200.00
NW-SCC graduation fee	\$35.00
Temporary permit (optional)	\$50.00
Nursing Pin (optional)	\$35.00
NCLEX review course (optional)	\$200.00

NOTICE: In addition to the expenses listed above, you are responsible for transportation, meals, health care expenses, any liability incurred during and while traveling to and/or from educational experiences.

Practical Nursing Career Certificate

511613 LPN

	Semester Hours
Semester I	
+MTH 116 Mathematical Applications or Higher Level	3
+BIO 201 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
NUR 102 Fundamentals of Nursing	6
NUR 103 Health Assessment	1
NUR 104 Introduction to Pharmacology	<u>1</u>
	15
Semester II	
+ENG 101 English Composition I	3
+BIO 202 Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
NUR 105 Adult Nursing	8
NUR 106 Maternal and Child Nursing	<u>5</u>
	20
Semester III	
NUR 107 Adult/Child Nursing	8
NUR 108 Psychosocial Nursing	3
NUR 109 Role Transition for the Practical Nurse	<u>3</u>
	14

Total Semester Credit Hours 49

+Must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher before or during semester noted above.

Exit Exam Required

Nursing Assistant

511614 NAS

Available: Shoals Campus

Advisors: S. Smith (6207/5337) shelia.smith@nwscce.edu
C. Tidwell (5305) cindy@nwscce.edu

The Nurse Assistant course includes instruction in theory, nursing skills lab and a clinical rotation in a health care facility.

After successful completion of the 80-hour nurse assistant course, NAS 100, the student will meet requirements to take the State Nurses Aide Certification Test. This certificate enables the Nursing Assistant to obtain employment in nursing homes, hospitals or home health care agencies. A basic introduction to the health field and home health care is provided. This program does not require a high school diploma or GED certificate for admission. Students must be at least 18 years of age in order to take the State Nurse's Aide Certification Test.

Tuition	\$ 384.00
Textbook	\$ 48.75
Liability Insurance	\$ 20.00
TB Skin Test	varies
Background Check	\$ 45.00